



Newsletter No1

Dear Friend,

I hope that you and your family are keeping well in these unprecedented times. It is very sad that we shall not be able to get together to experience two weeks of glorious music-making in Pembrokeshire this year. As I write, there is a strange void, for this week should have seen the start of our 2020 Festival. The full programme, almost all of which will be carried over to 2021 can be found on the website at www.fishguardmusicfestival.com and would have included performances by Sinfonia Cymru, Alis Huws (harp), Marmen Quartet, Jams Coleman, Welsh National Opera Orchestra and their Chamber Ensemble, London Tango Quintet, National Youth Orchestra of Wales, Meraki Duo, Llŷr Williams, Kabantu, Jamal Aliyev and Jocelyn Freeman, Palisander, European Union Chamber Orchestra and Only Boys Aloud.

Yes, I was very excited about the line-up and just delighted that so many of the performers have agreed to come in 2021. But this has meant a little juggling and some performances which were 'in the bag' for 2021 have had to be postponed until 2022! Programmes will remain the same on the whole and whilst we were looking forward to marking the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth this year, his music can be enjoyed and celebrated at any time. One significant change is that Carlo Rizzi will conduct the National Youth Orchestra of Wales in 2021. I am also pleased to say that Steph Power completed her work *Camddwr Bleiddiaid* (Wolf's Leap) for Alis Huws some while ago and the first performance will now take place at FWWIMF in 2021 – a long time to wait which is quite unusual. Alis has just informed me that her recital which was due to take place at St David's Hall on 20th June has been re-scheduled for 16th February 2021. I am sure that both she and the Hall would value your support.

Over the next few months I will be writing a series of newsletters introducing in turn the artists who will perform in 2021 by means of conversations and features with some links to performances. These will be sent to email subscribers only so, if you are receiving this by post and you haven't already done so, please sign up to receive future newsletters via the "Contact" page of our website at

www.fishguardmusicfestival.com/contact

Your details will be held securely and will not be shared with anyone else.

However I would like to share the following which I recently received from Jocelyn Freeman, hoping that it will be of interest to you:

"Stuart Jackson (tenor) and I recorded a disc of songs together around two years ago, and it will finally be released on 17th July! We really put our all into it and are hoping it will do well. Part of our pre-release plans are to try to secure a significant number of pre-release orders, as these are counted as sales in the first week and could land us in the top 10 of the charts if we get 100! Do you feel able to help us out by ordering one before 17th July?! The links are here, and I would be so grateful if you could join us. https://orchid-music.lnk.to/stuart_jocelyn."

Thank you all for your support. Please stay safe and healthy and I shall look forward to being in touch again soon.

With very best wishes,

Gillian

Gillian Green MBE (Artistic Director) Fishguard and West Wales International Music Festival