

NEW VOICES TO BE HEARD AT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

AGOR DRYSAU / OPENING DOORS showcases the best in children's theatre from all around the world and in 2010 the festival will also stage Rehearsed Readings of 6 new plays by 6 dynamic playwrights. Arad Goch, who produce the festival, are extremely excited about this new event for 2010.

As part of Arad Goch Theatre Company's 20th Birthday celebrations last year a scriptwriting competition was held. The only requirement was that the play entered was suitable for an audience of children or young people. The response was incredible with scripts arriving from all over the world - America, Amsterdam and Aberdare. 41 scripts arrived by the closing date and after a lot of reading and re-reading they have been wittled down to the best 6. The six finalists are Mark Williams, Katherine Chandler, Dylan Wyn Williams, Bethan Marlow, Matthew Lynch and Gijsje Kooter.

Mark, Katherine, Dylan and Bethan are Welsh playwrights, with Dylan and Bethan's entries in Welsh. Matthew is from just over the border in Tewkesbury and Gijsje is Dutch, the only finalist not from the UK. The six plays have varied subject matters from ghouls and ghosts to cookery exams.

The competition prize is that a professional team, of director and actors, work on the script in the rehearsal room and then give a public Rehearsed Reading. What better place to have your work previewed than at **AGOR DRYSAU / OPENING DOORS** with theatre directors and producers from all around the world in the audience? There could hardly be a better opportunity for new writing.

AGOR DRYSAU / OPENING DOORS is to be held in Aberystwyth from the 16th until the 20th of March. Drama, puppets, laughter, dance and more will be on offer in this unique and friendly festival. During the five days world class productions from France, Austria, Germany, Ireland and Russia will perform alongside Welsh companies to entertain young audiences. The Rehearsed Readings will be held at the Arad Goch Centre on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th of March.

*For more information about the Rehearsed Readings or to view the full programme for **Agor Drysau / Opening Doors** please visit www.agordrysau-openingdoors.org or contact Carys Roberts at Arad Goch on 01970 617998 / carys@aradgoch.org*

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