

04.10.22

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Erthygl i'r Wasg Press Release

"Dwi ddim yn gwybod be 'nelen ni os fydden ni ddim yn canu."

Yr wythnos yma, goleuadau Llundain sydd yn galw wrth i Elin Fflur deithio i gwrdd ag un o sopranois mwyaf swynol Cymru, Rhian Lois, yn y bennod ddiweddaraf o **Sgwrs Dan y Lloer** ar nos Lun 10 Hydref am 8.00.

Gyda thanllwyth o dâr a'r sêr yn gwmni, mae Elin yn cael clywed am fywyd a gyrra un o leisiau mwyaf llwyddiannus Cymru yn y ddinas sydd byth yn cysgu.

Yn wreiddiol o Bont-rhyd-y-groes ger Tregaron, mae Rhian Lois wedi teithio'r byd gyda rhai o'r cerddorfeidd a chwmnïau opera mwyaf Prydain ac Ewrop yn swyno pobl o bedwar ban byd.

Ac mae cerddoriaeth wedi bod yn bwysig ers y cychwyn cyntaf. Ei mam, y cerddor amryddawn Delyth Hopkins Evans, oedd y dylanwad mwyaf arni:

"Atgof cyntaf sydd gyda fi yw pan oni'n doten fach, eistedd yng nghôl mam a hithau wrth y piano yn canu neu chwarae piano i ni...A ninnau fel teulu yn mynd i ddiddanu pobl yn y gymuned."

Buodd hi'n cystadlu yn yr Eisteddfod ac wedi ennill y rhurban glas gyda'r gân Y Gleisiad gan Schubert, yr union yr un cystadleuaeth a enillodd ei mam blynnyddoedd ynghynt.

Graddiodd Rhian o Goleg Cerdd a Drama Caerdydd cyn mynd ymlaen i'r Coleg Cerdd Brenhinol yn Llundain, ble roedd dylanwad ei chefndir Eisteddfodol yn amlwg.

"A dyna fy niolch i i'r Eisteddfod," meddai Rhian, "Fy mod i wedi cael y platform yna i allu canu o flaen cynulleidfa achos mae'n grefft yn eu hunain i allu cyfathrebu gyda y bobl sy'n gwrandio arno ti."

Mi roedd pwysau mawr ar y cwrs a'r gwaith paratoi a disgylblaeth yn bwysig iawn:

"Mae'n rhaid bod fel athletwyr – mae'n gwmws fel bo ti'n mynd i redeg marathon, rhedeg sbrint, o ran y rôl sydd 'da ti i ddysgu."

Mae'n wir fod gan Rhian Lois dalent arbennig. Daeth i amlygrwydd yn ifanc iawn, sy'n anarferol yn y maes canu opera, gan fod y llais yn datblygu a chryfhau a gydag amser.

Cafodd swydd yn perfformio La bohème yn y Cock Tavern Theatre ble roedd Syr Jonathan Miller, un o gyfarwyddwyr mwyaf enwog y byd theatr ac opera, yn y gynulleidfa. Fe ddaeth o ati

ar ôl y perfformiad a gofyn iddi wneud clyweliad am y rhan Musetta yng nghynhyrchiad yr English National Opera o La bohème. Fe gafodd y rôl ac arweiniodd hyn o un peth i'r llall.

Erbyn heddiw, "Dwi'n teimlo nawr ar dop fy ngêm," meddai.

Mae Rhian a'i gŵr Joe yn byw yn y ddinas ac yn magu dwy o ferched, Elsi a Nansi. Ac yn y diwydiant yma, mae'n rhaid treulio cyfnodau ymhell o adref. Tair wythnos oed yw Nansi, ac mae Rhian wrthi'n paratoi at opera newydd yn yr Almaen ymhen ychydig wythnosau. Ac er pa mor anodd yw gadael ei phlant, yn y maes hynod o gystadleuol yma, mae'n rhaid cario ymlaen i weithio a pherfformio neu bydd y gwaith yn stopio.

Ond mae canu yn enaid Rhian Lois, ac yn rhywbeth y mae'n rhaid iddi wneud. "Dwi ddim yn gwybod be nelen ni os fydden ni ddim yn canu," meddai.

Yng nghefn gwlad Cymru mae calon Rhian o hyd. Ac yng nghanol dysgu rhannau mewn sawl iaith arall, prin yw'r cyfle iddi ganu yn y Gymraeg. Felly pa mor bwysig yw hyn pan mae o'n digwydd?

"Y pwysicaf," meddai Rhian, "Yr hyna'n byd dwi'n mynd, y mwyaf dwi'n sylweddoli pa mor bwysig yw e i fi...Mae rhywbeth ambyti canu yn dy iaith wreiddiol, rwyt ti'n gallu canu o'r galon."

Cofiwch wylia'r bennod yma o **Sgwrs Dan y Lloer** gyda Rhian Lois i glywed mwy am ei bywyd a'i gyrraedd anhygoel mewn diwydiant unigryw iawn.

Sgwrs Dan y Lloer

Nos Lun, 10 Hydref, 8.00

Isdeitlau Cymraeg a Saesneg

Ar alw: S4C Clic, iPlayer a llwyfannau eraill

Cynhyrchiad Tinopolis ar gyfer S4C

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"I don't know what I would do if I didn't sing."

This week, the lights of London are calling as Elin Fflur travels to meet one of Wales's most impressive sopranos, Rhian Lois, in the latest episode of **Sqwrs Dan y Lloer** on Monday 10 October at 8.00pm.

Accompanied by a roaring fire and the stars, Elin gets to hear about the life and career of one of Wales's most successful voices in the city that never sleeps.

Originally from Pont-rhyd-y-groes near Tregaron, Rhian Lois has travelled the world with some of the biggest orchestras and opera companies in the UK and Europe enchanting people from all over the world.

And music has been important since the beginning. Her mother, the talented musician Delyth Hopkins Evans, was the biggest influence on her:

"The first memory I have is when I was a little girl, sitting next to my mother at the piano with her singing or playing the piano for us...And as a family going to entertain people in the community."

She competed in the Eisteddfod and won the blue ribbon with the song The Trout by Schubert, the exact same competition her mother won years before.

Rhian graduated from Cardiff's Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama before moving on to the Royal College of Music in London, where her background in the Eisteddfod was a clear influence.

"And that's my thanks to the Eisteddfod," said Rhian, "I was given that platform to be able to sing in front of an audience because it's an art in itself to be able to communicate with the people who listen to you."

There was a lot of pressure on the course and preparation and discipline were very important:

"You have to be like athletes - it's like going to run a marathon or run a sprint, in terms of the role you have to learn."

It's true that Rhian Lois has an incredible talent. She came to prominence at a very young age, which is unusual in the opera singing field, as the voice develops and strengthens with time.

She got a job performing La bohème at the Cock Tavern Theatre where Sir Jonathan Miller, one of the most famous directors in the theatre and opera world, was in the audience. He approached her after the performance and asked her to audition for the role of Musetta in the

English National Opera's production of *La bohème*. She got the role, and it led from one thing to another.

By today, "I feel at the top of my game," she said.

Rhian and her husband Joe live in the city and are raising two daughters, Elsi and Nansi. And in this industry, spending periods away from home is a must. Nansi is three weeks old, and Rhian is preparing for a new opera in Germany in a few weeks. And despite how difficult it is to leave her children, in this extremely competitive field, you must carry on working and performing or the work will stop.

But singing is in Rhian Lois's soul, and something she has to do. "I don't know what I would do if I didn't sing," she says.

Rhian's heart is still in the Welsh countryside. And amid learning parts in several other languages, there is little opportunity for her to sing in Welsh. So how important is this when it happens?

"The most important," said Rhian. "The older I get, the more I realise how important it is to me...There's something about singing in your original language, you can sing from the heart."

Don't forget to watch this episode of *Sgwrs Dan y Lloer* with Rhian Lois to hear more about her life and incredible work in a unique industry.

Sgwrs Dan y Lloer

Monday 10 October, 8.00pm

English subtitles available

On demand: S4C Clic, iPlayer and other platforms

A Tinopolis production for S4C