

**Friday 3rd May at 7.30pm**

*Clarence Hall, Crickhowell*

## SCHOLARS' RECITAL

This recital marks the culmination of a day's masterclass given by distinguished sopranos Elin Manahan Thomas and Catherine King and held in conjunction with Crickhowell High School. Their programme will include a wonderful variety of art-song from across the centuries and will no doubt prove a revelation for us all!

**Saturday 4th May at 7.30pm**

*St. Edmund's Church, Crickhowell NP8 1BB*

## PURCELL: THE FAIRY QUEEN

**Elin Manahan Thomas** (soprano) **Catherine King** (mezzo-soprano)

**Mark Chambers** (countertenor) **Nicholas Mulroy** (tenor)

**Robert Davies** (baritone) **Thomas Guthrie** (producer)

With dancers and actors from Crickhowell High School

Orchestra: Festival Baroque Players

Expect much magical music, fairy frolics and, most importantly, some incredible solo singing from some of the top experts in this field. Definitely Shakespeare on steroids!

**Sunday 5th May at 10.00am**

*St. Catwg's Church, Llangattock NP8 1PH*

## FESTIVAL SERVICE

with sacred settings by Vivaldi including:  
**Beatus Vir RV 598. Kyrie RV587**

To celebrate the festival's legacy of Vivaldi performances, instrumentalists, choir and scholars join forces in performances of the composer's inimitable and exhilarating music, heard here in its original context.

**Sunday 5th May at 7.30pm**

*St. Edmund's Church, Crickhowell NP8 1BBB*

## BACH: B MINOR MASS

**Elin Manahan Thomas** (soprano) **Mark Chambers** (countertenor)

**Nicholas Mulroy** (tenor) **Robert Davies** (baritone)

Considered by many as the greatest piece of sacred music ever written, Bach's mighty Mass forms a fitting climax to our anniversary; spotlighting the expertise of our distinguished soloists and players who will offer fresh insights into this masterpiece and also give the choir something to sing about.

**Monday 6th May at 7pm**

*Clarence Hall, Crickhowell*

## ALAW

**Oliver Wilson Dickson** (violin)

**Jamie Smith** (accordion)

**Dylan Fowler** (guitar)

It's time to party! Since their Proms appearance last year, ALAW have been making a name for themselves and were recently nominated for the BBC Folk Awards. Here is a group with a passion to showcase and reinvent the traditional music of Wales which front man, Oli, describes as "a rich heritage of moving and mysterious melody."

## TICKETS

**Saturday & Sunday Concerts** ..... £16.00

**Friday and Monday Concerts** ..... £10.00

*Students free at all events*

### Tickets can be purchased from:

Webbs Crickhowell

The Hours, Brecon

Online at [www.crickhowellchoralsociety.org](http://www.crickhowellchoralsociety.org),

Choir Members or telephone Genet Bevan (01873) 810935

## ACCOMMODATION

For details of where to stay during the Festival please contact CRiC on **01873 811970** or visit

[www.crickhowellinfo.org.uk](http://www.crickhowellinfo.org.uk)



CrickhowellChoralSociety



ChoralCrick

[www.crickhowellchoralsociety.org](http://www.crickhowellchoralsociety.org)

ALL DETAILS CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLICATION.  
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1042098

# CRICKHOWELL MUSIC FESTIVAL

## 2019

## FEATURING

Elin Manahan Thomas

Catherine King

Mark Chambers

Nicholas Mulroy

Robert Davies

Tom Guthrie

ALAW

Crickhowell Choral Society & Scholars

# 25TH ANNIVERSARY!



**Crickhowell Choral Society**  
Singing in the Usk valley. Yn canu yng Nghwm Wysg

# 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

It's time to celebrate as the **Crickhowell Music Festival** marks 25 years of incredible music-making amidst the beautiful scenery of the Usk Valley. The society is affiliated to the Welsh Amateur Music Federation and has its own patrons, friends and sponsorship schemes.

Mae Gŵyl Gerddoriaeth Crughywel yn dathlu 25 mlwydd eleni. Rydym yn anelu at dorri tir newydd wrth berfformio repertoire cyffrous, anarferol ynghanol tirwedd brydferth Cwm Wysg.

The Choral Society-led festival programmes have always strived to breathe new life into both familiar and less well-known masterpieces and drawn in an array of notable performers.

Honouring this achievement and picking up on the celebratory mood, the weekend includes a dramatised performance, directed by award-winning director Tom Guthrie, of Purcell's Fairy Queen (a magical work which opened the very first Festival) and a stylish performance of Bach's mighty Mass in B minor.

Centre-stage will be a much anticipated star-studded line up of singers, including the Royal Wedding soprano Elin Manahan Thomas, acclaimed tenor Nicholas Mulroy and mezzo-soprano Catherine King to name but a few!

The party atmosphere will continue at the Festival's Folk Night (Monday) which features Welsh Trio ALAW, following their enthusiastic reception at last summer's BBC Proms.

Also highlighting the Festival's track record, there will be an emphasis on young people's involvement. Elin Manahan Thomas's vocal masterclass for the choir's Choral Scholars, held in collaboration with Crickhowell High School, will no doubt prove an inspiration for all. Pupils will also be providing the dancers for Purcell's wonderful Fairy Queen masque. Most definitely an uplifting experience!

Early booking advised.

**Stephen Marshall**  
Musical Director

## CRICKHOWELL MUSIC FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 3RD MAY - MONDAY 6TH MAY 2019



Elin Manahan Thomas

*"Exquisite solo singing....  
a higher level altogether"*  
Western Mail



Catherine King

*"Ecstasy of melody"*  
The Times



Mark Chambers

*"One of the astonishing  
new breed of Countertenor"*  
BBC Music Magazine



Nicholas Mulroy

*"Vocally thrilling...  
and extraordinarily moving"*  
The Guardian



Robert Davies

*"Supreme effortless  
authority"*  
The Scotsman



Tom Guthrie

*"His imagination  
knows no bounds"*  
Opera Now



ALAW

*"simply incredible..."*  
Frank Hennessy, Radio Wales  
*"Another dimension of  
musical expression"*  
Living Tradition



Crickhowell Choral Society

*"music is of a very high  
standard - ambitious  
and very well performed"*  
Audience member



Scholars

*"An opportunity to celebrate  
our local students vocal  
achievements"*  
Steve Marshall