# Musical Routes

# Musical Routes | Llwybrau Cerdd

Swansea City Opera believe in the power of opera to change lives and address many social problems that are faced in communities. In addition to an annual tour, the Company delivers a programme of outreach and community work, which seeks to use opera as a tool for social change and personal/community development.

Since Autumn 2016, the Company has worked with four community groups in Swansea (Swansea Chinese Community Co-operative Centre, Unity in Diversity, YMCA and African Community Centre) all of whom support the migrant population (long-standing or newly arrived) within Swansea.

Each of the groups has worked to explore their own cultural heritage (dance, music, voice, storytelling, cooking and composition), and in doing so have gained a stronger understanding of their cultural backgrounds. Working with professional artists, the groups have sought to recreate and capture elements of their cultural heritage and to share this with the wider population across Swansea. This is intended to promote an understanding with the wider community of the cultural traditions and heritage that these groups bring to modern day Swansea.

All of the participants have benefitted from heritage training at Swansea Museum, and have gained a range of employability qualifications to help them integrate further into the local community.

The work of the groups is to be shared with the wider population at two events including celebration day at the National Waterfront Museum Swansea on 23rd May 2017, and an exhibition to run at Swansea Museum throughout July and August 2017.

Swansea City Opera are grateful for the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund towards this project.

Mae Opera Dinas Abertawe yn credu yng ngrym opera i newid bywydau ac i fynd i'r afael â llawer o broblemau cymdeithasol y mae cymunedau'n eu hwynebu. Yn ogystal â thaith flynyddol, mae'r Cwmni'n trosglwyddo rhaglen o waith maes a chymunedol, sy'n anelu i ddefnyddio opera fel offeryn ar gyfer newid cymdeithasol a datblygiad personol / cymunedol.

Ers hydref 2016, mae'r Cwmni wedi gweithio gyda phedwar grŵp cymunedol yn Abertawe (Canolfan Gydweithredol Cymuned Tsieineaidd Abertawe, Unity in Diversity, YMCA a'r Ganolfan Gymunedol Affricanaidd) sydd i gyd yn cefnogi'r boblogaeth fudol (hirsefydlog neu newydd-ddyfodiaid) yn Abertawe.

Mae pob un o'r grwpiau wedi gweithio i archwilio eu treftadaeth ddiwylliannol eu hunain (dawns, cerddoriaeth, llais, adrodd straeon, coginio a chyfansoddi), a thrwy hyn maent wedi ennill dealltwriaeth gryfach o'u cefndiroedd diwylliannol. Trwy weithio gydag artistiaid proffesiynol, mae'r grwpiau wedi anelu i ail-greu a chrisialu elfennau o'u treftadaeth ddiwylliannol ac i rannu hyn gyda'r boblogaeth ehangach ar draws Abertawe. Bwriedir i hyn hybu dealltwriaeth o fewn y gymuned ehangach ynghylch y traddodiadau diwylliannol a'r dreftadaeth ddaw gyda'r grwpiau hyn i'r Abertawe gyfoes.

Mae'r cyfranogwyr i gyd wedi elwa o hyfforddiant treftadaeth yn Amgueddfa Abertawe, ac maent wedi ennill amrywiaeth o gymwysterau cyflogadwyedd i'w helpu i integreiddio ymhellach â'r gymuned leol.

Mae gwaith y grwpiau i'w rannu gyda'r cyhoedd mewn dau ddigwyddiad, yn cynnwys diwrnod o ddathlu yn Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau Abertawe ar 23ain Mai 2017, ac arddangosfa sydd i'w chynnal yn Amgueddfa Abertawe trwy gydol mis Gorffennaf ac Awst 2017.

Mae Opera Dinas Abertawe'n ddiolchgar am gefnogaeth Cronfa Dreftadaeth y Loteri ar gyfer y prosiect hwn.

# African Community Centre

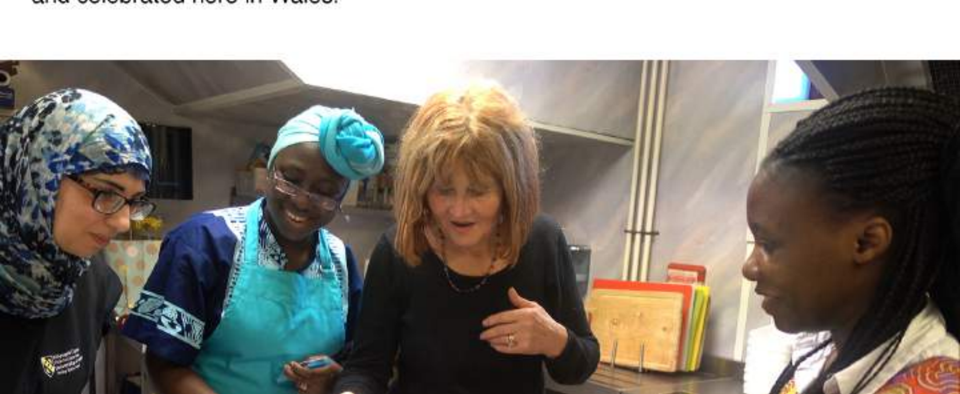
The African Community Centre was founded in 2003 and has developed into an exciting, innovative and impactful service. Their motto is 'Working together to break down barriers'. The Centre holds daily English classes and storytelling in conjunction with Adult Learning Wales. Many of their participants are also asylum seekers and refugees, and it's evident in their contribution to the Musical Routes that the Centre embraces people from all cultures.

The African Community Centre has developed several strands in the Musical Routes project which explore heritage art, music, cooking and performance.

The men's drumming group have met at the YMCA to explore the musical act of drumming within African culture. During the sessions they discussed the differences in drumming techniques and how certain rhythms and styles can hallmark certain occasions and also purposes, such as ceremony or celebration.

The Sisters Sanctuary singing group met weekly with their leader Clara, to embrace togetherness and a sense of community through voice and melody. During this they explored music from diverse cultures and origins. Singing collectively, and embracing different singing roles, the group created beautiful music. As part of the Musical Routes project, Clara and the members of the group have shared personal music which links with their culture of origin and together they created a performance that fuses a sense of heritage encompassing all of their backgrounds.

The cooking group has brought together members from Pakistan, Iran, Uganda and Nigeria. Moona, Yunia, Derin and Amber met at City Church in Swansea to share cooking from their cultural backgrounds which drove conversation and stories about their heritage. This was particularly relevant for Derin, whose connection to cooking and hosting forms a unique part of her tribe's culture. Every food shared has a story, or is indeed rooted in its origin, from roasted plantains, falafel, to bhaijis and Jollof Rice; every dish serves a very personal connection to heritage that is being shared and celebrated here in Wales.



# Canolfan Gymunedol Affricanaidd

Sefydlwyd y Ganolfan Gymunedol Affricanaidd yn 2003 ac mae wedi datblygu'n wasanaeth cyffrous, arloesol a dylanwadol. Eu harwyddair yw 'Gweithio gyda'n gilydd i chwalu rhwystrau'. Mae'r Ganolfan yn cynnal dosbarthiadau Saesneg dyddiol a sesiynau adrodd straeon, mewn cydweithrediad ac Addysg Oedolion Cymru. Mae nifer o'u cyfranogwyr hefyd yn geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid, ac mae'n amlwg o'u cyfraniad i'r cynllun Llwybrau Cerdd bod y Ganolfan yn croesawu pobl o bob diwylliant.

Mae'r Ganolfan Gymunedol Affricanaidd wedi datblygu nifer o linynnau i'r prosiect Llwybrau Cerdd sy'n archwilio treftadaeth, celf, cerddoriaeth, coginio a pherfformio.

Mae grŵp drymio'r dynion wedi cwrdd yn y YMCA i archwilio crefft gerddorol drymio o fewn y diwylliant Affricanaidd ac yn ystod y sesiynau trafodwyd y gwahaniaeth rhwng technegau drymio a'r modd y gall rhythmau ac arddulliau penodol fod yn nodweddiadol o achlysuron a phwrpas penodol, fel seremoni neu ddathliad.

Fe wnaeth Clara gefnogi grŵp canu'r 'Sisters Sanctuary', gan gwrdd yn wythnosol i fwynhau bod gyda'i gilydd a meithrin ymdeimlad o gymuned trwy leisiau ac alawon. Yn ystod y sesiynau yma fe wnaethant archwilio cerddoriaeth o amrywiol wreiddiau a diwylliannau. Gan gydganu a mwynhau gwahanol rolau canu fe wnaeth y grŵp greu cerddoriaeth hyfryd. Fel rhan o'r prosiect Llwybrau Cerdd, mae Clara ac aelodau'r grŵp wedi rhannu cerddoriaeth bersonol sy'n gysylltiedig â'u tarddiad diwylliannol a, gyda'i gilydd, fe wnaethant greu perfformiad sy'n cydblethu ymdeimlad o dreftadaeth sy'n cwmpasu cefndiroedd pob un ohonynt.

Mae'r grŵp coginio wedi dwyn ynghyd aelodau o Bacistan, Iran, Uganda a Nigeria. Cyfarfu Moona, Yunia, Derin ac Amber yn City Church, Abertawe i rannu coginio o'u cefndiroedd diwylliannol, ac arweiniodd y coginio a'r rhannu at sgwrsio a rhannu straeon am eu treftadaeth. Yn enwedig i Derin, y mae ei chysylltiad â choginio a chroesawu gwesteion yn ffurfio elfen unigryw o ddiwylliant ei llwyth. Mae gan bob darn o fwyd a rennir ei stori ei hun, neu stori sy'n rhan o'i darddiad, o blantan wedi eu rhostio, i falafel, bhajis a reis Jollof; mae pob saig yn cynrychioli cysylltiad personol iawn â threftadaeth sy'n cael ei rannu a'i ddathlu yma yng Nghymru.

heritage
treftadaeth
ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED

# Unity in Diversity

Unity in Diversity is a community drop-in for asylum seekers and refugees hosted by the United Reformed Church in Waunwen, Swansea. Here members from various backgrounds across the world meet and form a sense of community and togetherness, share food and are able to benefit from English classes as well as other training and advocacy activities. Members of the group are from diverse parts of the globe, including Sudan, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Egypt, Turkey, Albania, Cameroon, amongst many other countries.

Natalie Paisey and Phil Williams have worked with this diverse group, whose members are often temporary and transient, to introduce a cultural exchange, engaging in a process of sharing singing, dancing, performance and conversation, to help build relationships and understanding, often where language forms an initial barrier.

Participants sing, dance and perform – sometimes in spontaneous collaboration – and through taking part and being together in activities, they are able to learn about one another and their respective cultures. They share art, music, dance and stories as they build understanding and establish 'common ground' within this diverse community.

As part of the process, Natalie has worked passionately to build bonds with the participants, to find out about their lives, their families, their journeys and their heritage as they in turn learn about Swansea, Wales and the culture they now find around them.

# Unity in Diversity

Mae 'Unity in Diversity' yn gynllun galw heibio cymunedol ar gyfer ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid a gynhelir gan yr Eglwys Ddiwygiedig Unedig yn Waun Wen, Abertawe. Yma, bydd aelodau o amrywiol gefndiroedd o bob cwr o'r byd yn cwrdd a llunio ymdeimlad o gymuned, undod, rhannu bwyd a gallu elwa o ddosbarthiadau Saesneg yn ogystal â gweithgareddau hyfforddiant ac eiriolaeth eraill. Daw aelodau'r grŵp o amrywiol rannau o'r byd, yn cynnwys Swdan, Pacistan, Ethiopia, Yr Aifft, Twrci, Albania, Camerŵn, ymysg llawer mwy o wledydd eraill.

Mae Natalie Paisey a Phil Williams wedi gweithio gyda'r grŵp amrywiol yma, y mae ei aelodau'n aml yn rhai dros dro neu sy'n digwydd pasio, er mwyn cyflwyno cyfnewidfa ddiwylliannol, gan ymuno mewn proses o rannu caneuon, dawnsio, perfformio a sgwrsio i helpu i ffurfio perthnasau a dealltwriaeth - yn aml ble fo iaith yn rhwystr ar y dechrau.

Bydd y cyfranogwyr yn canu, dawnsio, perfformio - weithiau, trwy gydweithio'n ddigymell a thrwy gymryd rhan a bod gyda'i gilydd mewn gweithgareddau, gallant ddysgu am ei gilydd a'u diwylliannau personol - gan rannu celf, cerddoriaeth, dawns a straeon wrth iddynt gynyddu eu dealltwriaeth a sefydlu 'tir cyffredin' o fewn y gymuned amrywiol yma.

Fel rhan o'r broses, mae Natalie wedi gweithio'n frwd i greu cysylltiadau gyda'r cyfranogwyr, i ddysgu am eu bywydau, eu teuluoedd, eu taith a'u treftadaeth fel y byddant hwythau, yn eu tro, yn dysgu am Abertawe, Cymru a'r diwylliant y maent yn rhan ohono heddiw.

# Llwybrau Ifanc

I gydredeg ochr-yn-ochr â'r prosiect Llwybrau Cerdd, mae prosiect arall wedi gweithio gyda nifer o ysgolion yn Abertawe, yn cynnwys Ysgol Uwchradd yr Esgob Gore, Ysgol Gynradd Blaenymaes, Ysgol Uwchradd Gymunedol Cefn Hengoed ac Ysgol Gynradd Parkland.

Mae'r prosiect wedi denu trawstoriad o ddisgyblion o wahanol oed a gallu - ac fel grŵp, aeth y bobl ifanc ati i ail-ddychmygu opera Purcell, Dido and Aeneas, â'i themâu sy'n gysylltiedig â dianc rhag erledigaeth a cheisio lloches mewn gwledydd estron. Mae hyn wedi rhoi cyfleodd datblygu eang iawn i'r bobl ifanc sy'n gysylltiedig â dysgu artistig, datblygiad cymdeithasol a chryfhau sgiliau personol allweddol.

Mae'r disgyblion wedi cyfranogi trwy nifer o gelfyddydau yn cynnwys dawns, cerddoriaeth, symud a'r llais - ac mae hyn wedi cysylltu ag amcanion cwricwlwm o fewn yr ysgolion.

Daeth y bobl ifanc at ei gilydd i berfformio'r opera lawn, ynghyd ag artistiaid proffesiynol, yn Amgueddfa Genedlaethol y Glannau, Abertawe ym mis Mai 2017.

Mae Opera Dinas Abertawe'n ddiolchgar am gefnogaeth Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru ar gyfer y prosiect hwn.

# Young Routes

Running alongside the Musical Routes project, a separate project has worked with a number of schools in Swansea. This includes Bishop Gore Secondary School, Blaen y Maes Primary School, Cefn Hengoed Community Secondary School and Parkland Primary School.

The project has engaged a cross-section of pupils of differing ages and abilities, and as a group the young people have re-imagined Purcell's opera Dido and Aeneas, with its themes linked to fleeing persecution and seeking refuge in foreign lands. This has given the young people a breadth of development linked to artistic learning, social development and the strengthening of key personal skills.

Pupils have participated through a number of art forms including dance, music, movement and voice, and this has linked to curriculum objectives within the schools.

The young people came together to perform the full opera, accompanied by professional artists at the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea, in May 2017.

Swansea City Opera are grateful to the support of Arts Council Wales for this project.

# YMCA

YMCA Swansea work with the most difficult-to-engage young people in Swansea and nearby cities. The recording studio, at YMCA's Swansea base, focuses on using music as an engagement tool to upskill, motivate and help young people through hard times. YMCA Swansea offers instrument tuition, vocal training, band recording and support in writing songs and forming bands.

Working closely with Youth Cymru, YMCA Swansea are also a Music Hub for The Big Music Project.

Gergo Daroczi, Yotin Wallace and Ify Iwobi at the YMCA have worked weekly with two groups of participants as part of Musical Routes, to learn different musical instruments, including piano, drums and guitar, with group participants coming from a number of countries.

Alongside tuition and playing music within their group sessions, the participants have also engaged in the sharing of music and song from their backgrounds. This has included memories from their childhood driven by famous performances, films and cultural festivals.

These melodies, rhythms and influences have been fused together through sharing and are all evident in the production of a musical composition, orchestrated and guided by the participants during their time on the project, and influenced by their cultural heritage.

Mae YMCA Abertawe'n gweithio gyda'r bobl ifanc anoddaf i ymgysylltu â nhw yn Abertawe a threfi cyfagos. Mae'r stiwdio recordio, yng nghanolfan yr YMCA yn Abertawe, yn canolbwyntio ar ddefnyddio cerddoriaeth fel dull i ennyn diddordeb i gynyddu sgiliau, ysgogi a helpu pobl ifainc trwy gyfnodau anodd. Mae YMCA Abertawe'n cynnig gwersi offerynnol, hyfforddiant lleisiol, cyfle i fandiau recordio a chefnogaeth i ysgrifennu caneuon a ffurfio bandiau.

Gan weithio'n agos gyda 'Youth Cymru', mae YMCA Abertawe hefyd yn Ganolfan Gerddoriaeth ar gyfer y Prosiect Cerddoriaeth Mawr.

Mae Gergo Daroczi, Yotin Wallace ac Ify Iwobi yn yr YMCA wedi gweithio'n wythnosol gyda dau grŵp o gyfranogwyr fel rhan o gynllun Llwybrau Cerdd, i ddysgu gwahanol offerynnau cerddorol, yn cynnwys piano, drymiau a gitâr - gydag aelodau'r grŵp yn dod o nifer o wledydd.

Ynghyd â hyfforddiant a chwarae cerddoriaeth yn ystod eu sesiynau grŵp, mae'r cyfranogwyr hefyd wedi cymryd rhan mewn sesiynau rhannu cerddoriaeth a chaneuon o'u cefndir brodorol. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys atgofion o'u plentyndod wedi eu hysgogi gan berfformiadau enwog, ffilmiau a gwyliau diwylliannol.

Mae'r alawon, y rhythmau a'r dylanwadau hyn wedi eu plethu â'i gilydd trwy eu rhannu ac mae'r cyfan i'w glywed mewn cynhyrchiad o gyfansoddiad cerddorol - a drefnwyd ac a arweiniwyd gan y cyfranogwyr yn ystod eu cyfnod ar y prosiect, ac a dylanwadwyd gan eu treftadaeth ddiwylliannol.

# Swansea Chinese Community Co-operate Centre

The Swansea Chinese Community Co-operative Centre operates from a drop-in centre based on The Kingsway in Swansea City Centre, providing core services and participating in the promotion of a diverse, multicultural society.
The group here have been investigating blue and white porcelain, a traditional decoration style appearing on porcelain and ceramics throughout Chinese history, which possesses great cultural significance. The group have used this association to fuse together elegant costume design, current pop music and more traditional dance routines, that both echo and explore their Chinese heritage.

As part of Musical Routes, they have also collaborated with well-known Chinese dance teacher, Ms Zhao Zhang, using this opportunity to extend their skill base and challenge themselves to learn more complex routines and further encourage their enthusiasm and passion for dance.

As part of the experience, they also held meetings where they exchanged stories and sentimental memories over objects and belongings that they have brought with them to Swansea. These were often items from their childhood, or handed down through family. Rituals such as drinking tea, objects such as opera programmes and favourite family food recipes, all illustrate and encourage a heritage that is still with this community to this day.

With the group also consisting of different family generations, where some of the young members have grown up in Wales, this experience has been a beautiful and uniting exploration and sharing of their heritage.

# Canolfan Gydweithredol Cymuned Tsieineaidd Abertawe

Mae Canolfan Gydweithredol Cymuned Tsieineaidd Abertawe'n gweithio allan o ganolfan galw heibio a leolir ar Ffordd y Brenin yng Nghanol Dinas Abertawe, gan ddarparu gwasanaethau craidd a chyfranogi yn y gwaith o hyrwyddo cymdeithas amrywiol, amlddiwylliannol.
Mae'r grŵp yma wedi bod yn ymchwilio i borslen glas a gwyn, arddull addurniadol traddodiadol sydd wedi ymddangos ar borslen a chrochenwaith trwy hanes Tsieina, sydd ag arwyddocâd diwylliannol sylweddol iawn. Mae'r grŵp wedi defnyddio'r cysylltiad hwn i gydblethu cynlluniau gwisg cain, cerddoriaeth pop gyfoes a phatrymau dawnsio mwy traddodiadol, sydd i gyd yn adlewyrchu ac archwilio eu treftadaeth Tsieineaidd.

Fel rhan o brosiect Llwybrau Cerdd, maent hefyd wedi cydweithio gyda'r athrawes dawnsio Tsieineaidd nodedig, Ms Zhao Zhang, gan ddefnyddio'r cyfle hwn i ymestyn eu sgiliau a herio eu hunain i ddysgu dawnsfeydd mwy cymhleth ac annog eu brwdfrydedd a'u hoffter o ddawnsio ymhellach.

Fel rhan o'r profiad, fe wnaethant gynnal cyfarfodydd hefyd ble byddent yn cyfnewid straeon ac atgofion personol dros wrthrychau ac eiddo yr oeddent wedi dod gyda nhw i Abertawe. Yn aml iawn eitemau o'u plentyndod oedd y rhain, neu bethau oedd wedi eu trosglwyddo o un aelod o'r teulu i'r llall. Mae defodau fel yfed te, gwrthrychau fel rhaglenni opera a hoff ryseitiau bwyd y teulu, i gyd yn egluro ac annog treftadaeth sy'n dal i fodoli'n y gymuned hon hyd heddiw.

Gan fod y grŵp yn cynnwys gwahanol genedlaethau teuluol, ble mae rhai o'r aelodau ifanc wedi tyfu i fyny yng Nghymru, mae'r profiad hwn wedi bod yn gyfle hyfryd ac unol i archwilio a rhannu eu treftadaeth.

heritage lottery fund

SWANSEA CITY OPERA DINAS ABERTAWE

Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
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AMGUEDDFA ABERTAWE SWANSEA MUSEUM

African Community Centre
Working together to break down barriers

UNITY in DIVERSITY

YMCA