27.07.2020

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Erthygl i'r Wasg **Press Release**

Tudur Owen yn mynd at galon yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol

Mae'r ffaith fod yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol eleni wedi cael ei chanslo wedi gadael twll mawr ym mywydau miloedd o bobl yng Nghymru a thu hwnt.

Ond efallai bod colled yr Eisteddfod yn gyfle i ni fel cenedl ei gwerthuso a meddwl yn ddyfnach am y Brifwyl a'i phwysigrwydd ym mywydau pobl o bob oedran a gwahanol gefndiroedd ym mhob cwr o Gymru.

Dyma'n union beth mae'r cyflwynydd, digrifwr - ac aelod o'r Orsedd - Tudur Owen yn gwneud mewn rhaglen arbennig **Tudur Owen ar ei Orsedd** ar ddydd Mawrth, 4 Awst ar S4C.

"Mae'n gyfle i hel atgofion, rhannu ambell i stori a phori trwy'r archif ar rai o'r cymeriadau lliwgar, parchus a gwahanol da ni'n cwrdd yn yr Eisteddfod - wedi'r cyfan, pobl sy'n gwneud yr Eisteddfod ynte?," meddai Tudur. "Mae'r rhaglen yn gyfle i ni gofio pa mor arbennig yw ein dathliad cenedlaethol."

Mae Tudur - a gafodd ei urddo yn Eisteddfod Conwy llynedd - yn sôn am beth mae gwisgo'r wisg las yn golygu iddo fe ac mae'n cael mynd yn ôl i union yr un cae yn Nyffryn Conwy lle cynhaliwyd yr Eisteddfod yn 2019.

Wrth edrych yn ôl ar y diwrnod arbennig hwnnw mae Tudur yn ei ddisgrifio fel un o brofiadau mawr ei fywyd.

"Roedd hi'n stormus ar faes y Steddfod, dw i'n cofio, a phawb yn ymochel rhag y tywydd. Ond er i ni orfod rhuthro dan do i gysgodi, ddaru'r storm ddim fy atal rhag profi'r wefr a'r fraint o gael fy urddo. Roedd yr holl brofiad mor emosiynol, mor werthfawr a wna i fyth ei anghofio," meddai Tudur.

Ond fel y dywedodd Tudur - pobl sy'n gwneud Eisteddfod - ac mae llawer mwy i'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol na'r golygfeydd ysblennydd o'r Orsedd yn gorymdeithio i'r Pafiliwn a'r seremonïau mawr fel y Coroni a'r Cadeirio.

Mae Tudur yn siarad â rhai o'r fyddin o bobl sy'n sicrhau bod y Brifwyl yn rhedeg yn esmwyth - o'r tiwniwr piano i'r stiwardiaid sy'n trefnu'r maes carafanau i'r rhai sy'n glanhau'r toiledau gan wneud yn siŵr bod digon o bapur tŷ bach i bawb.

Cawn gwrdd â Laura Richards sydd â chyfrifoldeb dros lanhau a chyflwyno tlysau'r Eisteddfod.

"Mae gwaith glanhau garw ar rhai ohonyn nhw," meddai Laura. "Maen nhw'n reit hen ac mae rhaid imi ddefnyddio brws dannedd a lolipop stick i gyrraedd y tyllau bach i gael nhw'n lan ac yn neis. Roedd rhaid imi gysgu gyda nhw un tro...!"

Clywn gan bob math o bobl eraill sy'n rhan o'r Eisteddfod sef yr ymwelwyr, y cynulleidfaoedd a'r perfformwyr. Mae Tudur hefyd yn edrych ar rhai o bynciau llosg yr Eisteddfod dros y blynyddoedd sef y defnydd o'r Gymraeg a lleoliad yr Eisteddfod - dylai fod safle parhaol neu dylai'r Brifwyl barhau i deithio dros Gymru?

Ar ddiwedd y rhaglen mae Tudur yn rhannu ei brofiadau a'i gasgliadau am natur yr Eisteddfod.

Meddai Tudur: "I fi mae'n fwy nag wythnos mewn cae. Mae o'n deimlad o berthyn, o fod yn aelod o deulu. Ac fel mewn unrhyw deulu dim pawb sy'n cytuno â'i gilydd trwy'r amser - ac mae hynny'n iawn. Sdim rhaid i chi fod yn fardd neu aelod o'r Orsedd i fod yn rhan o'r teulu yma. Mae 'na le i bawb yn yr Eisteddfod."

Tudur Owen ar ei Orsedd
Dydd Mawrth 4 Awst 8.00, S4C
Isdeitlau Saesneg
Ar alw: S4C Clic, iPlayer a llwyfannau eraill
Cynhyrchiad Slam ar gyfer S4C

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Tudur Owen gets to the heart of the National Eisteddfod

The fact that the National Eisteddfod has been cancelled this year has left a big hole in the lives of thousands of people in Wales and beyond.

But perhaps the loss of the Eisteddfod is a chance for us as a nation to evaluate and reflect more deeply on this major festival and its importance in the lives of people of all ages and from all backgrounds in every corner of Wales.

This is exactly what the presenter, comedian – and member of the Gorsedd of the Bards – Tudur Owen does in a special programme **Tudur Owen ar ei Orsedd** on Tuesday, 4 August on S4C.

"It is a chance to remember, share some stories, look back through the archives at some of the colourful, respectable and different characters that we meet in the Eisteddfod – after all it is the people who make the Eisteddfod, isn't it?," said Tudur. "This programme is a chance to remember how special our National celebration is."

Tudur who was inaugurated into the Gorsedd at the Conwy Eisteddfod last year – talks about what donning the blue robe means to him and he goes back to the exact same field in the Conwy Valley where the Eisteddfod was held in 2019.

Looking back on that unforgettable day, Tudur describes it as one of the important events in his life.

"It was stormy on the Eisteddfod field, I remember, and everybody was sheltering from the rain. And although we had to rush to avoid the weather, the storm didn't stop me from experiencing the thrill and the honour of being inaugurated. The whole experience was so emotional, so valuable and I will never forget it," said Tudur.

But like Tudur said – it is people who make the Eisteddfod – and there is much more to the National Eisteddfod than the pomp and circumstance of the Gorsedd parading to the Pavilion and the big ceremonies such as the Chairing and the Crowning.

Tudur speaks to some of the army of people who ensure that the Eisteddfod runs smoothly – from the piano tuner, to the stewards who organise the caravan site to those who clean the toilets, ensuring that there is enough loo paper for everybody.

We meet Laura Richards who has responsibility for cleaning and organising the Eisteddfod trophies.

“There is some serious cleaning work with some of them,” said Laura. “They are quite old and I have to use a toothbrush and lollipop stick to reach the small holes and to get the trophies looking nice and clean. I had to sleep with them one time...”

We hear from all sorts of other people who are part of the Eisteddfod – the visitors, the audiences, the performers. Tudur also looks at some of the hot Eisteddfod topics over the years such as the use of Welsh and also the location – should the Eisteddfod have a permanent home, or should it continue to travel throughout Wales?

At the end of the programme Tudur shares his experiences and conclusions about the nature of the Eisteddfod.

Tudur said: “To me it is more than a week in a field. It is the feeling of belonging, being part of a family. And as in every family not everybody agrees on everything all of the time – and that’s fine. You don’t have to be a poet or a member of the Gorsedd to be a part of this family. There’s a place for everyone at the Eisteddfod.”

Tudur Owen ar ei Orsedd
Tuesday 4 August 8.00, S4C
English subtitles available
On demand: S4C Clic, iPlayer and other platforms
A Slam production for S4C