

DIONNE WARWICK TO STAR AT BRECON JAZZ 2012

Submitted by: Visit Wales

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Five-time Grammy Award winner Dionne Warwick is one of the star names at this year's Brecon Jazz festival in August, a great family day out (<http://www.visitwales.co.uk>) in Wales.

Orchard, new operator of the world famous festival, has announced a compact and powerful programme to bring a sprinkling of star names, jazz favourites, emerging and Welsh talent, Jazz Club nights, innovative collaborations and a party atmosphere to the streets of Brecon from August 10-12.

Dionne Warwick, who is celebrating 50 years in the business and 100 million records sold, will appear in concert in the Brecon Jazz Festival's (<http://www.visitwales.co.uk/things-to-do-in-wales/major-events/>) iconic Market Hall on Friday, August 10.

Another big name gracing the Market Hall stage is vibraphonist/vocalist Roy Ayers. This respected Jazz/R&B artist and renowned as the Godfather of Neo-soul will be making an exclusive UK appearance.

Welsh pianist Huw Warren is involved this year as artist-in-residence, in collaborations with Thomas Stronen and Peter Herbert. Jazz fans can look forward to performances by the likes of Neil Yates, Lighthouse, Trio Libero, Neil Cowley, Claire Martin, Yolanda Brown, Stan Tracey, Bobby Wellins, Alan Barnes, Kit Downes, Ginger Baker and many more.

In addition to the Market Hall, there will be concerts in Theatr Brycheiniog, emerging artists and home grown Welsh talent will largely perform in the Guildhall and there will be special events in Brecon Cathedral, providing a great family day out (<http://www.visitwales.co.uk>).

The town centre will be the location for some spectacular street entertainment and the Brecon Fringe is running an extensive programme of music in bars, venues and around the town throughout the weekend.

There is even a commemorative concert for Jed Williams, the founder and Artistic Director of Brecon Jazz throughout much of its 28 year history, promoting Jazz4Jed, a bursary set up in his name to benefit Jazz talent in Wales, along with workshops held in Christ College.

Mr Janczur again: "Brecon Jazz is a heritage brand with a great international reputation. If we can get close to recapturing the values, spirit and magic of the heyday of Brecon Jazz, we'll have done our job. The musical line-up is exciting, we've had a great amount of goodwill from the town, the county and the Festival Fringe, so we're now all set for a fantastic weekend in August."