



a living laboratory for the creative process

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John Metcalf's New Opera to be Produced by Companion Star

Belpport, NY – Companion Star is proud to partner with the Taleisin Arts Centre in Swansea, Wales to produce a new opera by Welsh composer, John Metcalf. The new opera, currently in development, is based on Dylan Thomas' *Under Milk Wood*, and is projected to premier in 2013.

This opera will be Mr. Metcalf's seventh, and will use the text from the Dylan Thomas' radio play *Under Milk Wood*. The production is a live opera experience, which taps into the personal imaginative richness of sitting beside a radio and entering a universe through the ear alone. It is projected to premier in Wales in 2012 and in New York in 2013 to coincide with the 60th anniversary of Dylan Thomas' death.

Dylan Thomas performed *Under Milk Wood* himself in May of 1953 at New York City's 92nd Street Y. Over the ensuing years, *Under Milk Wood* has been recorded and re-recorded, performed and filmed, translated and enjoyed across the globe. This innovative text has become a 20th century classic and arguably the most famous work in modern Welsh literature.

Companion Star is a living laboratory for the creative process: its goal is to create, produce and present breakthrough music-theatre works that reflect the spectacular diversity of the world. It is dedicated to providing a safe haven where artists from many countries, ethnic backgrounds, walks of life and stages in career can unleash their raw creativity through improvisation. Its revolutionary and high-yield method mines the psychological process of creation and allows every stage of a project's creation to emerge organically. Companion Star was founded out of the belief that investing time and deep collaborative work in a project will yield world-shattering results.