

## De Eça, José - Tenor

### Biography



Born on 1994, José de Eça is a Portuguese tenor poised for an international career. He trained under the guidance of his father, the distinguished Portuguese operatic baritone and lieder singer José de Oliveira Lopes, before attending the Conservatório Superior de Música de Gaia.

José de Eça began his professional career very early with performances in *Ahmal* and the *Night Visitors*, *The Sound of Music*, *Eloise*, *Brundibár*, *Die Zauberflöte*, and *Le nozze di Figaro*. His repertoire includes roles such as **Alfredo** (*La traviata*), **Duke** (*Rigoletto*), **Tamino** (*Die Zauberflöte*), **Don José** (*Carmen*), **Edgardo** (*Lucia di Lamermoor*), **Werther**, **Dick Johnson** (*La fanciulla del West*), **Canio** (*Pagliacci*), **Cavaradossi** (*Tosca*), and more.

The 2023/24 saw him engaged as **Pinkerton** at the National Concert Hall in Dublin, as well as **Don José** and **Tamino**. During this season, he also performed the role of the **Duke** in *Rigoletto* in a semi-staged production. In 2024, De Eça made his debut as **Cavaradossi** with Opera Holland Park in London, where his performance earned critical acclaim. *The Times* Described him as “the impressive De Eça”, while *Operawire* called him “a tenor for the future”. Following his London debut, he performed **Cavaradossi** once again in Portugal to great acclaim. Additionally, he will perform in an opera gala in Dublin and give concerts in Rome, Dublin, Wexford, and Belfast. He made his solo Oratorio debut with Círculo Portuense de Ópera (CPO), singing Haydn’s *Missa In Angustia* and Rossini’s *Petite Messe Solennelle*.

José de Eça has performed in recitals throughout Portugal and internationally in Brasil (Teatro Camões – Brasília), Chile (Teatro de Las Condes), France, Italy, Spain, Africa (Claude Debussy Festival, Ethiopia; HIFA, Zimbabwe; Durban, Pretoria), China (Meng Minwei Concert Hall, Beijing; Xinghai Concert Hall, Guangzhou), Egypt (Cairo Opera House), Mozambique (Classical Music Season), Ireland (National Opera House, National Concert Hall).

He has given masterclasses in China (Xinghai Conservatory), Chile (University Mayor), and Mozambique (Xiquitsi). His success had led to the recording of his first CD for KNS Classical, named *Dichterliebe*, which includes Schumann’s *Dichterliebe* and Liszt’s *The Sonetto do Petrarca*, released in 2021.

José de Eça has collaborated with several notable musicians, including Álvaro Teixeira Lopes, Amanda Echaz, Vivian Coates, Anne Sophie Duprels, Matthew Kofi Waldren, Stephen Barlow, among others.

In the 2025 season, José de Eça will make his highly anticipated debut as **Edgardo** in London with Opera Holland Park. Additionally, he will reprise the role of **Rodolfo** in *La Bohème* during the same season.

## Repertoire

### Opera

<b>Bizet, G.</b>	Carmen	<i>Don José</i>
<b>Donizetti, G.</b>	Lucia di Lammermoor	<i>Edgardo</i>
<b>Leoncavallo, R.</b>	Pagliacci	<i>Canio</i>
<b>Mascagni, P.</b>	Cavalleria Rusticana	<i>Turridu</i>
<b>Massenet, J.</b>	Werther	<i>Werther</i>
<b>Puccini, G.</b>	La bohème	<i>Rodolfo</i>
	La fanciulla del West	<i>Dick Johnson</i>
	Madama Butterfly	<i>Pinkerton</i>
	Tosca	<i>Cavaradossi</i>
		<i>Mario</i>
	Turandot	<i>Calaf</i>
<b>Verdi, G.</b>	Un ballo in maschera	<i>Riccardo</i>
	Macbeth	<i>Macduff</i>
	Rigoletto	<i>Duke of Mantova</i>
	La traviata	<i>Alfredo</i>

### Symphonic/Oratorio

<b>Haydn, J.</b>	Missa in Angustis
<b>Mozart, W.A.</b>	Requiem
<b>Rossini, G.</b>	Petite Messe Solennelle
<b>Verdi, G.</b>	Requiem

## Reviews

### Tosca, Opera Holland Park, 2024

Her Mario Cavaradossi was the Portuguese-born José de Eça, making his Opera Holland Park debut. In this 1960s setting, he wasn't the church painter we're familiar with but a street artist, this time painting the blue-eyed Madonna on the pavement as pedestrians walked by. An impressive addition to the cast, Eça's warm and bright timbre shone through, and he sang beautifully throughout. His robust and heartfelt rendering of "E lucevan le stelle" was truly moving and, with a voice of significant stature, he was also very well cast for an open-air setting. This is definitely a tenor with a future.

- Operawire

José de Eça in contrast, as Cavaradossi, was quite a picture in his worn suede jacket and orange shirt and casual jeans, and dismissive of her haughty demeanour. Her fiery outburst as she noticed that the Madonna had blue eyes, not brown (like her own), displayed not only the vanity of the diva but the distress of the older woman spurned. Portuguese tenor, de Eça, made a fine young Cavaradossi. His tenor voice swelled in confidence, like his character as he matures, so that when he sang *E lucevan le stelle* in Act 3, I was left thinking that this was a tenor to watch out for in the future.

- ArtmuseLondon

On his OHP debut, José de Eça reveals a brilliantly expansive and ringing tenor that shines in Cavaradossi's *Recondita armonia* and *E lucevan le stelle*. It is not unusual for productions to suggest that the artist realises as soon as he is informed of Scarpia's death and the 'mock' execution that neither he nor Tosca will be escaping alive. However, de Eça makes this particularly clear as the contrast between his internal despair and his outward attempt to ensure Tosca's final moments are happy ones, by encouraging her to picture the perfect life they will have, is very stark.

- Music OMH

Amanda Echaz sang the title role when this production was new. She's in fearsomely good voice playing a Callas-like diva who knows her worth and is understandably outraged when she thinks her hippyish boyfriend Cavaradossi (José de Eça) is two-timing her. The impressive de Eça displays free, ringing high notes - this is not an OHP night where anyone is drowned out by peacocks.

- The Times

She was well matched by the young Portuguese tenor José de Eça. He captured an ardent naivety in his performance as Cavaradossi and displayed an attractive and well-focused sound.

- Opera Magazine

José de Eça's Cavaradossi shone at the outset when he sang *Recondita armonia*, accompanied by the sacristan's grumbling countermelody. De Eça is a Portuguese tenor of promise. His love for the diva Tosca was caressing, yet there was little evidence of chemistry between his Cavaradossi and Amanda Echaz's Tosca. The first sensuous love duet *Qual'occhio* was engaging.

- Plays to see

Portuguese tenor José de Eça is an admirable find, making a slow-burn Cavaradossi with an element of seriousness to the character rather than the usual hothead, and looking remarkably different without beard and with a full wig. A former baritone, de Eça has a firm, dark voice that becomes critical as it rises, giving his upper range strength and excitement. But this was a singer who successfully gave us all the thrilling moments, in just the right way, and managed to join them all up into a coherent dramatic performance, rather than a sequence of juicy plums.

- Planet Hugill

Portuguese-born tenor José de Eça makes a stunning OHP debut as Cavaradossi, with a rich, Italianate timbre.

- Culture whisper

José de Eça, making his Holland Park debut, is in lustrous voice as the painter, with an intense, wiry sound and dark Italianate hues, like some great Caravaggio altarpiece.

- *The Tablet*

Her Cavaradossi was OHP debutant José de Eça, a Portuguese tenor of promise - and achievement. There is a fine low and middle register (he began as a baritone), and a top which is reliable if not always ringing.

- *Bachtrack*

Singing the role of radical painter Cavaradossi, tenor José de Eça possesses a distinctive and attractive voice that has yet to reach full maturity - but he's already a stylist in this music. The Stage There are arias, though not the popular classics one finds in Turandot and Butterfly, and they are given full value, particularly by José de Eça (Cavaradossi) and Echaz (Tosca), the diva playing a diva.

- *Broadway world*

### **La fanciulla del West, Wexford International Festival, 2018**

The rest of the cast did an excellent job with their respective roles, and I was particularly impressed with José de Eça.

- *Seen and Heard International*

The tenor José de Eça put on a notable performance.

- *Opera Wire*

José de Eça punktet mit strahlendem Tenor.

- *Online Musik Magazine*