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## EDWIN JHAMAAL DAVIS

BASS



Praised by opera critic *Voce di Meche* for his “juicy, booming and room-filling bass” accompanied by “mesmerizing, fully immersed acting,” *basso profondo* Edwin Jhamaal Davis has quickly established himself as an artist on the rise. Last season, Mr. Davis returned to Carnegie Hall in Mozart’s **Requiem** and sang the bass solo in Stravinsky’s **Pulcinella** with the Mainly Mozart Festival at Lincoln Center. In addition, he made his New Orleans Opera début as Angelotti in **Tosca**, returned to Seattle Opera as the Second Armored Man in **Die Zauberflöte**, and sang The Commander in the Off-Broadway production of **Mozart’s Don Giovanni – A Rock Opera**. This season, Mr. Davis sings the bass solo in Verdi’s **Requiem** with Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra and New Orleans Opera, and he makes his role and house débuts as Basilio in Knoxville Opera’s production of **Il barbiere di Siviglia**.

Recently, Mr. Davis made his house débuts in **X: The Life & Times of Malcolm X** with The Metropolitan Opera as Garvey Preacher and with Seattle Opera as Bass 2, a role he reprised in the previous season with Opera Omaha. He also joined First Coast Opera, Amelia Island Opera, Opera Montana, and Opera Memphis for Colline in **La bohème**. He joined Opera Grand Rapids as the King in **Aida**, performed as the bass soloist in Handel’s **Messiah** for Danbury Symphony, made his Carnegie Hall début as the bass soloist for Verdi’s **Requiem** with Masterworks Chorus, and was a Glynn Studio Artist with The Atlanta Opera, where he appeared in such roles as Masetto in **Don Giovanni**. He was previously a member of San Francisco Opera’s prestigious Merola Opera Program where he performed Sarastro in **Die Zauberflöte**, as well as excerpts from **Macbeth** as Banquo. Previous engagements include Bass 2 in **X: The Life & Times of Malcolm X** for Detroit Opera, Sparafucile in **Rigoletto** for the Florentine Opera, the bass soloist in **What Lies Beneath** for On Site Opera, and Uncle Wesley in **Night Trip** for Portland Opera. He toured with the American Spiritual Ensemble, sang the world premiere of **Brother Nat: Rise, Revolt, Redemption** in the role of Will at the Boston Paramount Theatre, and was a featured soloist in the symphonic premiere of **Without Regard to Sex, Race or Color**, a musical work inspired by the photographic artistry of Andrew Feiler and composed by Doug Hooker for the National Civil Rights Museum. Edwin also joined Portland Opera as a Resident Artist for the 2020-21 season.

Edwin made his professional début with Opera Mississippi as Simone in **Gianni Schicchi**. He is an alumnus of Jackson State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology Pre-Medicine with dual minors in Chemistry and Music. He received his master’s degree from the prestigious Manhattan School of Music where he studied with acclaimed baritone Mark Oswald and performed such roles as Wurm in Verdi’s **Luisa Miller**, Osmin in Mozart’s **Die Entführung aus dem Serail**, and Masetto in Mozart’s **Don Giovanni**, and covered Reverend Olin Blitch in **Susannah**. He has appeared as guest soloist at various national venues such as Pompano Beach Orchestra’s **Messiah**, Bronx Concert Singers’ winter and spring programs, and St. Mark’s presentation of **Messiah**.



Mr. Davis was the National First Place Winner of the Marian Anderson Vocal Arts Scholarship hosted by the National Association of Negro Musicians in its centennial celebration. He was a winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions Eastern Region, and he became one of the first African Americans to claim one of the top two prizes in Opera Columbus's Cooper-Bing Vocal Competition. He is a proud native of Utica, MS.

Current as of June 25, 2025