

Dr. Blas Canedo-Gonzalez

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Dr. Blas Canedo-Gonzalez is Assistant Professor and Chair at the Commercial Music Performance and Visual Arts Program at Lamar State College Port Arthur. He has served as Voice Instructor and Lecturer in diction at Lamar University, in Beaumont, Texas, and as Teaching Fellow and Voice instructor at the University of North Texas. He is also a teaching artist for the Houston Grand Opera. He has extensive experience teaching applied classical and contemporary commercial voice for music majors at the higher education level. He has served as a clinician for higher education and high schools throughout the state of Texas.

As a performer, Dr. Canedo-Gonzalez is internationally recognized as a deeply musical, persuasive singing actor whose rich, sensual sound, and strong, secure, brilliant instrument connect memorably with both repertoire and audience. Equally at home as a leading man or comedian, he delights in creating authentic characterizations of opera's many traditional Hispanic and Latino roles, as well as in championing new music, especially that by Latin composers. He has performed for leading roles at national and regional opera houses such as the Houston Grand Opera, San Antonio Opera, Teatro Mayor Julio Mario Santo Domingo, Fort Worth Opera, Alamo City Opera, and Teatro Colón de Bogotá. Memorable roles include Dr. Rappaccini (*Rappaccini's Daughter*, Catán), Everybody (*Lucinda y Las Flores de la Nochebuena*, Mack); and Vidal (*Luisa Fernanda*, Moreno Torroba), and El Duende and El Payador (*Maria de Buenos Aires*, Piazzolla). Critic Mike Greenberg of the *Incident Light* blog found Mr. Canedo-González "...so deeply musical, so flat-out beautiful, that after a while I found myself wallowing in the sheer sensuality of that sound and not bothering to look at the projected English translations." Rebecca A. Schuetz's front page coverage for the *Houston Chronicle* newspaper of Dr. Canedo-Gonzalez at the Houston Grand Opera's special performance for Houston's homeless community described his "powerful sound" that generously "swept through the hall" and "filled the room."

His concert experience includes several seasons as a baritone soloist with the Houston Symphony, other regional orchestras in the US, and major orchestras in Colombia, South America such as Victoria Symphony, Glenn Falls Symphony, Symphony of Southeast Texas, Rapides Symphony Orchestra, Sinfónica de Colombia and Filarmónica de Bogotá. He is a winner of the Pavel Lisitsian award for the best baritone voice at the Tenth edition of the Lois Alba competition in Houston.

He is a graduate of the Moores Opera Center at the University of Houston where he earned his DMA. His research document was titled, "The Spanish Language as a Conceptual and Correlative Measure in Classical Technique." He also earned an Artist Diploma Certificate from the University of North Texas, Masters of Music at Texas Christian University, and a Graduate Vocology Certificate at Lamar University. He holds a law degree equivalent to a Doctor of

Jurisprudence and served as a legal consultant in educational and cultural programs for the Mayor's Office in Bogota, Colombia.

Dr. Canedo-Gonzalez has been recognized by the Texas House of Representatives with the House Resolution 2365 for his teaching achievements and services and by the NISOD for his excellence in teaching, learning, and leadership at community and technical colleges. Canedo-Gonzalez has written book reviews for the NATS Journal of Singing and has served as a Committee Member for the Escena Digital/Opera LatinoAmerica.