

JOAN MATABOSCH

Artistic Director

Artistic Director of the Teatro Real de Madrid since the 2013–2014 season. From 1997 to 2013 he acted as Artistic Director of the Gran Teatre del Liceu. He had earlier served as Assistant Artistic Director of the Dramatic Arts department for the same theatre, having also worked as a journalist and opera, theatre, music and dance critic for different publications. He has a graduate degree in Piano, Song and Harmony; and also in Information Sciences from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

He was the founder, treasurer and president of Opera Europa, a member of the Artistic Board of the INAEM (Spanish Ministry of Culture) and is a member of juries on renowned international cultural, musical and lyrical competitions: Princess of Asturias Award in Arts (Oviedo), Operalia, Belvedere, Concurs Internacional "Francisco Viñas" (Barcelona), Fedora Award (Paris), "Les Mozart de l'Opéra" (Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, Paris), International Opera Awards (London), Glyndebourne Opera Cup, Concours International de Chant de la Ville de Toulouse, Concorso "Ottavio Ziino" (Roma), Voci Verdiane (Busseto), Grand Prix de l'Opéra (Bucarest), "Maria Kraja" Competition (Tirana), Concurs Internacional de Cant Alfredo Kraus (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria), "El Ojo Crítico" by Radio Nacional de España, the "mecomprounaobra" initiative of the ARCO Foundation (Madrid), etc. Masters' degrees, conferences, postgraduate courses and lectures at Opera America, Réunion des Opéras de France, RESEO, National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) de Pekin, Juan March Foundation, Instituto Cervantes, Residencia de Estudiantes (Madrid), Universidad Carlos III (Madrid), Universidad Complutense (Madrid), Universidad Autónoma (Madrid), El Escorial Summer Courses, Instituto Internacional (Madrid), Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Universidad de Salamanca, Universitat de Girona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat Politécnica de Catalunya, Universitat Autónoma (Barcelona), Conservatori del Liceu (Barcelona), Real Conservatorio Superior de Música (Madrid), Escuela Superior de Canto (Madrid), Institut del Teatre (Barcelona), ESADE, Bank of Spain, Màlaga, Vigo, Burgos, MIDEM (Cannes), Aix-en-Provence, Salsburg, etc.

Barcelona City Council awarded him the "Ramblista d'Honor 2013" prize, together with Eduardo Mendoza and Antoni Tàpies; and the "El Ojo Crítico" Especial 2017 award by National Spanish Radio for his career, held at the bicentenary of the Teatro Real. The jury highlighted the following: "Firmly convinced that opera must provide a platform for reflection and cultural discourse, Joan Matabosch has devoted his career to this objective with determination and passion. He has done so by taking sound, precise steps from his beginnings as a musical and stage critic, as the manager, founder and president of Opera Europa, artistic director of the Gran Teatre del Liceu de Barcelona for over 15 years and, since September 2013, as artistic director of the Teatro Real de Madrid, which celebrated the bicentenary of its foundation in 2018. At Madrid's coliseum, Matabosch has strived for a perfect balance between repertoire and innovation, by programming high-quality performances. He was endeavoured to introduce opera to new types of public, with the intention of fostering the identity of the genre as a living, artistic spectacle".

As Artistic Director of the Teatro Real and before that, of the Gran Teatre del Liceu, he was responsible for the artistic programming of the two leading Spanish lyrical coliseums. His work has promoted the acceptance of the great 20th century composers in both Madrid and Barcelona, in addition to supporting the presence of the finest singers, orchestra and stage directors on the international stage.

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