

GLADIATOR CROSSES ATLANTIC TO CHALLENGE LAMPRECHT

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Johannesburg, South Africa - Africa's Light-Heavyweight Champion JC Lamprecht has a new challenger! Édson Silva joins the Brazilian contingent competing at EFC 123's epic 'Africa's Best vs Brazil' evening of combat in Johannesburg on the 8th of May in a War of the Republics!

The light-heavyweight title of the EFC has always been one of the most prestigious belts, with former champions like Dalcha, Wessels, Drotschie, Biyong and Joubert all basking in its golden glory. But when JC Lamprecht added his name to the list of legends at EFC 106 by taking a third-round tap from fellow veteran Mzwandile Hlongwa, it was the culmination of a career typified by sacrifice and warfare stretching back 13 years. His very last defeat in that timeline was to current teammate and sparring partner Dricus du Plessis, but since then has remained undefeated upon the path to the belt which he will defend for the very first time next week at the World Sports Betting Arena. But his preparations have now been marred by his opponent pulling out of the bout due to illness, handing the incredible

opportunity of title contendership to one of central Brazil's best mixed-martial artists, Édson 'The Gladiator' Silva.

After turning pro relatively recently in 2021, Silva has notched up ten high-level performances, winning several belts and competing 6 times in the highly-respected Jungle Fight, the home promotion of UFC stars like Johnnie Walker, Renato Moicano and Erick Silva. A Jiu-Jitsu specialist training with Paulistenio Rocha in Rio Verde and blessed with a mean right hand that has collected the consciousness's of several opponents, he will feel right at home with the Jozi altitude considering he lives in the highlands of the Goiás plateau in central Brazil. He now slots straight into the main event for the third title fight of his career against the tactical CIT powerhouse who has yet to go the distance in his entire professional career.

It is a stunning main event sitting atop a stacked card which features two other title fights pitching Brazilian and South African against one another. Amanda Lino from Durban aims to regain her Women's Flyweight Belt in a contest with Mariana Salles from Rio Grande do Norte, after Pretoria's Willie van Rooyen fights for the vacant Men's Flyweight title against Salles' Pitbull Brothers teammate, Kleberson Sousa. South Africa's former multiple title-winning flyweight Terence Balelo will also be in action representing Cape Town in a main card feature bout against a fierce opponent from the Amazon, Marcio Oliveira who hails from world famous Nova União team. With 12 bouts in total, the numeric lodestone event of EFC 123 is set to be one of the biggest events in African combat sports this year with those three intercontinental title fights and that stacked card in its entirety below:

Main Card

LHW Title Bout - JC Lamprecht © vs Édson Silva

Vacant WFLW Title - Bout Amanda Lino vs Mariana Salles

Vacant FLW Title Bout - Willie van Rooyen vs Kleberson Sousa

Flyweight Bout - Terence Balelo vs Marcio Oliveira

Welterweight Bout - Peace Nguphane vs Jaco du Plessis

Preliminary Card

Bantamweight Bout - Moses Mokhari vs Gift Walker

Featherweight - Bout Mpho Hloka vs Francis Martin

Catchweight Bout - Zhane Tannous vs Mark Kamba

Lightweight Bout - Marcel Els vs Emmanuel Sita

Featherweight Bout - Liam Schulze vs Tshepo Majuba
Bantamweight Bout - Allistar Kunene vs William Lekana
Flyweight Bout Tebatso Molele vs Vuyo Jula

EFC 123 Africa's Best vs Brazil takes place on Thursday 8th May 2025, live from the WorldSports Betting Arena at the EFC Performance Institute in JHB, South Africa.

Broadcast information at www.efcworldwide.com