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Tango

N O T I C I A S

Volume 2, Issue 9

September, 2001

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Chicago Classes

On-Going Classes: call instructors for details or check the teachers' pages on our website www.tangonoticias.com:

- ▶ Al Gates
- ▶ Bob Dronski and Kathleen Kreler
- ▶ Erica Sutton
- ▶ Fred Romero

Chicago Milongas

Tuesdays

Club 720, 720 North Wells 3rd Floor, Chicago
 Sponsor: Chicago Tango Club Argentine
 7:30 pm – midnight; \$8 cover
 Lesson from 7:30 to 8:15
 Contact Charlotte Vikstrom 773.493.0666 for details.

Wednesdays

Grant Park Outdoor Dance Floor, 600 S. Michigan
 8:00 - 10:45 pm; free
 Introductory Lesson 7:15-8:00 pm
 Enjoy dancing under the stars. The location has changed slightly. From the outdoor dance floor walk a bit north and the go over the bridge. Bring your own refreshments and a lawn chair for added enjoyment. Donations (\$5) for the portable speaker purchased for this purpose is appreciated. Last evening for the year will be September 26th.

First & Third Fridays - September 7th & 21st

Lake Street Milonga, 942 W. Lake (at Peoria), Chicago
 8:30 pm – 1:00 am \$7
 Introductory Lesson 8:00 – 8:30 pm

7th - Chacarera Class! Leroy and Phoebe will teach the Chacarera tonight. See "Events" section for details.

21st - LATE START due to a gallery opening. Dancing will start at 9:00 pm with no introductory class. Call Jan Carpenter 312.258.6137 or Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 erica@tangoparatodos.com for details

Last Friday of the Month - September 28th

Tres Tangueras Milonga; Latvian Community Center
 4146 N. Elston (at Hamlin)
 7:30 pm – Midnight \$10
 Contact Valentina Cisar 773-763-8729 for details.

Saturdays

Tango...nada mas; 6137 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago
 9:00 pm – 2:00 am (Free Introductory Class at 8:30)
 \$15 includes light buffet
 Contact Bob Dronski 773.792.2099 for details.

Chicago Practicas

Tango...nada mas
 6137 N. Northwest Hwy., Chicago
 Fridays beginning at 8:00 pm Cost \$5
 Contact Bob Dronski 773.792.2099 for details.

North Shore Dance Studio
 6163 N. Broadway, Chicago
 Fridays beginning at 7:30 PM Cost \$10
 Contact Al Gates at 773.994.7929 for details.

Gallery on Lake
 942 W. Lake, Chicago
 Sundays 8:00 10:00 pm Cost \$5
 Contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 for details.

Chicago Teachers

Tom Barnard*	tbbarnard@hotmail.com
Jose & Gerri Caravantes*	773.286.6424
Bob Dronski & Kathleen Kreher**	773.792.2099
Emilia Boykov**	773.743.2962
Sean Erwin*	773.274.9564
Carlos Favre *	773.481.1551/773.852.6555
Leroy Hearon *	773.276.1518
Louis Gallo **	773.878.8089
Mark Johnson *	312.446.0468
Gadi Lissak **	773.472.8776
Tina Mangos **	773.282.5108
Elena Robles*	773.327.1667
Fred & Yermen Romero**	773.725.0518
Pamela Strateman**	312.902.2803
Erica Sutton**	773.505.1577
Charlotte Vikstrom**	Argentango@usa.net

*Privates only

**Classes and Privates

Biography del
“Pulpo”

By Phoebe Grant

From Argentina, NORBERTO, “El Pulpo,” ESBREZ has fifteen years of professional experience as a dancer, tango teacher and choreographer.

Norberto carries with him eighty years of tango tradition and history. He is the third generation “tanguero” in his family; his grandfather and father were bandoneon players.

For more than a decade, Norberto has devoted himself to dance while carefully researching and developing a personal technique and style. His tango steps were first practiced with Rock 'n Roll which gave him tremendous agility. His movements progress continuously, appearing quite round and smooth – enhancing the sensuality of tango. Complex sequences of ganchos, sacadas and enganches are totally improvised and fluid. This is why, in the milongas of Buenos Aires, he is known as “El Pulpo,” the octopus – he certainly appears to be dancing with multiple legs intertwined! Full of creativeness, his techniques for leading allow dancers to spend a minimum of energy with a maximum of expression and possibilities for step combinations. Norberto is constantly exploring and adding new movements to the vocabulary of tango.

As a teacher, he has developed techniques and methods that lead the student to move with precision while stimulating their own creativity.

Noberto studied with the famous Argentine tango teacher, Rodolfo Dinzel, and has worked for the most influential theaters and show-places in Buenos Aires, including: Teatro San Martin, Teatro Astral, Teatro Opera, Cafe Tortoni, El Viejo Almacen, La Ventana, Casablanca and many others. Noberto lived for 7 years in Brazil where he taught throughout the country as a member of the “Academia Argentina de Tango”. He first lived in Rio de Janeiro and then moved to Sao Paulo where he ran his own dance studio and held a weekly milonga.

LUIZA PAES, Norberto’s partner, has studied music since she was six. For many years she worked in musical education and vocal technique. In 1998, she began to study and dance with Norberto in Sao Paulo. Tango became a new form of musical expression for her. Luiza started working as Norberto’s assistant in his classes in Sao Paulo. She is particularly adept at helping followers with their balance technique to facilitate ganchos and sacadas.



In 1999 - with much success – Norberto began to teach tango and give exhibitions in the United States, France, Germany, Italy and Russia with Luiza Paes as his partner, translator and organizer. From April through June of 2000, Norberto and Luiza returned to the United States to continue teaching. Moving back to Buenos Aires in September, they started group classes at La Catedral with a regular gathering of native students as well as devotees from all over the world. Norberto and Luiza recently opened their own studio in Buenos Aires where their students will have a permanent space to learn and practice.

They filmed a series of three instructional videos in March 2000 through “Bridge to the Tango.” In

December 2000, Noberto and Luiza taught at a festival in Amsterdam and were featured on the front page of Holland’s most important newspaper. After the festival, they taught workshops in Russia and in Germany.

Noberto and Luiza have participated as faculty for both the 2nd and 3rd CITAS - International Congress of Argentine Tango - in Buenos Aires. While at CITA, Luiza led a highly successful “Musical Interpretation” class.

Help us interview Norberto and Luiza – send your questions via e-mail to <pgj@mindspring.com> or give them to Phoebe before September 16.

El Pulpo’s visit will be hosted by Leroy Hearon, Jr., Phoebe J. Grant and Erica Sutton.

September

7th - Learn the Chacarera!

942 W. Lake Street,
Chicago

By popular demand Leroy Hearon and Phoebe J. Grant will teach the Argentinean folk dance, or the chacarera at the Lake Street Milonga. The class will be conducted from 7:45 to 8:45 pm. In addition to a review of the basic single chacarera, Leroy and Phoebe will teach the double and truncated (*trunca*) versions and variations on the 8-count crossing and the *sabateos*. \$7 for entrance to milonga. Contact Phoebe Grant pjg@mindspring.com.

9th - Dancing at Chicago Dance Resumes

3660 W. Irving Park Road,
Chicago

7:00-10:00 pm \$8
Introductory lesson in Studio 1 at 7:00. Open dancing in the ballroom Chicago Tango Club Argentine and Chicago Dance Ballroom will resume a shared monthly milonga on the second Sunday of the month beginning in September. Open mike for musis. Dessert-table pot luck. Future dates are October 14th, November 11th, and December 9th. Contact Charlotte Vikstrom 773.493.0666 for details.

9th - New Practica Every Sunday

Gallery on Lake, 942 W. Lake, Chicago

8:00-10:00 pm \$5

Here is another opportunity to practice all the cool things you are learning in local classes and workshops. Erica Sutton is hosting the practica every Sunday. If you attend her class at 7:00 pm, the practica is free. Contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 erica@tangoparatodos.com.

14th - Milonga Madness at Tango...nada mas

6137 N. Northwest Hwy,
Chicago

8:00-9:00 pm lesson;
9:00 - ?? Practica \$15
Back by popular demand!

Come for a one hour milonga lesson and stay for a practica. Bob and Kathleen will teach milonga style and sequences. There will be milonga music emphasized at the practica. All for one great price of \$15. Don't miss out! Contact Bob Dronski 773.792.2099 or tango-nadamas.com for details

15th -16th Interruptions with Séan and Yanira

North Shore Dance Studio,
6163 N. Broadway,
Chicago

Yanira and Séan will teach two progressive workshops on Interruptions; they will emphasize tech-

niques for dancing interruptively for both the man and the woman with the aim of creating and mastering a range of different 'textures' in one's dancing. Call 773.274.9564 or e-mail at drtango@hotmail.com. Class size will be limited. Cost \$25 Workshop

21th-23rd Latin Dance Review 2001 "From the Amazon to Chicago"

Dance Center of Columbia College, 1306 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago

Time 7:30 or 8:00 pm
Cost \$20

Latin Street Dancing will deliver a huge show of hot Latin dancing with proceeds to benefit cancer charities. Salsa, mambo, merengue, cha-cha-cha, samba, bachata tango (with Erica Sutton and Douglas Rivera).

Dance companies far and wide will be performing for a great cause. Call the Columbia College Box office 312.344.8300 for details.

Lake Street Milonga

1st & 3rd Fridays

942 W. Lake, Chicago

\$7 - light refreshments; BYOB

Times slightly changed this month see below

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

September 7th - Chacarera Night

By popular demand Leroy Hearon and Phoebe J. Grant will teach the Argentinean folk dance or the Chacarera. Enjoy a review of the basic single chacarera, plus the double and truncated versions.

Class time is 7:45 pm.

Open dancing begins at 8:45 pm

September 21st - Gallery Opening

Due to an art gallery opening, the milonga will begin at 9:00 pm with no intro class.

Enjoy dancing with new art.

Contact your hosts for more information

Jan Carpenter 312.258.6137 tangojan@hotmail.com
Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 erica@tangoparatodos.com

Events continued

22nd - Milonga with Live Music by the Guerilla Parlour Ensemble
Phillips Recreation Center, Springfield & McCullough, Urbana, IL.
Dance to the live music of the Midwest's own tango quintet and recording artists - **The Guerilla Parlour Ensemble.** Dance on a 2000 sq ft. hardwood floor in a smoke free environment. The milonga is from 9-12 pm, and is preceded by beginner and intermediate level lessons at 7:30. Admission: \$5. Contact Ron Weigel at 217-328-1309 or RonWeigel@aol.com.

25th - 30th Workshops with Gloria and Eduardo Ariquimbau
Authentic milonguero tango instructors, Gloria and Eduardo are the last living masters of the *orillero* Tango style. They were choreographers and headliners of the original cast of "Forever Tango" and have translated their instructional videos into eight languages.
25th - Exhibition at *720 Club* at 10:00 pm
26th & 27th - workshops and privates
28th - workshop at 7:30 pm and performance at 11:00 pm at *Tres Tangueras Milonga*
29th & 30th - workshops
For discounts and details, Contact Elena Robles 773.327.1667
erobles@enc.k12.il.us or www.TangoinChicago.com

26th - Backyard Variety Show
HotHouse, 31 E. Balbo
8:00 pm \$10
Like your tango a little more spicy? Come to the Backyard Variety Show — Fire-eaters, magicians with iguanas, bed of nails, broken glass walkers, clowns, raffles and TANGO. The tango community has been invited back after a great performance in July. Three couples -- Sean and Yanira, Douglas and Erica, and Romulo and Margo -- will be on stage. Good fun!
For details contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577
erica@tangoparatodos.com

October

7th "Fandango to Tango" Dance Production
University Reynolds Club, 1414 E. 59th St. University of Chicago campus, Chicago
3:00 pm Tickets \$20 from University Box Office 773.702.7300
This production is a lecture, performance, and tango party tracing the roots of Argentine tango. Included studies are the fandango, a spanish dance form used by composers in the late 17th century, African rhythms, and flamenco.
Contact Charlotte Vikstrom 773.493.0666 for details.

8th - 14th El Pulpo ("The Octopus") and Luiza Paes Workshops & Milonga
Noberto Esbrez, known as El Pulpo ("The Octopus"), with his partner Luiza Paes is renowned for his leading of repeated ganchos in a seductive rhythm. Although this aspect of nuevo tango style may not be for everyone, studying with Noberto and Luiza will provide another dimension to your dancing. All classes are 90 minutes long and, except for the 12th, will be held at *Dancer's Delight*:
9th: Showcase at *720 Club*
10th:
6:30pm El Pulpo's Style 1
8:00 El Pulpo's Style 2
12th:
7:00 Entradas, Barridas, & Colgadas
13th:
12:00 Giros & Syncopation
2:00 Ganchos: Basics
4:00 Continuous Ganchos
14th:
2:00 Lead & Follow
4:00 Lifts & Finishes
Cost: \$30 for 1-2 workshops; Any three \$85; any six \$160; all eight \$200.
Milonga on October 12th details to be determined. Available for privates during any time not listed above. Cost is \$110 for solo; \$90 for a couple. Contact Phoebe at pjg@mindspring.com or (312) 342-4335 for details.

November

November 17th. 25th Tango Immersion Tour in Buenos Aires
Natalie Pepa is organizing a tour of Buenos Aires during Thanksgiving. It's not too soon to make plans. Contact Natalie by email at tangonata@aol.com for a full flier of information

Other News

Las Vegas Tango Workshop October 5-7:
If you missed the big events in Miami, Los Angeles, Toronto, and San Francisco. here is your opportunity this year. Head to Las Vegas and sign up for classes with 24 Argentine master teachers, milongas all night on a 9,000 sq. ft. ballroom floor.
www.lasvegastango.com .

Detroit Tango Club's 8th Anniversary Celebration October 13:
Enjoy a weekend in Detroit with a formal Gala Dinner Show with TangoDanza performing. There will be workshops with all the performers on October 14th.
Contact Amy & Ray 313.561.3236 www.motorcitymilongueros.com

Portland's 5th annual TangoFest October 18-21:
Featuring 4 days of workshops, 26 teachers, 5 milongas with performances on the weekend, and a live orchestra on Sunday.
Contact Clay for details claybird@teleport.com

Montage de

A Mosaic of Responses to the August performances of TangoDanza's "Cuatro" collected from members of the Midwest Tango Community

Connie Orbeta, Chicago:

TangoDanza "Cuatro" is an entirely new experience. The traditional tango show is the old-fashioned, male-dominated dance. This young group is made up of highly skilled dancers; this is a token. What is more impressive is where this group leads us.

TangoDanza has made an important statement to the world of Argentine tango. The power of the woman's role weaves its way throughout the entire performance. In *La bordona* Andrea controlled the dance with power and elegance. *Tango Diablo*, danced by Leandro, Andrea and Olga, displayed passion, jealousy and betrayal. The male dancer became the object while the women were the protagonists.

The ensemble is made up of risk-taking visionaries; the group is creative and innovative. The choreographers – Leandro, Andrea and Gabriel – are showing the importance of the woman's role and, by doing so, they are changing the way Argentine tango is interpreted.

Phoebe J. Grant, Chicago:

Not to minimize the dramatic beauty and elegance of the dancing, about which I am sure there will be many comments, I wanted to note my special, incredulous joy at viewing the costumes that, principally, Andrea designed. The talent of this woman in par-

ticular, and its translation by her cohorts, amazes and inspires me nightly!

Susan Shender, St Louis:

The performance totally engaged me. The dancers' movements and costumes, the lighting and music worked together perfectly to create an emotional situation, to evoke a scenario about relationships or to celebrate the play between virtuoso movement and music. I was absorbed by the responsiveness of the dancers to one another and to the music; I was very glad to be there.

Erica Sutton, Chicago:

Leandro and Andrea and TangoDanza as a whole are an incredible example of artistic achievement through the dance and music of tango. I am completely blown away and in awe of them! When is the next show?

Gretchen Manhart & The Argentine Tango Club of Tulsa, Tulsa:

The show was absolutely breathtaking to say the very least. All of us who attended (four couples from Tulsa) would see the show again and again – that is how spectacular it was. I hope it goes on tour as we would love to see if we could schedule it for Tulsa. Words

cannot express the lasting impression that it made on all of us who attended from the Tulsa Argentine Tango Club. It was one performance we will never forget and our hats are off to the performers – absolutely fabulous!

Leroy Hearon, Chicago:

The spectacular movements and stylings of Tango Danza caused an electrifying feeling inside me. The sharpness and passion of their choreography only inspires in me my quest for the Tango Holy Grail. Robert Duvall should put these Young Troubadours of Tango on film. *Besos*

Séan Erwin, Chicago:

I have many images still with me from the show, though there was one that struck me particularly. During *Este es el rey*, a solo between Leandro and Andrea, there came a moment when the two dancers reversed the direction of a lift and Andrea, who had extended, about to touch the ground, hovered, before slowly and gently rising again in an arc around Leandro. What occurred at that point for me was simply an audio-visual hallucination: anyone attending the performance that night would certainly assure me that music issued from the hall's speaker system uninterrupted for the entirety of the show. And yet, I am still certain that during those movements the music was coming only from their two bodies.

Janice and Larry Goldberg, Chicago:

TangoDanza "Cuatro" gave us our very first real Tango experience...and it was mesmerizing! Their movements ranged from the fluid to the energetically staccato and more. When we add to that the artists' expressions together with the wonderful music, we found the dance projecting to us many moods — sensuality, mystery, etc. Besides the beauty of the dance itself, we were amazed at the physical requirements involved with

"The show was absolutely breathtaking..."

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Advertising Opportunity in *Tango Noticias*

Advertise in both the *Tango Noticias* newsletter and our website www.tangonoticias.com. The cost of advertising per month on the website is only an additional 50% of the monthly newsletter fee:

Size of ad	Newsletter	+	Website	Total
1/8 page	\$25		\$12	\$27
1/4 page	\$35		\$17	\$52
1/2 page	\$50		\$25	\$75
whole page	\$85		\$42	\$127

Deadline for consideration in the next issue is Sept. 23rd. Please call or e-mail Editors Sean Erwin or Jan Carpenter with your copy or questions.

Tango Noticias is a not-for-profit, independent, monthly newsletter whose objective is to provide timely information about happenings of interest to members of Chicago's Tango community.

Senior Regional Editor: Dr. Sean Erwin 773.274.9564 drtango@hotmail.com

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Tango Stories Editor: Natalie Pepa tangonata@aol.com

Interviewer and Writer: Jonathan Bedi jbedi@wpo.it.luc.edu

Tango ohne Grenzen

By Natalie Pepa

August, and major European cities are dead, or at least aestivating, during the heat of summer – yet not Munich. I arrive here on a Friday afternoon. An Argentine woman, living in the city and with whom I am acquainted from Buenos Aires, tells me there is a milonga tonight at the Hofgarten. She will meet me at 10pm, at 9pm I walk through the giant arch into the public garden where manicured lawns, flowers, wide and narrow paths diverge in many directions. I follow my ear on the trail of D'Arienzo in the distance. In the middle of the garden, surrounded by the scent of flowers and singing of birds under a thin new moon, stands a Temple of Diana. Under a beautiful stone cupola supported by columns a few people are already dancing on the tile floor. I only stand around for a few minutes. By the time my friend arrives, I have already danced for almost an hour. When we leave at 2:30 in the morning, my feet are sore and I can truly say I have danced all night! Here, in Munich, even in tango I find Bavarian *Gemütlichkeit* – an easy, outgoing, amiable hospitality. No, this is not Paris!

So I head further south – to Turin where there is supposedly tango every night.

Unfortunately when I call, I consistently receive the answer: “Sorry, not in August.” And so I end up at an old-fashioned dance hall doing polka, waltz, bolero, salsa and even a couple of tangos. The atmosphere is friendly; I have no lack of dance partners. I can't wait to return here next year for *tango Argentino* – just not in August.



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the technical aspects of the choreographies. The strength and control of the dancers truly made us respect their art.

We are still talking about it and have told our families in other states to check Tango websites for TangoDanza performances in their areas. Everyone should see this! It takes you to other times and places, and if you like dance, you must experience this!

Jonathan Bedi, Chicago:

I thought that the use of music was incredible; it showed off how talented the dancers really are. One of the things that I did not

like was when all three couples were on stage – I wanted to watch them all but there were times when they were doing different things and I felt that while I watched one I missed the others perform.



Visit our...

**Tango Noticias
Web Site**



Exotic Tango Vacations Presents:

TANGO IN EGYPT: DANCING CHEEK TO SHEIK

Nov. 8-20, 2002

With the King and Queen:

FABIAN SALAS & CAROLINA DEL RIVERO

This 14 day trip* includes 4 nights cruise on the Nile with dancing and classes, five star hotels, visits to many temples including LUXOR, KARNAK and DENDARHA, the temple of "High Magic" where the Egyptian Zodiac was discovered.

Also we will visit the Valleys of the Kings and Queens, and tango in the Temple of Isis!

Aside from hours of exploring with our guide, you can shop in exotic markets for leather, silver, weavings, gems. Sail on a "Felluca" (Egyptian sail boat). Ride a horse or camel into the desert at sunset. In Cairo, a great belly dance teacher will teach us classes.

***12 days in Egypt, 2 days of travel to and from Egypt.**

Send a non-refundable deposit of \$500 before Oct. 1, 2001 for this price:

\$2,431 per person, double occupancy

Triple \$5787 (saves approx. \$565 per person)

Single \$2936.00

After January 2002, the price may increase.

PRICE INCLUDES: Five star hotels, taxes, water and ground transportation, entry fees, ALL breakfasts, ALL meals on the cruise, Welcome dinner and Cruise in Cairo, fellucca sail past the botanical gardens of Cairo, English-speaking Egyptologist to give you individual attention and answer questions, **ALL tango classes, milongas, and show (more than 25 hours)**. Belly dance classes with two of the world's top teachers are optional, and encouraged!

Also included is the airfare from Upper Egypt (the cruise) to Cairo but NOT your airfare to and from Egypt, nor gratuities.

Tango Cheek to Sheik must be paid in full by Aug. 15, 2002. • E-mail: kikibri@aol.com for registration or call (505) 983-1744 for credit card payment, and leave your name, card number, exp. date, and phone number for Dr. Woody Bobb.

Make checks out to Christina Johnson, and send to me c/o Woody Bobb, 19 Camino Cielo Alto, Santa Fe, NM, 87505. Put "Egypt" or "Cheek to Sheik" on the envelope.

For good prices, book your flights through Ann Dolan at The Culture Bridge, (651) 645-2587



Regional Supplement to Tango Noticias

Champaign-Urbana, IL

Contacts:

Rita Marvelli:
marvelli@uiuc.edu; 217-344-2123
Leonardo:
Tangoleon@aol.com; 217-328-1311
Joe Grohens: joe@wolfram.com; 217-328-1008

Milongas: *Tango Society of Central Illinois* — Monthly milongas held at *Phillips Recreation Center*: Sat Sep 22, Sat Oct 27 & Sat Dec 1 from 9-12pm with lesson at 7:30; Admission \$3. For more information contact Leonardo.

Classes: For schedules visit www.prairienet.org/white-steeet/tango.html.

Detroit, MI

Contacts:

MotorCity

Milongueros.com

Amy & Ray: MotorCity
Milongueros.com;
313.561.3236
Lori Burton:
Argentinatangodetroit.com;
810.726.2370

Amy & Ray: MotorCity
Milongueros.com

Classes:

—Tuesdays at DanceSport Academy of Michigan, Dearborn. All levels 8:00 to 9:00pm.
—Thursdays 7-9 pm followed by a Practica 9-10 pm;
Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor - all levels. \$10 (\$5 with

student id) for all evening.
—Fridays at Farmington YMCA, Farmington Hills. Class 7:30 to 9:00pm, Practica 9:00 to 10:00pm.

Peña: Every 4th Saturday at the Pittsfield Grange, September through May; classes from 7-9 PM and general dancing from 9-1am. Light refreshments, \$10/students with ID \$5.

Lori Burton:

Argentinatangodetroit.com
or LnBrtn@compuser.net;
810.254.0560



Classes:

— *Argentine Tango Detroit*: every day of the week, 7758 Auburn, Utica, MI; see website for details.

Milongas:

— *Argentine Tango Detroit/Tango Suave*; three times weekly see website for details
Brickhouse. Auburn Road, Utica, MI. 8 pm; \$7.

Visiting Teachers:

The following teachers are being hosted by the studios of Lori Burton:

Graciela Gonzales –

October 6

Nito & Elba – November 7-14

Kely & Facundo – First two weeks of January

Ames, Iowa

Contacts:

Valerie Williams:
515.232.7374;
vjw@cnde.iastate.edu

Classes: 7-8 pm; Beginning Class and Technique

Tango Salon: Dance held following class on alternate Thursday; call for information or check website.

Location: *Café Diem*, 323 Main Street, Ames, IA 50014

at 7PM and Live Music with *Tango Lorca*.
—*Piropos* in Parkville on Thursdays. Contact Korey for more details

Madison, WI

Contacts:

Steven Fosdal:
fosdal@mail.com;
608.288.8339
Anna Snider:
atango@mail.com;
608.848.6109

Practicas: *Pasión del Tango*: Every Tuesday at Union South, Univ. of Wis. campus at the corner of Randall and Johnson streets; 7-8:30, no charge.

Milongas: Contact Steven & Anna.

Mt. Vernon, MO

Contacts:

Karen Whitesell: 417.471.1001;
Fax 417.471.1002. www.thelearningdepot.com/murrays-1/

Milonga Venue:

Murray's Vintage Venue:
202 S Hickory, Mt Vernon MO 65712

St. Louis, MO

Contacts:

Roxanne McKenny:
stltango@aol.com
Carter Maier:
tngomn@hotmail.com
Estella & Randy:
tangoartists@tangorosa.com
Lourdes Ylagan:
Lylagan@path.wustl.edu

Practicas: First two Mondays at *Focal Point* – Maplewood, MO from 8-10pm - cost \$5; call 314.849.3007 for details.

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Milongas:

—*Club Viva*, Second Tuesday of every month; call Roxanne for details.
—*Soulard Coffee Garden*; 910 Geyer Avenue; call for details: 314.241.1464.
—*Monthly Milonga*: Cost \$10 at Focal Point; call Estella & Randy for details.

Classes:

Estella & Randy: call for classes or see schedule at www.tangorosa.com
Roxanne: Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced

Tulsa, OK

Contact:

Bob & Gretchen Manhart;
OKTANGO@prodigy.net

Milongas: Contact for more details.

Classes: Every other Saturday 6-8 pm. \$8 per person or \$15 per couple.

Twin Cities, MN

Contacts:

Tango Society of Minnesota:: Mntango.org
Steve Lee: 612.729.5306
tango-1@juno.com
Lois Donnay: 612.930.9221
donnay@donnay.net
Frankw@tc.umn.edu: 952.285.9305

Practicas: *Ridgedale*

YMCA, 12301 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka, 8-10 PM: 952.544.7708.
Rebecca Trost's Tango Practicas: Tuesdays 9-10:30 pm; \$2. *Four*

Season's Dance Studio, 1637 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis 612.342.0902;
Tango Class/Practica: Yvette's Restaurant, St. Louis Park; 7PM with live music after lesson.

Milongas:

Tango Society of Minnesota: 2nd Saturday/monthly at *Dancesprt Dance Studio* in Hopkins, MN. Lesson at 8pm; dancing from 9pm – 1am. Cost \$5 for members or \$8 for others.

Steve Lee's Tango Plus. Friday after 2nd Saturday of each month; 9 pm – 1 am; lesson 9-9:30 PM. \$5.

Michael Cordner's Mini-Milongas: Sundays 7-9:30 pm \$2; *Four Season's Dance Studio*, 1637 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis 612.342.0902
Rendesvous Ballroom; first Saturday of the month: cost \$5 TSOM or \$8 others; 2524 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis.

Classes:

please see the following websites for details:
www.mntango.org/tsofmc
<http://i.am.tctango>

Visiting Teachers:

Florencia Tacetti – *ongoing at Four Seasons Dance Studio*; contact at 952.285.9305 or ftacetti@yahoo.com



'Interruptions' Workshops, I & II
Developing Tango Textures
with Yanira and Séan

September 15th from 6-8pm, Interruptions I
September 16th from 3-5pm, Interruptions II

Yanira and Séan will teach two progressive workshops on Interruptions systematically presenting techniques for creating and mastering a range of different 'textures' in one's dancing. These will be two very memorable classes!!

Cost \$25 Workshop
North Shore Dance Studio
6163 N. Broadway, Chicago



JANUARY 13-20, 2002. TANGO BY THE SEA!

With optional four days more (20-24th) dancing, exploring, enjoying in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Additional reasonable price.

Come dance and learn more tango in a stunning and wild jungle beach resort near Puerto Vallarta.

FABIAN SALAS, renowned master teacher from Argentina, with partner **Carolina del Rivero**; and **Eduardo Saucedo from Buenos Aires** are instructing.

7 nights: \$744 to \$1,110 USD per person, double occupancy. The first package includes breakfast, and the second package includes all meals, wine, beer, and sodas.

BOTH packages include Mexican Fiesta night with tequila shots, Mexican Buffet, folkloric dancing, welcome cocktail party, 2 to three tango classes

Each day, Relationship Dance Tango workshop, and four milongas. Other Activities include sea kayaking, sailing, snorkeling on nearby islands, Horseback riding, hiking to waterfall.

© *And, yes, you will get to experience the famous "Erotic Dessert" ©night from last year!! You saw Fabian in **The Tango Lesson...He** is a "teacher's teacher", and a truly innovative dancer presenting a dynamic approach to tango that could change the way you dance through more intricate rhythms and movements. See www.cosmotango.com*

THE RELATIONSHIP DANCE, with Christina Johnson and Eduardo Saucedo. This is a workshop for anyone, but critical for beginners. The class emphasizes relationship and communication between partners, and the polarity of masculine/feminine dynamics while learning the basics.

For the best price, preregister with non-refundable \$300 BY AUGUST 15! To save a space, please e-mail me immediately telling me you WISH to go! We now have room for five more couples, two more women, and 4 men, (gender balanced.)

THIS IS FILLING UP FAST!!

Register through kikibri@aol.com, or call (505) 983-1744. www.beyondtango.com will tell you more about the teachers, as well.

San Miguel de Allende is a popular Mexican destination for artists, students, and shoppers! It is a colonial jewel, with bright tropical flowers cascading down walls, cobble stoned streets, magnificent churches, caves and hot springs, and GREAT shopping.

Eduardo Saucedo or El Indio will be teaching in San Miguel. . The deposit for Tango and milongas in San Miguel is \$150 per person, payable immediately. As of August, there is room for 15 more people in San Miguel, (non gender balanced.)

**** Please tell me if you want to go to San Miguel as well as Tango by the Sea, or ONLY to San Miguel! CALL Ann Dolan at: TCBRIDGE, Tel: 651 645 2587 for best travel prices.**

Special extras may include massage, and various bodywork treatments, LaStone therapy, and special stretch/yoga class.



Tango: Tokyo

by “Bibi” Vivian Wong

Due to my own ignorance, I would never have thought Tokyo was considered the second Buenos Aires as far as the popularity of Argentine Tango is concerned. Eventually, after poking at various websites, I came to realize that it is, indeed, a striving community with a passion for tango. Expensive, yes, but certainly striving.

Much like here, the tango dancer community in Tokyo is segregated, not due to any overt animosity among studios or teachers — at least not to my observation as a visitor — but due to the ages and cultural differences of the participants. The older crowd tends to go to *Suiyookai*, which has been the ‘Grand Dame’ of the Tokyo tango community since 1987. The younger crowd goes to *Arts City* while foreigners tend toward *Kanaro* where only fluent French, Spanish and Italian are spoken in addition to

Japanese. Somewhere in between these three there are other studios and Milongas, but these three appear to stand out as the strongest.

One needs to be a rocket scientist in order to find an address in Tokyo. A street numbering sys-



tem does not exist; even the US army had to give up after their attempt to re-organize Tokyo’s street system post WWII. In fact, it is a common practice for commercial establishments such as shops and restaurants to print a map on the backside of their business cards annotated with neighboring eye-catching landmarks.

I had the luxury to ask the Hotel Concierge to ring up the tango estab-

lishments while looking on the map. Still, before each event, despite my modest knowledge of the language and the city’s layout, it was common for me to consume 30 minutes of prime dancing time looking for the godforsaken, hidden place. As tango dancing events

in Tokyo only last for 2 to 3 hours, while the summer heat in Tokyo literally transforms the pavement into a human *tappenyaki*, by the time new-comers arrive and stop frothing in their mouths, there is not much time left. The Japanese may bear the soul of Argentine Tango, but they still abide to their tradition of timeliness — thanks to Seiko watches. So arriving *fashionably late* in the Buenos Aires style equates to stupidly

wasting money because the organizers are going to their lock doors right on the dot being, of course, *fashionably punctual*.

Everything in Tokyo is expensive. As the taxi fare to the suburbs could easily exceed US \$100, the lives of people in Tokyo are pre-determined by the schedule of the holy train system — holy for being mercifully less expensive and for being miraculously reliable. People might be whirling among multiple party places in one evening, but everyone — including myself — suddenly “abandons the ship” around midnight to catch the last train home. As a result, milongas there start earlier (some as early as 6pm) and end earlier than their big brothers in Buenos Aires.

As rental cost is outrageous in Tokyo, for these - early bird/3 hours long/taped music/hidden in the alley dance studio - Milongas the entrance fees are normally three times of those charged in the States. Places with a live band and some exotic themes at a more prestigious address could easily ring up to five times

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as much. At that rate, I don't think I can even afford grape jelly in my peanut butter sandwich diet.

Suiyookai was formed as a defense to this high cost dilemma. Most members are in their 50s, if not beyond, and retired. Their leader, a gentleman who appears to be in his late sixties, volunteers to organize the location, refreshment and music arrangements. He even publishes their newsletters in advance, listing the songs to be played during the upcoming events, for those members who would like to research the tunes ahead of time. With their status of being a non-profit organization, they are able to book elegant dance halls from the local community centers, one of which even features the most breath-taking view of the jewel-studded nightline of Tokyo, for a humble *per visit* membership fee of \$10.

Five thoughts flooded my mind upon entering their dance hall: it is well air-conditioned...a lofty ceiling and great floor...it is well-illuminated so I won't trip...the men are

all good dancers...and the men are of a height similar to mine!

In exchange for this wonderful experience, one must follow their "do's and don'ts."

Do's include: writing your name on your paper cup to avoid unnecessary wastage; wearing proper attire and removing street shoes upon entering (thus, another do: wearing socks with no holes); picking up your membership name-card, bowing, and turning the card into a box while submitting the fee in a separate box, bowing (in that sequence, please); pulling up a chair to watch the video tapes of various Argentinean Tango masters during the intermissions.

Don'ts include: not placing your cup anywhere else but the beverage table, and, I suppose, not eating the snacks elsewhere except over at the snack tables; not expecting beverages to be served during the entire period of the dance (so it starts 30 minutes after and ends 45 minutes before the event); and not littering as the volunteers will not clean up after us.

But even if the list of taboos continues, for *tango* lovers like me, this is still without question our heaven - alas. Not only are the participants polite, they dress modestly yet elegantly. Some even have matching outfits with their partners. With the space easily exceeding 4,000 square feet, for the, at most, 20 couples to glide across the maple wood floor with fancy footwork is a breeze even should one be blindfolded. At one dance hall, there is even a 50 feet long mirror to satisfy our occasional narcissistic moments.

This proves such a contrast to the Toho Ballroom Dance Hall I had frequented before in Tokyo. Dancing to the live big band music were the ostentatious ladies all dressed to kill, accompanied by the men in tuxedos. During my first visit, and to my surprise upon my closer inspection, I came to realize that these gentlemen were actually dance teachers or partners, available for "appointments" for half an hour per session. Whipping out my abacus for a quick check, if I were to enjoy long hours

of dancing there, I might as well give up the peanut butter portion of my sandwich as well.

Two months have passed since I returned from the *Suiyookai*; I still have fond memories of the places and the people I met there. In order to be prepared for my next visit there, my challenge is not only to brush up my dancing skills, but also to learn the Tango music and culture as a whole. It is because the members of *Suiyookai* not only enjoy dancing Tango, they are immersed in the Tango culture as well. Every week, they hold a 'Disc Concert' where both common and rare tango music /videos are shared and played. Members sit around, listen to the pieces, and, perhaps, discuss the music composition, history and artists afterwards. They may sip a cup of Japanese green tea here and there, but I imagine their hearts have long been soaked in Tango.

