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*Happy  
New  
Year!*



# Corazón Tango

An evening of tango, tapas and art  
In honor of Valentine's Day

**February 15, 2002**



Door prizes  
Spanish tapas  
Cocktail attire

8:30 - 2:00am  
Gallery On Lake  
942 W. Lake Street

\$25 in advance  
\$30 at the door

For tickets  
call 773.505.1577  
or buy tickets online  
[www.CorazonTango.com](http://www.CorazonTango.com)

Hosted by  
Erica, Sean, Beth,  
Yanira & Jan

**Benefiting the Families of Freedom Fund**  
providing scholarships for those affected by 9-11

## Chicago Classes

**On-Going Classes:** call instructors for details or check the teachers' pages on our website [www.tangonoticias.com](http://www.tangonoticias.com):

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

## Chicago Milongas

### Tuesdays

*Club 720, 720 North Wells 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Chicago*

Sponsor: Chicago Tango Club Argentine

8:00 pm – midnight; \$5 cover plus \$3 for tango floor

Complimentary lessons available at 8 until the floor gets crowded

Contact Charlotte Vikstrom 773.493.0666 for details.

### First & Third Fridays – January 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

*Lake Street Milonga, 942 W. Lake (at Peoria), Chicago*

8:30 pm – 1:00 am \$10 (Please note price increase).

Introductory Lesson 8:00 – 8:30 pm

**4<sup>th</sup>** - "Casablanca" - What better way to recover from the holidays than a casual, relaxing evening at Rick's Cafe? A warm breeze and a night of tango will take the winter chill away.

**18<sup>th</sup>** - "Arabian Nights" - Dress for a night at the Casbah. Bring a favorite Mediterranean food to add to our buffet and look forward to a special guest - an authentic belly dancer!

Call Jan Carpenter 312.258.6137, Beth Braun 847.846.5611, or Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 [erica@tangoparatodos.com](mailto:erica@tangoparatodos.com) for details.

### Last Friday of the Month – January 25<sup>th</sup>

*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.

**Sunday, January 20 & 27**

## Meren-Longa

*Gallery on Lake, 942 W. Lake Street, Chicago*

*What in the world is **Meren-Longa**?! In the first week learn the basics of merengue with super turns and great style. Then in the second week learn how to dance milonga to merengue music. You will never dance another dull 5-minute merengue after **Meren-Longa**!*

**Merengue + Milonga = MEREN-LONGA**

5:00 - 6:30pm	Merengue Practica
6:30 - 7:00pm	Milonga Lesson
7:00 - 8:00pm	Practica - Merengue, Milonga & Tango
8:00 - 10:00pm	

\$25 for the WHOLE NIGHT  
\$20 Meren-Longa workshop only  
\$10 Milonga Lesson, plus Practica only  
\$5 8:00 - 10:00pm Practica only

For more information: [erica@tangoparatodos.com](mailto:erica@tangoparatodos.com) 773.505.1577  
[www.TangoParaTodos.com](http://www.TangoParaTodos.com)

**Absolutely the HOTTEST 2 Sundays in January!**

## 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 or

[www.tangoparatodos.com](http://www.tangoparatodos.com) for details.

## Letter to the Editors

I have some thoughts about the piece on tango etiquette in the November *Tango Noticias*. It seemed to be a mixture of set rules and the writer's preferences. Although there are rules, or customs, that I believe are followed very closely in the milongas of Buenos Aires, I am not sure it makes sense to strictly apply those in other cultures.

As a woman, a follower, I want to be asked to dance often because I want to be on the dance floor as much as possible. If I come to a milonga with a man, it is still my choice with whom I dance, and I do not want someone to ask my partner whether he can ask me to dance. Of course, it is just generally polite to acknowledge a friend, partner, spouse or a companion sitting at the same table when a man approaches a woman to dance. When a woman is asked to dance, she may decline for any of a number of reasons, and she should do so graciously, but I don't want someone to assume that I will not accept an invitation to dance because I am merely sitting with a man. I imagine that if a woman declines an invitation several times that means she doesn't want to dance with that particular man; her declining then is

probably not because she is just taking a break or because her feet hurt, which are my usual reasons! I think to avoid having a complex and very possibly confusing system of signals about who wants to dance with whom at a given moment, it is clearer for an invitation to be made and a clear answer given where both individuals respect the other person's feelings.

Recently I even had a conversation with a frequent dance partner about an aspect of his dancing that was uncomfortable to me and, I knew, to other women with whom he danced. I debated bringing this up with him for a long time but finally decided to try. He wasn't offended and seemed to understand that it wasn't a criticism. He wanted some more information and in the meantime has made a small change that has made it much more comfortable to dance with him. So, it is possible to communicate with a dance partner without hurt feelings and with a good result in dancing together.

Beth Braun, Chicago



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



**Layout & Design:**  
Connie Orbeta  
corbeta@.elgin.cc.il.us



**Chicago Events Editor:**  
Jan Carpenter  
312.258.6137  
tangojan@hotmail.com



**Illustrator & Cover art:**  
Yanira



**Tango Stories Editor:**  
Natalie Pepa  
tanganata@aol.com

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.

### Advertising Opportunity in *Tango Noticias*

Advertise in both the *Tango Noticias* newsletter and our website [www.tangonoticias.com](http://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		\$27
1/4 page	\$35		\$52
1/2 page	\$50		\$75
whole page	\$85		\$127

## December

### 31st New Year's Eve Party - Yea!!

*Tango...nada mas, 6137 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago*  
8:30pm - early morning. \$65/person in advance/\$75 at the door; \$25/person after midnight. Welcome the new year in style! Enjoy a full buffet with wine, catered by BastaPasta at 9:30, followed by champagne at midnight, and a breakfast buffet. Tables will be reserved, so make your reservations in advance. Elegant attire requested. Contact Bob Dronski at 773.792.2099 or [www.tangonadamas.com](http://www.tangonadamas.com) for details.

## January

### 20th & 27th Merengue + Milonga = MEREN-LONGA

*Gallery on Lake, 942 W. Lake, Chicago*  
What in the world is Meren-Longa?! In the first week learn the basics of merengue with super turns and great style. Then in the second week learn how to dance milonga to merengue music. You will never dance another dull 5-minute merengue after *Meren-Longa!*

5:00 - 6:30pm Meren-Longa Workshop  
6:30 - 7:00pm Merengue Practica  
7:00 - 8:00pm Milonga Lesson  
8:00 - 10:00pm Practica - Merengue, Milonga & Tango

\$25 WHOLE NIGHT  
\$20 Meren-Longa workshop only  
\$10 Milonga Lesson, plus Practica only  
\$5 8-10pm Practica only  
Contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 or [www.tangoparatodos.com](http://www.tangoparatodos.com).

## February

### 12th -19th Brooke Burdett Returns to Chicago

*Various locations*  
Keep your calendar open for Brooke's return. Details in February's issue of *Noticias* or contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 or [www.tangoparatodos.com](http://www.tangoparatodos.com).

### 15th - Corazón Tango Ball/Benefit for September 11th

*Gallery on Lake, 942 W. Lake, Chicago*  
8:30 pm - 2:30 am  
Come for a special evening of tango, tapas, and art, in honor of Valentine's Day. Enjoy Spanish tapas, door prizes and *great music*. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door with all proceeds benefiting the *Families of Freedom Fund*, which provides scholarships for those affected by the tragedy of September 11<sup>th</sup>. For tickets call 773.505.1577 or buy tickets online at [www.CorazonTango.com](http://www.CorazonTango.com).

### Mid-February 2002 - Immersion Tango Tour

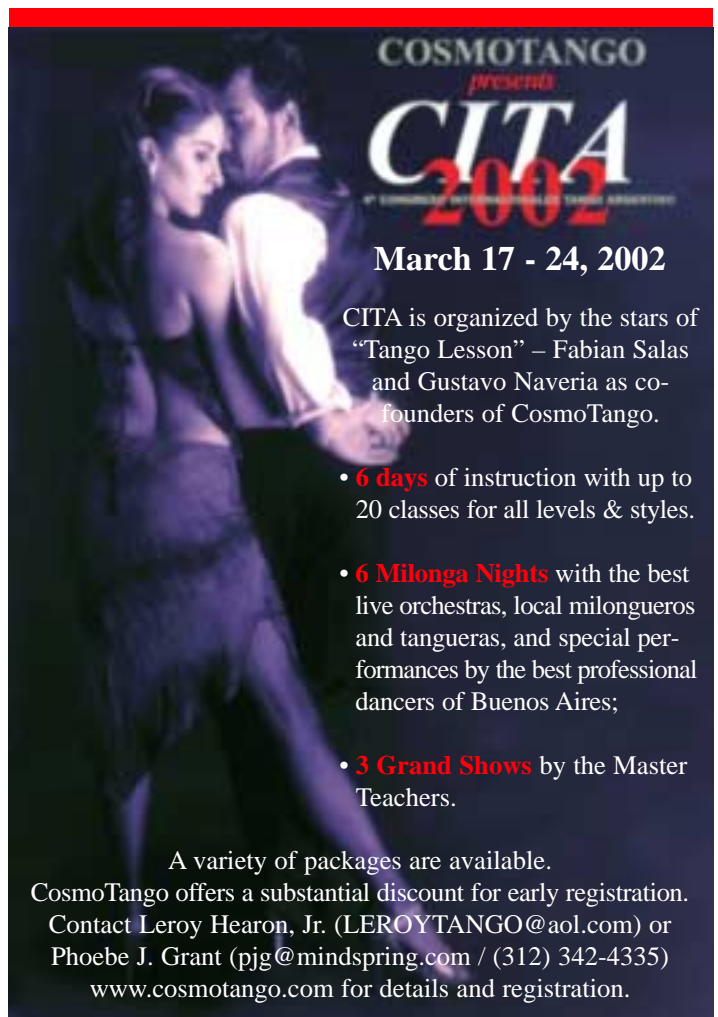
Ah, the chill of autumn...winter's on its way. Don't despair, just plan to get away...

Contact Natalie Pepa 312.217.4363 [tangonata@aol.com](mailto:tangonata@aol.com) or Phoebe Grant 312.446.6601 [pgrant@idevgrp.com](mailto:pgrant@idevgrp.com)

## March

### 17th - 24th Congreso Internacional Tango Argentino (CITA)

*Buenos Aires, Argentina*  
Registration is now open for the 4<sup>th</sup> CITA event, which is organized by the stars of "Tango Lesson," Fabian Salas and Gustavo Naveira. Besides 120 classes with extraordinary instructors, extravagant shows and performances at special milongas, there is an opportunity to meet and dance with tango enthusiasts from around the world. A variety of packages are available to fit your budget and stamina. Contact: Leroy Hearon [leroytango@aol.com](mailto:leroytango@aol.com) or Phoebe Grant [pjg@mindspring.com](mailto:pjg@mindspring.com); 312.342.4335 for details.



COSMOTANGO  
*presents*  
**CITA**  
**2002**  
BY CONGRESSO INTERNACIONAL TANGO ARGENTINO

**March 17 - 24, 2002**

CITA is organized by the stars of "Tango Lesson" – Fabian Salas and Gustavo Naveira as co-founders of CosmoTango.

- **6 days** of instruction with up to 20 classes for all levels & styles.
- **6 Milonga Nights** with the best live orchestras, local milongueros and tangueras, and special performances by the best professional dancers of Buenos Aires;
- **3 Grand Shows** by the Master Teachers.

A variety of packages are available. CosmoTango offers a substantial discount for early registration. Contact Leroy Hearon, Jr. (LEROYTANGO@aol.com) or Phoebe J. Grant (pjg@mindspring.com / (312) 342-4335) [www.cosmotango.com](http://www.cosmotango.com) for details and registration.

## Reflections of Summer Tango 2001!

Jan Carpenter:

One of the best experiences I had on the Wednesday nights was the last milonga I attended. I introduced myself to a young couple who were visiting for the first time. This was what the young woman told me: We started walking over the bridge and it reminded me of the tango in the park in Paris and also Boston. I told my friend this reflection and said, "All we need now is tango music and some dancers." Right at that moment we crested the bridge and saw some tango dancers on the other side and then heard the music! It was an uncanny coincidence! It turns out the woman learned to dance in Boston after moving from Chicago. Her companion is a Chicago local and a ballroom dancer. He was very excited about the tango and hopefully we have recruited another dancer.

Pamela Strateman:

Like any milonga, it was a social event. We would congregate at the front of the dance floor near the music and socialize. But the danc-

ing became very private and very personal. The dance floor was huge and there might be fifteen feet between couples, giving each their own private space. It was dark, and I felt my partners and I became more open, less self-conscious, knowing that others couldn't really see us. The floor was made of blocks of wood that were soft, almost silky. The uneven spaces between the blocks made us aware of how we stepped. I found myself dancing slower, calmer, when leading. When following, with my eyes closed, I would know when we had reached the far end of the dance floor from the scent of prairie grasses and wildflowers.

Erica Sutton:

I distinctly remember one of the first *Tango in the Park* milongas I attended when nearby hotel guests began to wander over with blankets and champagne to watch what must have seemed like a strange and ethereal event – tango dancing in the park by the glow of street lights. What an awesome evening! Can you imagine being a visitor to the city out for a stroll in the park and stumbling upon tango dancing? Chicago isn't just about the *Bears*, brats and beer anymore.

## Summer Tango 2002

Beth Braun

The process of bringing Argentine tango into the official schedule of *SummerDance*, or onto the *SummerDance* floor, has started! There is also the possibility of tango being a founding member of a new outdoor summer program near Montrose Harbor. As I continue conversations about this with city representatives I would very much like to have the input of members of our tango community. I am interested in any ideas, observations, wishes and/or criticisms you may have based on our trial run this last summer; I am also interested in experiences you may have had dancing at outdoor milongas in other cities. As with anything, this cannot be all things to all people, but I want to incorporate as much of your input as possible into the final form outdoor tango in Chicago will take this summer.

My goals from the beginning up to this point have been 1) to enjoy dancing outside and 2) to make tango more visible so that people who might be interested in it have a chance to see what it is like and give it a try. I thought one of the big successes of our gatherings last summer was the interest of passers-by and the visits from out-of-town guests that we had almost every week.

Your comments will make a difference! Please email me ([Bethdanceb@aol.com](mailto:Bethdanceb@aol.com)), call me (847-846-5611) or talk to me at a milonga about your ideas. Anonymous comments are also welcome online at [www.tangoparatodos.com](http://www.tangoparatodos.com). Perhaps thinking about summer tango will help us forget about winter weather, if and when we ever get it! I hope you all have a warm holiday season with time for tango in between all the other things going on.

## Chicago Teachers



Tom Barnard*	tbbarnard@hotmail.com
Vito Bertucci**	773.277.4398
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

## Regional Supplement to Tango Noticias

To add, change or update information appearing in this section please send your notices to [central\\_tango@hotmail.com](mailto:central_tango@hotmail.com)

### 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*:

Admission \$3. For more information contact Leonardo.

**Classes:** For schedules visit [www.prairienet.org/white-steeet/tango.html](http://www.prairienet.org/white-steeet/tango.html).

### Detroit, MI

#### Contacts:

*MotorCity Milongueros.com*  
Amy & Ray: *MotorCity Milongueros.com*;  
313.561.3236  
Lori Burton:  
*Argentinetangodetroit.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;  
*Pitsfield 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 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday at the *Pitsfield Grange*, September through May; classes from 7-9 PM and general dancing from 9-1am. Light refreshments, \$10/students with ID \$5.  
**Milonga:** *Milonga del año nuevo*, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> at *Dance Sport Academy of Michigan* in Dearborn – cost \$10.  
Special Guests: Angel Garcia and Rosa Collantes.

#### Lori Burton:

*Argentinetangodetroit.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:*

**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

### Kansas City, MO

#### Contacts:

Korey Ireland;  
korey@kodair.com or  
816.665.4916; also  
<http://www.kodair.com>

**Classes:** Tuesdays at *St Mark's*, 38<sup>th</sup> & Troost:  
7-8:30 *Beginning*; cost \$5  
8:30-10:00 *Intermediate*; cost \$5.

**Practicas:** *The Hurricane*; Sundays at *Westport and Broadway* from 7-9PM.

**Milongas:** Wednesdays at *Fedora on the Plaza*; 210 W. 47<sup>th</sup>, lessons from 7-8 pm. Live tango music by *Tango Lorca* from 8-11 pm.

### Madison, WI

#### Contacts:

Steven Fosdal:  
fosdal@mail.com;  
608.288.8339  
Anna Snider:  
atango@mail.com;  
608.836.7716  
tango@fosdal.net;  
tango.doit.wisc.edu

**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:** February 15<sup>th</sup> at *Great Hall Memorial Union.*; 7-11PM. Also, March 28<sup>th</sup> — Contact *Steven & Anna* for more details.

#### Visiting Teachers:

*Workshops* with *Brooke Burdett*, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-9:30 at *Union South*

### Mt. Vernon, MO

#### Contacts:

*Karen Whitesell*: 417.471.1001;  
Fax 417.471.1002.  
[www.thelearningdepot.com/murrays-1/](http://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](mailto:Lylagan@path.wustl.edu)

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

**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](http://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](http://Mntango.org)  
Steve Lee: 612.729.5306  
[tango@winternet.com](mailto:tango@winternet.com),  
[www.geocities.com/twincitiestango](http://www.geocities.com/twincitiestango)  
Lois Donnay: 612.822.8436  
[donnay@donnay.net](mailto:donnay@donnay.net)  
Frank Williams: 612.379.4565  
[Frankw@tc.umn.edu](mailto:Frankw@tc.umn.edu)

**Practicas:** Rebecca Trost's *Tango Practicas*: Tuesdays 9-10:30 pm; \$2.  
*Four Season's Dance Studio*: Mondays, 9-10:30 pm – cost \$4; 1637 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis 612.342.0902.

Thursdays - *Lake Harriet Dance Studio*, 6438 Lyndale Ave., So., Richfield. Structured *practica* with Steve Lee; 9:00-10:30 PM: — \$4 unstructured, \$5 structured.

**Milongas:**  
*Tango Society of Minnesota*: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday/monthly at *Dancesport 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

**Classes:**  
*please see the following websites for details:*  
[www.mntango.org/tsonmcal](http://www.mntango.org/tsonmcal)  
<http://i.am.tctango>

**Visiting Teachers:**  
**Florencia Taccetti** – *ongoing at Four Seasons Dance*

# Milongas – Santa Fe, New Mexico

By Elisabeth Demmer

**E**l Meson, a local Santa Fe restaurant and bar, hosts a milonga every Tuesday night. With both a restaurant and bar, it is a small space. The bar has tables and chairs surrounding the floor, and Christmas lights create a charming glow. Dimmed lighting and a mural with a medieval theme, painted on the back wall, adds to the aesthetic appeal of the surroundings.

The dancers who attend are very sociable. Each week you are welcomed by a familiar crowd and invited to come and join a table. Everyone is anxious to catch up on what has been happening in the tango world, such as workshops, classes, and milongas. A large group of people attends the milonga. Ages vary from teenagers to adults. Much of the crowd includes spectators who do not dance, but come to eat, watch the dancing, and listen to music.

The milongas in Santa Fe have kept growing. Greater numbers of people are attending. Not only dancers from Santa Fe but also occasionally out of town visitors come to take classes and dance at milongas.

Most dancers in Santa Fe favor the elegant *salon style* tango. Dancing *apilado* is not usually seen; usually a small distance is preserved between the man and the woman. Our dancers like to practice using extended steps and try focusing on clean and articulate footwork. Dancers also concentrate on standing straight and using their own axis for balance.

*Studio*; contact at 612.379.4565 or [ftaccetti@yahoo.com](mailto:ftaccetti@yahoo.com)  
*For a weekly update of Twin Cities tango activities, go to <http://mntango.org/mail-man/listinfo/> and subscribe to 'TSOM- announce.'* ♦

*To add, change or update information appearing in this section please send your notices to [central\\_tango@hotmail.com](mailto:central_tango@hotmail.com)*





# LA PULPERA DE SANTA LUCIA

## THE SHOPKEEPER OF SANTA LUCIA

Music: Enrique Maciel

Words: Hector Pedro Blomberg

Translation: Natalie Pepa

Era rubia y sus ojos celestes  
reflejaban la gloria del día  
y cantaba como una calandria  
la pulpera de Santa Lucia.

She was blond and her blue eyes  
reflected the glory of daylight  
and she sang like a lark in a meadow,  
the shopkeeper of Santa Lucia.

Era flor la vieja parroquia  
quién fue el gaucho que no la quería—  
Los soldados de cuatro carteles  
suspiraban en la pulpería.

She was prized in the entire parrish,  
how could any gaucho not want her,  
and the soldiers of all the four quarters,  
sighed with longing behind the shop's counter.

Le cantó el payador mazorquero  
con un dulce gemir de vihuelas  
en la reja que olía a jazmines  
en el patio que olía a diamelas.

A *Mazorquero* sang a song to this beauty  
with the sweet moan of ancient guitars  
surrounded by the scent of jasmynes  
in a courtyard with wrought-iron bars.

“Con el alma te quiero, pulpera,  
y algún día tendrás que ser mia,  
mientras llenán las noches del barrio  
las guitarras de Santa Lucia.”

“With my soul, I love you, shopkeeper  
and one day you will have to be mine  
while all night in Santa Lucia  
the guitars will continue to whine.”

La llevó un payador de Lavalle,  
cuando el año cuarenta moría;  
y no alumbran sus ojos celestes  
la parroquia de Santa Lucia.

But it was a man of Lavalle  
who took her away in the forties,  
and her blue eyes no longer sparkle  
in the parish of Santa Lucia.

No volvieron las tropas de Rosas  
a cantarle videlas y cielos  
en la reja de la pulpería  
los jazmines lloraban ce celos.

Never more did the soldiers of Rosas  
sing their songs to the lovely shopkeeper,  
and the jasmynes wept on the fences  
jealous for they could not keep her.

Y volvió el payador mazorquero  
a cantar en el patio vacío  
la doliente y postrer serenata  
que llevabase el viento del río.

One last time the bard sang his love song  
in the courtyard now empty without her –  
a painful serenade to his loved one  
that the wind carried down river.

“Dónde está con tus ojos celestes,  
oh, pulpera que no fuiste mia!  
Como llorán por tí las guitarras,  
las guitarras de Santa Lucia.

“Where are you, my blue-eyed shopkeeper  
who never turned out to be mine?  
The guitars of Santa Lucia  
will forever for you weep and sigh.”

continued on page 10

## ***THE HEARBREAKER OF SANTA LUCIA***

By Natalie Pepa

“La pulpera de Santa Lucia” is one of the most beautiful and melodious *porteño* waltzes. Both the music and the words were written in 1929, and it was first performed on radio in April of that year. It was an instant success and has remained one of the most popular waltzes to this day – there is hardly a milonga in Buenos Aires that will not have it in its repertory most every night.

Aside from its lovely melody, the words tell a story set in a real place during historical times. The parish of Santa Lucia does exist; it is a chapel in Buenos Aires located at 550 Montes de Oca Street in the neighborhood of Barracas. Although there is no historical evidence of a blond, blue-eyed beauty that ran the local *pulpería* – a general store – the song is so

convincing that we want to believe she did exist. But the events surrounding the fictional story are real.

The 1840’s was a period of great turmoil in Argentina. Civil war had erupted as the rebel troops attempted to overthrow the government of Juan Manuel de Rosas, the governor of Buenos Aires. The troops of Rosas, distinguished by their red tunics, were called *Mazorqueros*. They imposed terror throughout by their intolerance and cruel dealings with any rebellion. The government of Rosas left a legacy of some of the most terrible mass executions and tortures.

General Lavalle was one of the leaders of the opposition, based in Montevideo, Uruguay – down the river from Buenos Aires.

### **Lake Street Milonga**

942 W. Lake, Chicago

**1st & 3rd Fridays**

\$10 - light refreshments; BYOB

Dancing 8:30 pm - 1:00 am

*This winter book yourself on the LSM Tango Cruise!  
The cruise starts in January on the north coast of Africa (Arabian Nights),  
travels to South America in February and  
finally docks in Chicago in March for the Blue Moon Milonga.*

#### **January 4th - “Casablanca”**

What better way to recover from the holidays than a casual, relaxing evening at Rick’s Café? A warm breeze and a night of tango will take the winter chill away.

#### **January 18th - “Arabian Nights”**

Dress for a night at the Casbah. Bring a favorite Mediterranean food to add to our buffet; look forward to a special guest - an authentic belly dancer!

•••

Contact your hosts for more information

Jan Carpenter 312.258.6137 tangojan@hotmail.com

Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 erica@tangoparatodos.com

Beth Braun 847.846.5611 bethdanceb@aol.com