

Tango Noticias

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Tango - L

Summarized by
Phoebe J. Grant

Tango on the Internet

This a regular column in *Tango Noticias* to review recent dialogue on *Tango-L* and *TangoATOF@yshoogroups*, internet-based international forums for discussion of topics related to Argentine tango. The repetition in *Tango Noticias* of comments posted to *Tango-L* or *ATOF* does not in any way constitute the endorsement of such by the editors of this publication.

I will attempt to summarize two recent topics generating much interest between Feb. 11 - 25, 2003 (nearly 75 messages on these 2 issues in various generations). The first began as "Need of some light", a query about the difference between the "amague" and the "boleo", evolved (?) into "Blizzards and Amagues" as the East coast became buried in snow. From a reviewer's perspective, perhaps the most interesting aspect was that discussion went back and forth between the two lists; given their respective genesis, this is unusual. The discussion was initiated by Jean-Pierre S., also requesting clarification for each leaders and followers.

The initial explanation was offered by Stephen Brown (Dallas): "The **amague** occurs when the (follower) brings her non-weight bearing leg up and around in a rotating motion in front of her weight bearing leg before lowering it to the ground. ... The follower often will take the initiative to do an **amague** in the middle of a turn." Another definition was offered for an **amague** – often

as an embellishment occurs when the follower brings her non-weighted leg around the weight bearing leg in the process of a step – crisply and low; typically in front on a backward step and in back on a forward step. Stephen continued with, "The **boleo** is a rotating movement of the (follower's) non-weight bearing leg behind her weight bearing leg; it is typically marked as an interruption of a back ocho, (although the follower) may set the height of the **boleo** according to room conditions and her own sense of style." The next contributor corrected that a boleo also may be led in front. Timothy Pogros suggested the following definitions: "An **amague** can be considered either a 'threat' or a 'fake out' and the **boleo** is an 'interrupted ocho'. But Pablo Tapia refined this latter to be "an interrupted rotation (vs. ocho) or a change of direction of a rotation." Trini (Pittsburgh) liked this thread, with the **boleo** as a change in the rotation of the follower's axis by the leader; "what the (follower) does with her leg is often her choice. ... I think that calling a **boleo** an interrupted ocho would only encourage that dreaded jerking around of the woman..."

Finally, Alberto Paz looked **amague** up in Spanish/ Castellano as well as lunfardo dictionaries; to little avail. After multiple conjugations, I found only a few instances of the word **amague**, without the accent on the E and always as a verb. ... **AMAGAR** is a verb meaning to threaten, to portend; **AMAGO** (is a) threat, a threatening posture (or) gesture." Alberto went on to speculate (keep in mind that I'm selecting from a 3 page e-mail developed during the immobilized eastern seaboard) that the origins of **amague** as we use it in tango came from *Futbol-L* ... Somehow, the lack

of education (illiteracy) of the majority populace must have created the word **amague** to describe the actual action that the verb 'amagar' implies. It is not farfetched to assume then, that a similar movement, devoid of the threatening context, was implemented on the dance floor and when asked to be described, somebody said, 'es an **amague**'."

Carlos Lima related tango and soccer movements too, but with a slightly different interpretation. He opined that **amague** derived more from a movement "reminiscent of a soccer fake. The numerous other more or less living shades of meaning all gravitate around the idea of an indicated but not consummated action, something that seems headed to happening, but does not actually happen." Although Carlos has heard the term 'amago' refer to foot stamping (for accent in a dance), "on the grounds that it appears ... well ... threatening," he thinks neither the action nor the application of the word is appropriate. Carlos also provided his view on **boleos**, "or 'voleos': ... Most (properly led boleos are induced by 'cutting' a woman's pivot. The pivot can be preceded by another boleo" or by an infinite variety of steps other than a back ocho. "In linear boleos,

an initiated stride is 'cut,' turning the expected step into an amago of sorts."

Varana Kountouzi relayed a comment about a particularly successful back **boleo**: "A leader once told me how much he enjoyed seeing the woman's foot over her right shoulder." This technique was later termed "ashtango yoga" by Gigi Gamble.

Subsequent to several messages providing detailed, if not somewhat with tongue in cheek, instructions as to how to teach and/or execute (and how NOT to lead) **amagues** and **boleos**, a debate ensued about whether you could in fact teach or learn tango, or any dance for that matter, in print and particularly on the internet. But, that presents a topic for another issue. ...

Much more interesting, or at least more fun, this last month was the speculation about a "bathing suit milonga," a discussion which began "On sexy clothing" and, I think, was best titled "tango, nudity and sex appeal" by Sarah LaRoca (New York). The topic was put on the floor, so to speak, by an admitted possible "sexist male pig for even suggesting such a vile idea." He suggested that "women dress up in particular
continued on page 12



April

18th Recuerdo Workshop

Tango Technique and Musicality. 7:30 - 9:00 pm, Polishing up the fundamentals of lead and follow and adding more music to your dance. \$15.00, instruction by Carlos & Michelle.

Recuerdo Studio, 6137 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago. (312)593-3553

22nd – 27th Lorena Gasse & Ariel Barrioneuvo Return for Workshops

These young, dynamic Argentines previously danced and taught in Chicago in August 2001. Here is a brief outline of their schedule. See the WindyCityTango Inc. Ad on page 9 for exact times, location, and pricing.

Tues 22nd – Showcase performance at 720 Club

Wed 23rd – 8:00 pm; Guest instructor for Fred and Yermen teaching “Vals Cruzado 1”

Thurs 24th – 7:30 pm; Guest instructor for Sean and Yanira teaching “Tango Salon 1”

Fri 25th – 6:30 pm; Workshop: “Milonga Epoca 1 - Posture, Embrace, & Cadence” prior to the milonga Nuestro Tango.

Sat 26th – Noon; 3 Workshops: “Tango: Posture and Walking for Fluidity of Movement;” “Vals Cruzado 2,” and “Milonga 2 -Traspie.”

Sun 27th – 2:00 pm; 2 Workshops: “Tango Salon 2” and “Giros & Enrosques for lead & follow”

Sun 27th – 7:00 pm; Guest instructors for Erica and Douglas teaching “Tango Canyengue” Additional classes will be scheduled for May. Lorena and Airel are available for private lessons through May 17. Contact Phoebe J. Grant at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com or visit www.tangoparatodos.com for additional information.

Lake Street Milonga

It's the Second Annual "Floral and Fauna" month:

942 W. Lake (at Peoria), Chicago
\$10 - light refreshments; BYOB
 9:00 pm – 1:00 am

4th – "Floral" – April showers bring... well, flowers. Don't wait for May. Wear your prettiest florals to the first milonga of April.

18th – "Fauna" – Dance on the wild side... faux fur, feathers, animal prints. Express your animal nature at the second milonga of April

Call Jan Carpenter 312.258.6137, Beth Braun 847.846.5611 check tangoparatodos.com for details



Tango Fireworks 2003!

June 27 - July 5
Long Beach, California

Gustavo Naveira & Giselle Anne
in their U.S. debut

Gloria & Eduardo Arquimbau

Carlos Copello & Alicia Monti

Milena Plebs & Ezequiel Farfaro!

Julio Balmaceda & Corina De La Rosa!

Aurora Lubiz & Jorge Firpo!

And **The COLOR TANGO Orchestra!**
Direct from Buenos Aires!!!

- 104 classes
- Daily practices
- 8 Milongas
- Closing Night Dinner
- Maestros' Show
- Grande Tango Ball!

Southern California's ONLY week-long tango festival
with the greatest tango maestros and performers from Buenos Aires!

For week/weekend registration information visit our website, www.apurotango.com or call (323) 650-0509

Chicago Classes

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

- ▶ [Al Gates](#)
- ▶ [Séan Erwin and Yanira Collado](#)
- ▶ [Bob Dronski and Kathleen Kreher](#)
- ▶ [Elena Robles](#)
- ▶ [Erica Sutton and Douglas Rivera](#)
- ▶ [Carlos Favre and Michelle Costello](#)
- ▶ [Fred Romero](#)

Chicago Milongas

Tuesdays

Club 720, 720 North Wells 3rd Floor, Chicago

8:00 pm – midnight; \$5 cover, cash bar
Complimentary lessons 8:00-9:00 pm on the mezzanine with rotating guest instructors. Visit www.Club720.com for more information.

Thursdays

Erie Street Café Milonga Loca, 536 W. Erie, Chicago

8:30 pm – midnight Valet parking available – no charge.
Beginners' lesson: \$5, — 7:30 - 8:30 p.m
Contact Bill Duvall at williamduvall@ameritech.net

First & Third Fridays April 4th and 18th

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

9:00 pm – 1:00 am \$10; light refreshments; BYOB
It's the 2nd annual "Floral and Fauna" month:
4th – "Floral" – April showers bring... well, flowers. Don't wait for May. Wear your prettiest florals to the first milonga of April
18th – "Fauna" – Dance on the wild side...faux fur, feathers, animal prints. Express your animal nature at the second milonga of April.
Call Jan Carpenter 312.258.6137, Beth Braun 847.846.5611, or Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 check www.tangoparatodos.com for details.

Last Friday of the Month – April 25th

Milonga Nuestro Tango, Inc.

Latvian Community Center, 4146 N. Elston (at Hamlin)

Workshop with Lorena and Ariel at 6:30 pm.

8:00 pm – midnight \$10; includes light buffet; BYOB
Contact Valentina Cisar 773-763-8729, Carmen Pinto 773.279.9414, or Phoebe J. Grant 312.342.4335
WindyCityTango@yahoo.com

Saturdays April 5th, 19th and 26th

Recuerdo, 6137 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago

9:00 pm – midnight Cost: \$15
Complimentary beginner's lesson with the price of admission at 8:30 pm. Lorena & Ariel Showcase April 26th. Contact Carlos Favre or Michelle Costello at 773.301.0510 or www.recuerdotangoclub.com

Sunday April 13th

Recuerdo, 6137 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago

7:00 – 11:00 pm Cost: \$15
Complimentary beginner's lesson with the price of admission at 6:30 pm. Contact Carlos Favre or Michelle Costello at 773.301.0510 or www.recuerdotangoclub.com

Chicago Practicas

Thursdays – 7:30 to 9:30 pm- No practica on April 3rd – Sean & Yanira are in Buenos Aires!

Dance Connection, 3117 N. Clybourn, Chicago

Drop-in Class: 7:30-8:15; practica 8:15 onwards. Cost \$10.
Contact Séan Erwin, drtango@hotmail.com, or 773.274.9564 for details.

Fridays 7:30 – 11:00 pm

Lake Shore Athletic Club, Main Aerobic Room

1320 W. Fullerton, Chicago - Cost \$12
Free Parking. Contact Al Gates at 773.994.8180 or www.tangochicago.com for details.

Sundays 8:00 – 10:00 pm – No classes or practicas on April 6th & 13th – Erica & Douglas are in Rio!

Schopf Gallery on Lake

942 W. Lake, Chicago Cost \$5
Drop-in class 7:00-8:00 pm; \$10; includes the practica
Contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 or www.tangoparatodos.com for details.

Mondays 7:00 – 8:00 pm Intermediate level and 8:00 - 9:00 pm Beginner level

The Irish American Heritage Center

4626 N. Knox, Chicago, IL - McGinty Room third floor
Tango lessons with Carlos & Michelle starting April 7 - 28;
4 week session \$40.00. Ample free parking! (312)593-3553

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Lake Street Milonga and Tango Buenos Aires!

This month Jan Carpenter and Beth Braun at the *Lake Street Milonga* linked their second Friday night dance to the tango show that was held at CSO, *Tango Buenos Aires*. Because of the times for the show, the milonga's starting time was pushed back a little later, but Jan and Beth managed to sneak away from the performance early and had entirely crafted a special new look for this milonga before any of the participants arrived. Hanging lanterns, large paper butterflies suspended from the ceiling, warm red table-cloths combined to give the space a sharp and fresh atmosphere. Jan and Beth, assisted by Mark Rector and Jan's friend, John Burgard, kept the considerable buffet well-presented and refreshed all evening long – together with serving a complimentary glass of champagne later that evening. Beth and Jan's promotional efforts proved entirely successful drawing in many different groups of people from the tango show: many came who were, themselves, not tango dancers but were just curious about the scene and excited to see more of it after the show. They seemed happy to act as the spectators for the considerable number of Chicago's regular tango community who did show up; added to their ranks were dancers from Madison, Milwaukee, Utah and Minnesota. None of the performers from the stage show managed to make it to the milonga afterwards. Nevertheless, Jan and Beth's efforts made the absence of these others go entirely unnoticed.

S. Erwin

Advertising Opportunity in *Tango Noticias*

Advertise in both the *Tango Noticias* newsletter and our website www.tango-noticias.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

WindyCityTango, Inc.

Upcoming (sponsored or endorsed) Events
presents

Lorena Gasse & Ariel Barrionuevo



April 22
through
May 19

workshops &
private lessons

Spring, Summer and Autumn

Tango Fantasy (Miami – May 17-26)

Tango Fireworks (Los Angeles– June 27-July 5)

Nora's Week/Weekend (San Francisco)

TangoFest (Portland)

and several others we'll note soon!!!

Also coming to Chicago in 2003 with WCT

Carlos y Maria Rivarola

Carolina Zokalski y Diego DiFalco

Marcelo Martins e Vanessa Galvao

Another Brazilian discovery by Julie Koidin

“El Pulpo” y Luiza

Paulo Araujo returns in May

Cecilia Gonzalez returns in the Autumn

Antonio “Junior” Cervila will return

Miriam Larici y Hugo Patyn

contact Phoebe J. Grant

WindyCityTango@yahoo.com (312) 342-4335

Tango with Sean and Yanira



Practica at Dance Connection

with Séan and Yanira

**COME TO THE PRACTICA
THAT'S TURNED
INTO A PARTY!**

Our practica-parties are every
Thursday from 7:30-9:30

***BACK TO
BUENOS AIRES!
First PRACTICA
APRIL 10th***

Cost: \$10 includes
both practica,
opening workshop
and refreshments.

Where?

Dance Connection
at 3117 North Clybourne
Just south of the intersection of
Clybourne, Belmont
and Western.
AMPLE PARKING.

Questions?

drtango@hotmail.com
or 773.274.9564

Tango Classes with Séan & Yanira

On Mondays a tango basics class from 7:30 to 8:30
at *Dance Connection*, 3117 N. Clybourne.
Cost \$10

Also ongoing Group Classes on Wednesdays
at *Rhythm TLC* – 327 N. Aberdeen –
to register, phone 773.625.2053

***BACK TO BUENOS AIRES! NO CLASSES
UNTIL APRIL 8th***

Private Instruction and Ongoing,
Semi-Private Group Classes
For details contact
drtango@hotmail.com or 773.274.9564

Follow-up on Robert Duvall Visit to Erie Café

Last month many dancers from among Chicago's tango community had the opportunity to take part in a thoroughly wonderful evening organized by Bill Duvall – host of the Thursday night milonga, *Milonga loca*, and nephew of Robert Duvall. The milonga followed a free screening of Robert Duvall's new movie, *Assassination Tango*, offered free to members of the Chicago community. The milonga took place after the movie and was held at the Erie Café. Flashing one's ticket to the preview provided free admittance to the milonga afterwards. It also included a free buffet dinner along with the chance to do some dancing and meet and talk with Robert Duvall himself. Many of Chicago's dancers had questions about the movie that the senior Duvall fielded in a brief question-and-answer session prior to the actual start of the dancing. Present there was also his co-star and novia, Luciana Pedraza, and Duvall retold the story of their meeting along with giving out some behind-the-scenes details about the movie's



production. While Duvall didn't really dance that night, he did demonstrate for the crowd a step or two before leaving the floor to the dancers. The floor filled up immediately and remained pretty packed late into the evening. However, though while not dancing, Duvall stayed for quite some time, talking informally with groups of fans and telling stories about the movie or about his experiences with figures in the Buenos Aires tango community.

S. Erwin

Hundreds Try Tango at Cultural Center Event

On a cold, Sunday afternoon last month over 250 people came to the Chicago Cultural Center to learn tango and enjoy a milonga as part of Chicago's

Winter Delights "Let's Dance Weekend." Sponsored by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, the event was a roaring success. Normandie Hand and Erica Sutton organized the event in the beautiful G.A.R. Hall and Rotunda. Guests enjoyed tables covered with full length tablecloths and adorned with flowers in bud vases. Erica organized the teaching by sharing 90 minutes of teaching with her partner, Douglas Rivera, Fred and Yermen Romero, and Al Gates. The students were packed like sardines on the dance floor but still eagerly followed the directions from all the instructors.

After the lessons the different teachers performed for the crowd. Fred and Yermen did a classic tango to a Pugliese number. For his demonstration, Al called on four of his new students, drawing them from the crowd and including among them a brave 10-year-old girl. He then blind-folded them and showed the audience how following a good leader in tango is still fun

even if you can't see. Erica and Douglas delighted the crowd with a blend of tango and bachata dancing to a selection from the *Gotan Project*.

A two-hour milonga followed the performance with Jan Carpenter at the DJ booth. She gave the newcomers a taste of various tango orchestras by playing two song tandas instead of the traditional four-song sets. The dancers filled the 1,000 square foot dance floor and overflowed out into the Rotunda. The new beginners enthusiastically moved through the basic eight-count pattern and clearly enjoyed themselves. Many of the participants were knowledgeable in other dance forms like salsa, ballroom, and swing, so they responded quickly to the new steps. Others watched from the sidelines and all were reluctant to leave when the music finally came to an end.

J. Carpenter



WindyCityTango, Inc. presents

Lorena Gasse & Ariel Barrionuevo

April 22 - May 19, 2003

workshops & private lessons

These exciting and entertaining young lead performers of Proyeccion Danza from Cordoba, Argentina previously danced and instructed in Chicago in August 2001.

Tues., April 22	Showcase at Club 720	720 N. Wells St. at Superior, 3rd Flr.	
Wed., April 23 8:00 - 9:30 pm	Guest Instructors for Fred & Yermen Romero Vals Cruzado 1	Regular class pricing Intermediate	LATVIAN COMMUNITY CENTER 4146 N. Elston Ave. at Hamlin
Thurs., April 24 7:30 - 8:30 pm	Guest Instructors for Sean Erwin & Yanria Collado Tango Salon 1	Regular class pricing All Levels	DANCE CONNECTION 3117 N. Clybourn Ave.
Fri., April 25 6:30 - 8:00 p. 8:00 p. - 1:00 am	Milonga Epoca 1 (posture, embrace, cadence) Showcase at milonga Nuestro Tango, Inc.	All Levels	LATVIAN COMMUNITY CENTER 4146 N. Elston Ave. at Hamlin
Sat., April 26 12:00 - 1:30 pm 2:00 - 3:30 pm 4:00 - 5:30 pm 9:00 p. - 12:00 am	Tango (posture and walking for fluidity of movement) Vals Cruzado 2 Milonga 2 - Traspie Showcase at Recuerdo Club	All Levels Intermediate Intermediate / Advanced	DANCE CONNECTION 3117 N. Clybourn Ave. RECUERDO 6137 N. Northwest Hwy
Sun., April 27 2:00 - 3:30 pm 4:00 - 5:30 pm 7:00 - 8:30 pm	Tango Salon 2 Giros & Enrosques (for lead and follow) Guest Instructors for Erica Sutton & Douglas Rivera Tango Canyon	Intermediate Intermediate / Advanced Regular class pricing All Levels	DANCE CONNECTION 3117 N. Clybourn Ave. LAKE ST. GALLERY 942 W. Lake St. at Peoria

NOTE: WCT reserves the right to cancel workshops without adequate enrollment. Additional classes will be added for early May.

Also, all Intermediate (& above) level workshops assume at least a fundamental understanding of the style or technique being taught.

Workshop locations:

Wed., April 23 and Fri., April 25 - LATVIAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 4146 N. Elston Ave. (1 1/2 blocks N of Irving Park Rd. on W side of Elston at Hamlin;

NOTE that if you are driving E on Irving Park Rd., you cannot turn N (left) onto Elston, you need to turn N on Hamlin (1 light W of Elston)

Thurs., April 24 and Sat., April 26 and Sun., April 27 (afternoon) - DANCE CONNECTION, 3117 N. Clybourn Ave. (1/2 block S of

Belmont/Western/Clybourn intersection, on E side of Clybourn; NOTE - if you are driving E on Belmont, you will be under the Western Ave. overpass when you make a "soft" right on to Clybourn)

Sun., April 27 (evening) - LAKE ST. GALLERY, 942 W. Lake St. (2 1/2 blocks W of Halstead at Peoria, 1 block N. of Randolph, on N side of Lake St.)

WCT, Inc. Workshop pricing: 1 workshop = \$22 at the door; \$20 with advance registration. With advance payment (required), for example, any 3 WCT workshops = \$59; all 6 WCT workshops = \$110. NOTE: all "guest instructing" priced by the hosts.

Private lesson pricing and availability: \$60 for any private lesson (plus cost of studio space if necessary but free space may be available); 3 or more individuals may schedule a small group class at \$30/person/hour. Private lessons available Thursday, April 24 through Saturday, May 17, 2003.

Payment options: **check** to Phoebe J. Grant (mail to: 2721 N. Central Park Ave., Chicago IL 60647-1123) or by **credit card** (Visa or MasterCard) over the internet at www.PayPal.com (use Notes section on Send Money page to indicate which workshops and provide phone number and/or e-mail for communication about any changes; payments via PayPal are to WindyCityTango@yahoo.com).

SPECIAL: Paid attendance at each workshop or private will enter you into drawing for a free future WCT workshop!!!

Hosted by Phoebe J. Grant & Leroy Hearon, Jr. with assistance from Ana Savitzky

A WindyCityTango, Inc. Event 2003

Contact Phoebe J. Grant at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com or visit www.tangoparatodos.com

Regional Supplement to Tango Noticias

To add, change or update information appearing in this section please send your notices to central_tango@hotmail.com

Champaign-Urbana, IL

Contacts:

Leonardo: Tangoleon@aol.com; 217.328.1311

Joe Grohens: grohens@uiuc.edu; 217.328.1008

Milongas: *Tango Society of Central Illinois* – Monthly milongas held at *Phillips Recreation Center*, Springfield and McCullough, Urbana. Sat. - April 5th 9:00 p-12:00 a; \$5 for dance / \$7 with pre-milonga beginner lesson at 7:30p. For more information contact Leonardo at above e-mail/phone.

Workshop: Sat., April 12 with Fred and Yermen Romero at Phillips Center – 5:00-6:30 p – Salon Tango; 6:45-8:15 p
Vals: \$25 for 1 workshop, \$40 for both.

Practicas: Sundays 8:00-10:00 p at Erwin's.

Classes and Other Events:

For schedules visit www.centraltango.com.

Milwaukee, WI

Contacts:

www.milwaukeeetango.com

Marek: argtango@hotmail.com 414.817.6775

Milongas: *La Conexión*; – Every 2nd and 4th – Saturdays April 12th and 26th – at Gary Allen Dance Studio (611 S. Layton Blvd. = 27th St.); Free beginner class 8:00-9:00 p; Milonga 9:00 p-1:00 a; Admission \$10 (\$7 w/ student ID, light buffet provided.; BYOB

Classes: Sundays: at Kinetic Dance Studio (3068 S. 13th St. at Oklahoma)

Intermediate/Advanced 2:30-4:30 p; Beginners' 4:30-6:00 p; \$50 for 5 classes or \$15/person/class drop-in rate. contact Marek to pre-register or to schedule privates.

Madison, WI

Contacts:

Steven Fosdal: steve@fosdal.net; 608.288.8339

Anna Snider: asnider@nutrapark.com; 608.836.7716

Web Site: <http://tango.doit.wisc.edu>

Practicas: *Pasión del Tango* at Union South (227 N. Randall St.; Univ. of Wis. campus at the corner of Randall and Johnson; Tuesdays 7:00-10:30 p; Free.

Twin Cities, MN

Contacts:

Tango Society of Minnesota - Mntango.org

Steve Lee: 612.729.5306

tango@winternet.com

www.geocities.com/twincities-tango

Lois Donnay: 612.822.8436

donnay@donnay.net

Frank Williams: 612.379.4565

Frankw@tc.umn.edu

Milongas:

Tango Society of Minnesota:

2nd Saturday/monthly at

Dancesport Dance Studio in

Hopkins; lesson 8:00-9:00 p;

dancing 9:00 p-1:00 a; Admission:

\$5 for members or \$8 for others.

Steve Lee's Tango Plus; Friday

after 2nd Saturday of each

month; 9:00 p-1:00 a; lesson

9:00-9:30 p.; Admission: \$5.

Michael Corder's Mini-Milongas

at Four Season's Dance Studio

1637 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis;

Sundays 7:00-9:30 p;

Admission: \$2; 612.342.0902.

Practicas:

Rebecca Trost's Tango

Practicas; Tuesdays 9:00-

10:30 p; \$2.

Four Season's Dance Studio

(1637 Hennepin Ave.,

Minneapolis); Mondays 9:00-

10:30 p; \$4; 612.342.0902.

Lake Harriet Dance Studio

(6438 Lyndale Ave., Richfield)

Structured *practica* w/ Steve Lee 9:00-10:30 p; \$4 unstructured, \$5 structured.

Classes: please see the following websites for details:

www.mntango.org/tsoncal

<http://i.am.tctango>

Visiting Teachers:

Florencia Taccetti – ongoing

at *Four Seasons Dance*

Studio; contact at

612.379.4565 or

ftaccetti@yahoo.com

For a weekly update of Twin

Cities tango activities, go to

<http://mntango.org/mailmn/listinfo/>

and subscribe to

'TSOM- announce.'

Ames, IA

Contacts:

Valerie Williams:

www.vjw.biz/docs/amessocdnc.htm;

v@vjw.biz;

515.232.7374;

Tango Salon: Classes will not occur until April.

Visit Our Website
at
tangonoticias.com

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Detroit, MI

Contacts:

Amy & Ray:

MotorCityMilongueros.com;
313.561.3236

Lori Burton:

Argentinatangodetroit.com;
586.726.2370

Amy & Ray:

MotorCityMilongueros.com;
AmyandRay@comcast.net

Milongas:

Milonga de la Motor City Milongueros: Tuesdays at Father O'Kelly Knights of Columbus Hall (23663 Park, Dearborn), 7:00-10:00 p; (NO milonga on Tues., April 1.) contact them at above e-mail/phone for details.

La Practica: Thursdays at the *Pittsfield Grange*; (1/2 mi. S of I94 on Ann Arbor/Saline Rd., exit 175); 7:00-10:00 p; Admission: \$10 (\$5 w/ student ID)

Special Events:

Noche Latinas – Fri. May 9th at Giovanni Caboto Club (21275 Parent, Windsor, Ontario).

Angel Clemente will be in town through mid-May; contact Amy & Ray to schedule private lessons.

Tea Dance – Sun., Mar 2 at the *Pittsfield Grange*; 2:00-6:00 p; \$8 members (\$10 non-members); preview for vals steps for the following event.

Latin & Argentine Tango Club 10th Anniversary Celebration – October 17th at Giovanni Caboto Club (21275 Parent, Windsor, Ontario).

Lori Burton:

Argentinatangodetroit.com or Lori@Argeintinetangodetroit.com; 586.254.0560

Milongas:

Argentine Tango Detroit/Tango

Suave; three times weekly see website for details.

Brickhouse. Auburn Road, Utica; 8:00 p; \$7.

Sky Club. Tuesdays- on hold

Classes: Argentine Tango

Detroit: every day of the week, 7758 Auburn, Utica; see website for details.

Kansas City, MO

Contacts:

Korey Ireland; korey@kodair.com or 816.931.9545;

<http://www.kodair.com/tango>

Milongas: Wednesdays at *Fedora on the Plaza*; 210 W. 47th; Lesson w/ Mitch Weiner 7:00-8:00 p; Live music by *Tango Lorca* 8:00-11:00 p; Free. "La Ceremonia"; Sundays at *Westport Presbyterian Church* (201 Westport Rd.); Intermediate "cool move of the week" class 7:30-8:30 p; Milonga 8:30-10:30 p; live music by *Tango Lorca*; \$5/person including pre-milonga class. Monthly Saturday night on Dec. 14; hosted by Toi Shaw at the Swing Club, 6101 Martway, Mission; dancing 8:00-11:00 p. **Practicass**: Sundays 5:00-7:00 p at *The Hurricane* (Westport and Broadway)

Classes: Tuesdays at Woodside Health Club (200 W. 47th Place); Beginning & Technique 7:00-8:30 p; Intermediate/Milonga 8:30-10:00 p; \$5/person/class (no classes until 14th; practica only on 7th).

Roxanne McKenny classes; Tuesdays (Body Parts Technique series = improve your dance); Thursdays (Legoland = get out of the rut); Fridays (Tango Basics = building community); Weekends (variety of topics to freshen your repertoire); contact Korey Ireland at above e-mail/phone.

Mt. Vernon, MO

Contacts:

Karen Whitesell:
417.471.1001;

Fax 417.471.1002; www.the-learningdepot.com/murrays-1/

Classes: Wednesdays at *Murray's Vintage Venue* (202 S Hickory, Mt. Vernon); 7:00-9:00 p; All Levels; \$5/person/class.

St. Louis, MO

Contacts:

Carter Maier: tngomn@hotmail.com

Estella & Randy:

tangoartists@tangorosa.com

Lourdes Ylagan:

Lylagan@path.wustl.edu

Milongas:

Club Viva; second Tuesday of every month; contact Roxanne.

Soulard Coffee Garden; 910 Geyer Ave.; call 314.241.1464

Monthly Milonga; at Focal Point; Admission: \$10; Call Estella & Randy

Practicass: First two Mondays at *Focal Point* in Maplewood, MO; 8:00-10:00 p; Admission: \$5; call 314.849.3007.

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 details.

Classes: Every other Saturday 6-8 p. \$8/person or \$15/couple.

Fayetteville, AR

Contact:

Elayne Hency at *Elayne's*

Dance-The Art of Social Dance;

elaynesdance@aol.com;

479.521.6683 or 479.263.6683

Practicass & Milongas:

Contact for more details.

Classes: Mondays, monthly sessions – contact for schedule

Ann Arbor, MI

Contacts:

www.umich.edu/~umtango;

umtango@umich.edu

734.327.0642

Membership/Fees: All events are free for members and 1st timers; membership is \$10 for students, \$15 for non-students per 4 month semester

Classes/Practicass: every Wednesday (check website for location)-; 8:00-11:00 p-

Milonga: Saturday, April. 12th and 19th at Pendelton Room, Michigan Union (530 S. State St.); Beginners' lesson 8:00-9:00 p; dancing 9:00 p-1:00a. (check website for details).

Denver and Boulder, CO

Contacts:

www.danceoftheheart.com;

Deb Sclar:

deb@danceoftheheart.com

Milongas:

Boulder - 2nd and last in Boulder at *Bantaba*; intro. class 8:30-9:30 p. (check w/ Deb for special topic each time); milonga 9:30 p-??; \$10 for class and milonga; \$7 for milonga.

Denver - every Friday at *Marilyn's Mercury Café*;

www.mercurycafe.com

Colorado Springs - every Wednesday at *Rum Bay* (Fat Alley Jazz upstairs room); 7:00 p-????; www.tangosprings.com

Practicass: Boulder - Mondays: 10:00 p-??? at *Bantaba*

Classes:

Boulder - Mondays at *Bantaba*; Fundamentals 7:00-8:30 p; Intermediate 8:30-10:00 p.

To add, change or update information appearing in this section please send your notices to central_tango@hotmail.com

ly sexy clothing to dance, in part to convince the men (who often are out-numbered) to dance with them.

... Would you go to a 'bathing suit milonga,' where anyone wearing a bathing suit gets in for half price?" The New Yorker posted a survey with additional queries about respondent's gender; whether the respondent would wear a swim suit or - effectively - pay double; and, where/when such a milonga should be held.

Some feedback was (entirely too) practical:

Women wouldn't be so foolish as to attempt to dance either barefoot or wearing heels on a presumed wet (i.e., slippery) floor.

If a follower wore sensible shoes, the leader would still attempt pivots - potentially damaging knees. "And touching sweaty flesh is not appealing in tango," Trini (Pittsburgh) (Hello???)

"Dancers ... in their birthday bathing suit probably should bring towels to sit on." Rick (Portland)

But not everyone thought a nothing suit milonga was a bad idea. Nicole (Miami) challenged Randy and Lydia to feature one at the USTC Tango Fantasy this spring, and provided specific details about how it can be accomplished!

And several others - women as well as men - were intrigued by the notion, but most thought it should be during warm weather and pool side (vs. northern winter / ballroom timing / venue) and men as well as women encouraged to dress appropriately for the event. Very few were enamored with the notion of nude tango.

Perhaps a better response was from Astrid, who suggested - by way of drafting a singles-style ad - that such an event might attract more men but surely would lose many women. Another speculated that one of the reasons women might stay away would be the thought of seeing the milongueros in trunks, not to mention Speedos!! (This writer also commented that the swing community puts "tango guys to shame ... I couldn't believe how dapper, stylish and sexy the men looked" at a recent swing event.) Daisy offered this follower's viewpoint: "I don't equate sexy clothes with advertising my level of dance. That would mean that only the best dancers could deck out in their slightly slutty attire and the

rest of us would be considered presumptuous to do so. For me, milongas are the only place where I can wear those clothes that my mother wouldn't have let me out of the house wearing. And where nobody's going to get the wrong idea. When I dress for tango, I get into the mood. I'm not dressing for the guys. (sorry, guys) I'm dressing for me. I feel sexy getting all gussied up. So, if you think that my low-cut little number means I'm a hot number on the dance floor, then take the consequences when you dance with me. My choice of clothing means that I'm in the mood to have fun on the dance floor and that I'm confident enough to dress the way I feel. And that I trust you enough to know that you won't misunderstand. Some of us find it FUN to dress to kill. Isn't tango about having fun?"

Wesley Kirk evidenced a brain and a heart: "Why is it sexy clothing ... (must) expose skin? I have seen sexy clothing that exposes no more skin than ordinary clothing; (and vice versa). Tango women are some of the sexiest women on earth with some of the sexiest clothes yet most of these women show very little or no extra skin." At least not intentionally - because "Razor Girl" reminded all of us to do a 'tango test' before wearing a garment to a milonga to see how the article moves on your body: "nothing like a low cut number that looks great until you do an ocho and your boob pops out!" Capella thinks that clothes can enhance a person's sexiness, "but the clothes have to fit the occasion. ... Tango clothes should emphasize the elegance of the dancer's movements. ... A dress might look x-times more sexy when dancing tango than a bathing suit. Sexy also has something to do with body posture and attitude." Wesley (I have to meet this man...) concurred that clothing doesn't even need to be form-fitting to be sexy and, in fact, "loose-fitting clothes allow a dancer to move more comfortably." Resulting in a sexy appearance because of "attitude, attitude, attitude! ... (F)emininity as well as masculinity comes from deep inside oneself. It depends a lot on how a person sees his/her self as well as the world." Carlene (Portland, OR) embellished on this: "It's a total package, ... The follower's attitude (her respon-

siveness to her lead blended with her musicality, playfulness and sensuality); the smoky looks; and, beautiful footwork. This is the beauty of ... not just tango. The heaviest, the geekyist, the scrawniest people (can be) gods and goddesses on the dance floor." Jay (also of Portland) went further away from the bathing suit subject and beautifully described tango in tao terms (yet again another topic introduced!). Another Portland tangophile, Bill, believes "there's an inverse correlation between how overtly 'sexy' one dresses and the quality of the connection." Personally - if I may go on record as endorsing a view - I like Sarah's (New York) goal, within reason (and maybe a little perfume): "(to be able to) walk into the milonga without makeup, hair in a pony tail and dressed like you just scrubbed the bathroom and STILL THE LEADERS LINE UP TO DANCE WITH YOU!"

Charles Roques thinks that the solution is somewhere between Daisy and Sarah: "Although clothes do not make the dancer, there are a few positive sartorial element about choice of clothes that do help dancing. ... None of this will make you a good dancer but when you get to a certain level these subtleties help:

- Shoes - I have personally never seen anyone dance very well with regular sneakers or wide-soled shoes, ..., etc. and the reason is purely technical. Dancing shoes are cut to conform narrowly to your feet with only a minimum of materials which narrows their profile and allows for tight close maneuvers. Sneakers tend to bounce a lot and cause larger steps because they take up more room.
- On men (or women) loose and/or pleated slacks can give one a better profile on the floor than blue jeans because they hang straight and tend to improve on little physical quirks unlike jeans

- Although many women may overdo the sensual look, there is a positive element to consider in that it may help develop one's confidence about their physicality - which is good in tango. I have seen a number of mousy, shy women and men gradually transform into more confident dancers because they started feeling better about their body and overall appearance. They learn soon that most "good-looking people" are half makeup anyway." Nancy, ref-

erencing a Sophia Loren quote, "Sex appeal is 50% what you've got and 50% what people think you've got," suggested that bikini tango would, in fact, lose 50% of the appeal!

Charles continued:

"- Another more important issue is hygiene, which is not necessarily part and parcel of casual dress but it can be problematic if one gets a little too casual, like for example, perspiration. Some people go to a milonga as if it were going to the sandbox to play. One of the good things about t-shirts ... for guys is they help soak up the perspiration without it coming through to the outside (unless of course that's all you have on). Your outer shirt stays dry and relatively odor free. ... White cotton t-shirts keep you cooler and dryer and more pleasant to dance with. There is a misconception that they will be hotter which isn't true.

- As to dancing naked, or almost, would anyone really dance with some of their normal partners if they were unclothed? Some, of course, ... but would they dance with you? Would you still want to dance with that cool old milonguero when you saw how big his stomach really was and how much hair was on his shoulders or back? Or her breasts weren't as firm as you thought and her butt has somehow changed shape? Dancing is about being close without the need to be naked. A naked milonga would probably just degenerate into an orgy for the few that decided to stay."

Charles also responded to the previously posed question: Do you want to be known as a great dresser who dances badly or as a great dancer who dresses badly? "Neither. How about a good dancer who takes some personal pride in their appearance?" Yeah - both genders, please!!!

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