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Chicago's First Mind and **Body Milonga**

The New Face of Tango – Jazz, Flamenco and **Greek Bouzoukis** By Petra Etzl



Chicago Events

Central Tango

Cover Art by Yanira Collado



Go to page 10 for more information

Chicago's First Mind and Body Milonga: an interview with its



TN: How did you first become interested in tango?

TK: I read a book about tango. Based upon what people said about it, it seemed to me to be the most spiritual social dance in existence. I decided that if it was possible to combine the principle movements of tango with meditation I could create something everyone in tango was looking for – a mind and body connection. I designed what I call the art of body movement through meditation using the principles of Shintaido and Zen.

TN: What exactly is Shintaido and how does it work with tango?

TK: Shintaido is a Japanese art form that combines martial arts and body movement cultivating the spirit along with the mind and body. The movements of Shintaido provide a new way of experiencing our relationship with

founder Tomas Kockarev

Tomas Kockarev has just opened a milonga at a restaurant called Chef Menteur (115 E. Goethe St) in Chicago where he is also teaching classes prior to the milonga. What is fascinating about Tomas is his different outlook on tango. He is introducing to the Chicago community what he calls the "mind and body" approach to the tango.

ourselves, others, nature, and the spiritual world. It is a healing art as well as a form of artistic expression. Shintaido is relaxed, strenuous, soft and expansive in turn — just like tango. It synthesizes individual expression with meditative practice, energy awareness, and movement which is also similar to tango. For me, tango is a sacred dance that has profound implications for healing, psychotherapy, spiritual growth, and the full unfolding of human potential. When you can let go, the natural flow of energy dances you. It opens up the channels of the body to clear away old emotional blockages and painful memories the body has held onto for too long. We allow life to dance us again.

TN: How does your way of dancing the tango reflect your own ideas and life experience as opposed to being a copy of Argentinean culture and tradition?

TK: When I first picked up that book about tango I had this idea in my mind that tango was exotic and sensual. I figured I would be able to meet an attractive lady and sweep her off her feet with my sensuality on the dance floor. I really had no knowledge of Argentinean culture or tradition. My way of dancing actually mimics the descriptions I have read of people's dancing experience. The most common phrase people repeat when they are talking about dancing tango is the connection with their partner. If this is the most important thing that everyone is striving for, then they should include traditional elements of meditation with their dancing. How else could a dancer, especially a beginner who has only danced for a short time, arrive at this feeling?

TN: If I am understanding you correctly, your knowledge of tango comes mainly from what you have read on the subject?

TK: Partially it has come from reading. I have also taken various classes with various teachers here and there. Teachers have no concept though. They are always teaching steps and figures without paying attention to the soul. How do they expect their students to experience a Zen moment in their dance if they are so worried about the athletic competition?

TN: How would you describe your style of Argentine tango? Do you prefer milonguero, salon, or nuevo?

TK: I do not follow any of these conventions. My style is "mind and body" and it goes beyond all the styles people are always fighting about. "Mind and body" has all the best elements of each style: it has the rhythm and the close embrace of milonguero, the elegance and expressiveness of salon, and the fresh intensity of nuevo. My style will help people refine and purify their emotional life evoking a sense of peace and attunement. It is a window through which we merge with the universal, satisfying the thirst that is in all our souls.

TN: Can you describe how your style of tango works in practice?

TK: It is very simple. The dancers assume a close embrace with their open palms touching each other to circulate their energy flows. Then they must shift weight together to the beat of the music until they have found the rhythm together. Once they have, either partner begins the dance. If they have found the same rhythm then there will be no problem with this. The steps range from faster, energetic forms to slower, meditative ones. The dance is designed to take us into the universe of feeling. It is important to stay in the moment, to keep giving yourself permission to feel and allowing the dance to refine and purify your emotional life.

TN: Can you really call your style Argentine tango when you do not follow any of the Argentine tango styles?

TK: Well who does? I mean, who knows what tango really was like when it first began and people have no idea what is or is not "authentic". Even the oldest milongueros are not old enough to know that! Besides, its not about being authentic, its about connection with your partner and my style has more connection than any other tango style.

TN: So what will your milonga be like? Do you have something special planned?

TK: The restaurant has kindly allowed me to create a ritual dance space for the milonga evenings. I will purify the dance floor with sage prior to the class and arrange drift wood, sand and sticks around the floor to enhance the elements of nature in the dance space. The line of dance will follow the evening's energy flow. I think this will work better than trying to force people into dancing counter clockwise when their energy just isn't moving in that direction.

TN: Well, thank you very much for this April Fool's Day interview.



See what everyone is talking about... (and, man, are they talking!)

What tango-related issue is BURNING YOU?

Post your own line of discussion, eavesdrop or just chat - check it out

The Tango Talk forum of tangonoticias.com

tangonoticias.com/tangotalk

APRIL 5 NEW FOUNDATION CLASS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

FOUNDATION CLASS

Registration is now open. The session starts on April 5. Time: Mondays 8:30 – 9:30 pm Cost: \$60 for a session of six classes

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Registration is recommended. Prior tango experience or completion of foundation class is recommended. Time: Mondays 7:15 – 8:15 pm Cost: \$ 10 per class or \$50 for a session of six classes.

PRACTICA

No registration is necessary. Prior tango experience or completion of foundation class is recommended. **Time:** Thursdays 7:30 – 10:00 pm **Cost:** \$10 includes practica, opening workshop & refreshments

NO PARTNER REQUIRED

Dance Connection is located at 3117 North Clybourn, just South of the intersection of Clybourn, Belmont and Western. Ample parking.

WITH MISHA AND SARAH

Photography by Daniel Byrnes Studio www.dbyrnesphotoandgallery.com For private lessons, performance or information on class registration go to *www.mgoro.com/tango.html* or call: 773.575.6906

The New Face of Tango Jazz, Flamenco and Greek Bouzoukis By Petra Etzl

ow does an Englishman with an Irish name end up making a CD that includes Japanese-flavored tango performed by great Latin artists?

The groundwork for Tango Fiesta, a compilation of 14 tangos composed by Gus Flaherty, was laid in Flaherty's childhood: his father, a merchant sailor, would bring back tango records after each stop at his favorite port of call, Buenos Aires. Growing up with the music, Flaherty always had a love for the tango.

Although he was exposed to it from childhood on, Flaherty, a professional composer, didn't spend much time with the composition of tango. "I'd written a

tango years ago," Flaherty remembers, "but I'd never done anything with it." That was until he saw a report on the news program 60 Minutes about the tremendous popularity of tango in Finland. Inspired by the show segment, Flaherty started to play with the idea of making an entire tango CD.

Tango Fiesta was arranged and coproduced by Emilio Kauderer, whose credits include 11 international music awards and countless credits for movie and feature film scores, and David Pinto who is known in the music industry for his outstanding keyboard work. Pinto is also the developer of a new software making it possible for blind musicians and composers to use computers for their work. Kauderer and Pinto also played the keyboards on Tango Fiesta.

The idea behind Tango Fiesta was to add some international flavor to the tango by means of composition as well as instrumentation. "I watched a TV special

on ballroom dancing in Japan," Flaherty said explaining the song "Di Me", "and was struck by the fact that the alto sax was the solo instrument featured in their tangos." Recognizing this as a unique interpretation of tango, Flaherty went ahead and used the alto sax on "Di Me", which still may not be as unusual as the use of electric guitar for "Muevete Con Migo", a score written as an accompaniment for ice skating or gymnastics, or the bouzouki for "Tango

Tango Fiesta is more than merely a line-up of uniquely written tangos. It represents a multicultural cooperation that resulted in a beautiful piece of work -- sometimes calm and inspirational, sometimes passionate.

Hellez", touched up with the sounds of

Flaherty's intention was not to just

borrow instruments of different countries

and write tangos to fit them; some of the

the Mediterranean and Middle East.

tangos are an interpretation of the

country they are accredited to, others

make use of said local instruments, yet

others incorporate a certain music style

that dedicates the number to various

countries. For the U.S. and Canada,

"Moonlight Tango" is infused with jazz,

and "Tango Mexicano" uses brass and

a line-up of uniquely written tangos. It

represents a multi-cultural cooperation

- sometimes calm and inspirational,

beginning of a series of various Latin

that resulted in a beautiful piece of work -

sometimes passionate. It also marks the

style dance compilations Flaherty plans

to publish, all with an equally international

line-up of great musicians from North and

But Tango Fiesta is more than merely

bandoneon.

When he finally reached Flaherty, Almario was already due for another engagement he had that day. "He asked me how many songs I needed done, he had an hour,"

remembers Flaherty. "I said 'three'. He came in, did three songs in an hour - and they were great! I said 'let's not touch them' and added them straight into the recordings."

South America, Europe and Russia.

own language of Spanish, French or Russian at any time needs only one

According to Flaherty, a recording studio where everybody may break into their

person: Emilio Kauderer. Flaherty laughs recalling times when the multi-lingual Kauderer would communicate with each

musician in their own language. Aside

languages the artists also brought their

to the studio and made Tango Fiesta a

Flaherty is still enthused about the

Justo Almario, who worked with stars like

was given a wrong address for the studio.

truly international experience.

professionalism and talent of the

musicians. He recalls one time when

Placido Domingo and Jennifer Lopez,

individual styles, ideas and interpretations

from speaking a number of different

A good thing for Flaherty and tango lovers that some years back, he followed the invitation of a woman he happened to sit next to at a burger place. "She sat there with her bible, and as she left, she told me I should come by her church, they were having a concert." Flaherty went and, to his delight, found Justo Almario and other great musicians at the church. "They'd jam for 3 hours," he recalls. Already knowing David Pinto and now Justo Almario, the rest was simply connections. Each of these musicians would know just the right guy to bring in when Flaherty explained what he was looking for, and the result is a disc one can play in the background to relax to, or put on to dance.

Most notably, though, Tango Fiesta is

Tango Noticas April 2004 4



May Madness 2004

An admittedly crazed weekend of necessarily excessive tangoing.

with special guest DJs and instructors Robert Hauk and Robin Thomas May 8-10, 2004 • Pittsfield Grange, Ann Arbor, MI

Join your fellow die-hard tango friends for a weekend of dancing including an allnight milonga, workshops, and practicas!

Saturday May 08 10:00pm - 8:00am All-night Milonga MADNESS! DJ - Robin Thomas Sunday morning: Breakfast together at 5:30am-7:00am (free for survivors).

Sunday May 09

6:00pm - 7:30pm Tango Workshop - with Robin Thomas 8:00pm - ??? Last couple or Last candle milonga DJ - Robert Hauk Till the last couple leaves the floor or the last candle burns out!

Monday May 10

7:30pm-8:00pm Check in and warm up 8:00pm - 9:30pm Class – Tango Workshop with Robert Hauk 9:30pm - 11:00pm Mad Practica

Pricing (Pay at the door)

Please note that student rates are available only to FULL-TIME students with a valid student ID. Saturday WS and milonga: \$10 (students) / \$15 (non-students) Sunday WS and milonga: \$10 (students) / \$15 (non-students) Monday WS and practica: \$5 (students) / \$10 (non-students)

Venue - All Events @ the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. half mile south of I-94 (exit #175), just past Meijer's

Housing - Some limited housing available for out-of-town dancers. Please write to tangohousing@yahoo.com BEFORE May 03

> Other accommodation and info Please see www.umich.edu/~umtango

a CD that almost wasn't: two bouts of cancer during the making of Tango Fiesta certainly slowed the production of the CD, but never stopped Flaherty. A band aid on his arm is the only reminder that this man still undergoes therapy for colon cancer; his lively demeanor and enthusiastic planning for Tango Fiesta definitely don't.

The first trial run for Tango Fiesta was made possible by Luba Gousseff, daughter of renowned Russian oil painter Kallinick Gousseff and Olga Haecker, a German pianist and performer. Luba is an Argentine tango instructor in Costa Mesa, California where she also hosts a bimonthly milonga. "It's absolutely beautiful," Luba said describing Tango Fiesta. On January 10th she played the CD for the dancers at one of her milongas. "The dancers enjoyed dancing to the tracks," Luba said, but she also conceded that die-hard fans of the traditional Argentine tango may not enjoy the tracks as much as dancers who are

more open to modern versions of tango. Fortunately, the Tango Fiesta web site offers sound samples of each track for tango lovers to find out for themselves whether this is the kind of music they will enjoy.

The stellar cast on Tango Fiesta also included: Ramon Stagnaro, (lead and rhythm guitars), Ramon Flores (trumpet), Nick Ariondo (accordion), Freddy Ramos (rhythm guitar), Coco Trevisono (bandoneon), Jorge Patrono (percussion), Bobby Bruce (solo violin), Justo Almario (alto & soprano saxophone) and Danny Papakalos (bouzouki).

Flaherty's own credits are as impressive as those of his musicians: after graduating from the Toronto Conservatory of Music, Flaherty studied and played with musicians in Nassau, the Bahamas and Kingston before he came to Los Angeles. There, Dick Stabile, musical director of the Cocoanut Grove, arranged some of Flaherty's compositions. Stabile also introduced him to renowned composer Henry Mancini and Flaherty spent two years studying with Mancini. Flaherty's compositions have been produced for events like the Golden Eagle Awards, a Royal Command Performance honoring Prince Charles and a Farrah Fawcett television special, in addition to scores performed by the London Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

The CD Tango Fiesta is available on its own web site,

http://www.tangofiesta.com. The site will also give more information on the various artists involved and links to their personal sites.

What is TANGOkinesis?

TangoKinesis is a system developed specifically for the physical needs and goals of tango dancers utilizing tango technique and exercises from other movement disciplines. TangoKinesis is designed to:

- strengthen all muscle groups (ankles and feet as well)
- · increase flexibility and range of motion
- develop stability and balance
- achieve fluidity of movement
- improve posture
- prevent injury and alleviate pain

TangoKinesis is for everyone regardless of dance level, physical ability or style and no partner is necessary.

Workshops

The TangoKinesis workshops are not just classes; they are designed as an intensive training program for tango dancers. The classes will focus on tango based exercises utilizing TANGOkinesis technique and equipment and will include:

- 1 hour 15 minute sessions twice a week for 6 weeks
- a half hour private session with instructor (prior to workshop)
- a postural analysis and movement pattern analysis (prior to workshop)
- a manual of exercises with a Theraband to take home
- individual recommendations based on your specific needs

Location

The Movement Studio, 1811 W. North Avenue, suite 202 (2nd floor)

Times

Level I TangoKinesis Section 1 Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:00-8:15 p.m., May 3rd – June 9th Section 2 Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:00-8:15 p.m., May 4th – June 11th

Cost and registration

Workshop cost \$325.00 (register by April 16th and receive \$25 discount). Registration deadline April 29th, 2004.

TANGOKINESIS

For information and registration contact Olga & Javier at 312.307.0765, 773.252.2382, e-mail javiolgatango@hotmail.com



Lake Street Milongas Fridays • April 2 & 16, 9:00 pm – 1:00 am

\$12; sweets & savories; byob

schopf gallery on the lake 942 west lake street (across from rubenstein lumber) chicago, illinois

dj - george drivakos

for further information: *bethdance11@aol.com* telephone: 847-846-5611 *www.tangoparatodos.com*

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Chicago Tango

Chicago Milongas

MONDAYS

Cousin's Restaurant

3038 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago. Milonga 9:00pm to midnight, \$5. Class prior to milonga. Free Parking. For more details contact Tom Aksoy at 773.968.0101, www.chicagotangoloop.com

TUESDAYS

Tango Chicago Tuesday Night Milonga 1043 W. Madison, Chicago. Dancing 8:30 p.m. – 12 midnight, \$10 cover. Free introductory lesson: 7:30p.m.-8:30 p.m. Street parking and paid parking lot available. For details contact Al Gates at 773.994.8180 or www.tangochicago.com

"Barba Yianni" Greek restaurant

4761 N. Lincoln Avenue, Chicago (1/2 block north of Giddings Plaza); 8:30-Midnight: \$5 cover.Street parking meters until 9pm;city lots one block south at Lincoln & Leland have 24 hour meters; Western Avenue stop on the Brown line. For more information: Bethdance11@aol.com, 847.846.5611.

WEDNESDAYS

Cousin's Restaurant

2833 N. Broadway, Chicago. Dancing 9:00 p.m.-midnight, \$5 cover. Class prior to milonga. For more details contact Somer at 773.807.5704, somersurgit@hotmail.com, or Agape 708.945.4140 findagapepappas@yahoo.com.or visit www.tangoardiente.com

THURSDAYS

Tango "Entre Amigos"

Chitalia Café, 939 W. Madison Avenue, Chicago (312.666.5544) Plenty of street parking available. 9:00 pm to midnight; free. For more information contact Jorge Niedas 312.901.2121

WindyCityTango, Inc.

presents

Lorena & Airel April 24 – May 22 The dynamic young couple that thrilled us in 2003 Details available soon at www.tangoparatodos.com

"Imelda" returns from Buenos Aires with 30+ pairs of women's shoes for sale close to cost



Upcoming WCT (sponsored or endorsed) Events Spring 2004

MetaTango Festival (Houston – April 7-10) www.metatango.com USTC Tango Fantasy (Miami – May 22-30) www.tangofantasy.com

Phoebe knows how to get a room at the Fountainbleu!! and several others we'll note soon!!!

Coming to Chicago in 2004 with WCT, Inc.

Paulo Araujo in June and in late Oct. Carolina Zokalski y Diego DiFalco Cecilia Gonzalez Orlando Paiva, Jr. y Mariana Melling "El Pulpo" y Luiza Antonio "Junior" Cervila Marcelo Martins e Vanessa Galvao Another Brazilian discovery by Julie Koidin Nito & Elba Garcia

For those of you who enjoyed (or missed but wished you hadn't)

Carolina Zokalski & Diego DiFalco,

Join them for their fabulous tour of Buenos Aires in Sept. 2004 or Purchase their new set of instructional videos "**One Step Further**" (4 for \$150 + shipping) Contact Phoebe for further information

Winner(s) of a FREE future WCT, Inc. event from attendance at the Kara Wenham and Brooke Burdett workshops will be drawn at the Mar. 26th *milonga Nuestro Tango. Winners from Paulo's workshops were drawn on Jan. 30th* Random drawing for 1 certificate per each **50** attendees

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



Chicago Tango

Chicago Milongas

FRIDAYS

April 2nd and 16th

Lake Street Milonga

Schopf Gallery on Lake 942 Lake Street (at Peoria), Chicago. DJ - George Drivakos, milonga 9p.m.-2a.m., \$12, sweets & savories; BYOB. For more information: Bethdance11@aol.com, 847.846.5611; Jan.Carpenter@ssaglobal.com, 312.258.6137 or www.tangoparatodos.com.

April 9th

The Mexican Cultural Center and Educational Institute

702 N. Wells, Chicago. Argentine Tango Party & Milonga, every 2nd Friday of the month. Dancing 8:30 to Midnight, \$5 or free if you bring a dish for the food table or a non-tango person. Class prior to milonga. For more information contact Elena Robles and Danny Novakovich at 773.550.2646 or visit www.TangoInChicago.com

April 23rd

"Tango on the Town" by TangoVida "Blue Moon Milonga"

Ixcapuzalco, 2919 N. Lincoln Avenue Chicago. 9p.m. - 1a.m., \$12 cover includes soft drinks, chips/salsa/guacamole. Cash bar with very friendly prices, \$7 cover if you join us for dinner, around 7:30pm. Dinner reservation through TangoVida: 847-846-5611. For details: Bethdance11@aol.com

April 30th

Nuestro Tango

Latvian Community Center, 4146 N. Elston (at Hamlin) Milonga 8:30 p. – 12:30 a., \$10 includes light buffet. Preceded by a fundamentals class instructed by Valentina and Phoebe from 6:45 – 7:15 p.m. (instruction for this month will be by advance request due to earlier time); the class is free with paid attendance to the milonga, \$7 for the class only. Also, a special WindyCityTango, Inc. workshop by Lorena Gasse and Ariel Barrioneuvo will be conducted from 7:15 – 8:30 p.m. (see information under Chicago Events for details). For additional information, please contact: Valentina Cisar (262) 942-4587; Carmen Pinto (773) 279-9414; or, Phoebe J. Grant (312) 342-4335 cell / TangoLadyChicago@yahoo.com

SATURDAYS

April 3rd, and 17th, May 1st **"Milonga Una Emoción"** Dancesport Center, 122 E Townline Rd Vernon Hills, IL

(The northwest corner of the intersection of Route 60 and Milwaukee Ave,

approximately 1 mile west of the I-94 Route 60 exit in the Hawthorn Shopping Mall). Milonga starts at 9:00 p.m. Cover \$10. Enjoy a great floor, Golden Age Era Tango music and an intimate dance atmosphere. NO alcohol is allowed but as always a light buffet and soft drinks are included. Ample free parking. Map and driving directions. Contact Ellen or Oleg at una_emocion@yahoo.com

SUNDAYS

Cousin's Restaurant

2833 N. Broadway (1/2 blk N of Diversey), Chicago. Class prior to milonga. Dancing 8:00 p.m.-11:30p.m., \$5 cover. For more details contact Somer at 773.807.5704, somersurgit@hotmail.com, or Agape 708.945.4140 or visit www.tangoardiente.com

Chicago Practicas

THURSDAYS

Practica at Dance Connection 3117 N. Clybourn, Chicago 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Hosted by Sarah Graff and Misha Goro. Drop-in workshop from 7:30-8:30 p.m. followed by practica until 10 p.m. Cost \$10. Includes opening workshop and refreshments. Contact Sarah & Misha at 773.575.6906 or visit

www.mgoro.com/tango.html for details.

FRIDAYS

Tango Chicago Dance Centre

1043 W. Madison, Chicago. Practica 7:30p.m.-11:00 p.m, open to all levels, \$12. Street parking and paid parking lot available. For details contact Al Gates at 773.994.8180 or www.tangochicago.com

SUNDAYS

Schopf Gallery on Lake

942 W. Lake, Chicago 9:00 – 10:00 pm. Hosted by Erica & Douglas. Free. Classes prior to practica. Contact Erica Sutton 773.505.1577 or www.tangoparatodos.com for details.

Tea Practica

Dance Connection, 3117 N. Clybourn, Chicago. 3:00 - 6:00pm, \$10. Hosted by Pamela Strateman. Practica from 4pm-6pm (\$5). Class prior to practica. No partner necessary. For details contact Pamela at 773.224.9151 or visit www.dancethetango.com

Chicago Classes

ON-GOING CLASSES

Call instructors for details or check the teachers' pages on our website www.tangonoticias.com:

- AI Gates
- Misha Goro and Sarah Graff
- Pamela Strateman
- Elena Robles and Danny Novakovich
- Erica Sutton and Douglas Rivera
- Carlos Favre and Michelle Costello
- Fred and Yermen Romero
- Javier Gomez and Olga Kokaurova
- Bob Dronski and Kathleen Kreher

Chicago Events

April

24th - May 22nd - Lorena and Ariel return for a month They thrilled and delighted us last year and now they are back to provide further instruction and performances! WindyCityTango, Inc., in conjunction with Ana Savitsky, will offer workshops by Lorena Gasse and Ariel Barrioneuvo expanding the concepts and style in which they instructed a year ago. This dynamic young couple, who head their own performance troupe in Cordoba, Argentina, will commence their month here with a showcase performance on Sunday, April 25th during the Tango Brunch at the Drake Hotel sponsored by TandoVida (see additional information elsewhere in this section). If you watched them perform last year, you know we are in for a special treat! They also will be present at our weekly milongas.

Although details of the workshop schedule are being finalized in Argentina at press time, Lorena and Ariel will offer a series of workshops beginning as early as April 25th through May 22nd. There will be tracts in at least 5 areas: fundamental techniques (NOT just for beginners), tango, vals, milonga, and performance (and, if you are interested in creating a performance of your own, you might consider scheduling a series of private lessons for choreographic consultation with these professionals). They will be available for private lessons throughout their stay here, except for excursions to other Midwest venues so it will be advisable to schedule times early. Remember Lorena speaks fluent English and will have a local phone once they arrive. Watch for further announcements as the time approaches.

As always, for information on workshop time locations, topics, pricing as well as to schedule private lessons, contact Phoebe J. Grant at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com or at TangoLadyChicago@yahoo.com. Information (schedule, locations, pricing, etc.) on Lorena & Ariel's tour of the Midwest and especially Chicago will be listed at www.tangoparatodos.com. 25th - "Tango at the Drake" Spring Tango Brunch 11:30-4:30pm, \$43 through TangoVida; \$50 after April 17. Includes all taxes and gratuities. Valet parking now \$10 for up to 3 hours. Information and reservations: Bethdance11@aol.com; 847-846-5611 Info online: www.tangoparatodos.com

28th – Argentinian A Capella Night: Opus Quatro Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago 8:30-10:30pm, Admission Free (suggested

donation \$5) Direct from Buenos Aires, Opus Quatro is one of the most important vocal groups in Argentina today. They are recognized in countries throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia. Founded in 1968, the group performs music rooted in the folk traditions of Argentina and Latin America, and spirituals, jazz, and popular music from around the world. You won't want to miss this world-class act! http://www.opuscuatro.com



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Sarah Graff 1929 West Crystal #3B Chicago, Illinois 60622

Central Tango

Fayetteville, AR

Contacts: Elayne Hency at Elayne's Dance-The Art of Social Dance; elaynesdance@aol.com; 479.521.6683 or 479.263.6683

Denver and Boulder, CO

Contacts: Web Sites:

www.ragtime.org/dance/;

www.danceoftheheart.com Deb Sclar (Boulder): deb@danceoftheheart.com **Milongas:** Boulder – Saturdays, 2nd and

last; at Bantaba; intro. class 8:30-9:30 p.m. (check w/ Deb Sclar for special topic each time); milonga 9:30 p.m.-??; \$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.m.-?; www.tangosprings.com

Champaign-Urbana, IL

Contacts: Web Site: www.prairienet.org/white-street/tango.html; www.centraltango.com; Ron Weigel: TangoSociety@aol.com; 217.328.1311 Joe Grohens: grohens@uiuc.edu; 217.328.1008 Milongas: some Saturdays in April at Phillips Recreation Center, Springfield and McCullough, Urbana; 9:00 p.m. -12:00 a.m.; \$5 for dance / \$7 with pre-milonga beginner lesson at 7:30 p.m. For more

information contact Ron Weigel at TangoSociety@aol.com or 217.328.1311.

West Lafayette, IN

Contacts: Web site – http://web.ics.purdue,edu/~tango; Ricardo Fanciulli: 765.404.5367, riccardo@purdue.edu Milonga: Check with above contact for next scheduled milonga Classes/Practica: Tuesday nights on Purdue Univ. Campus, Mechanical Engineering Building (Room 156), 8:30-10:00 p.

Workshops: : Friday nights, 7:30-10:00 p. with various instructors; locations vary.

Ames, IA

Contacts: Valerie Williams: www.vjw.biz/docs/amessocdnc.htm; v@vjw.biz; 515.232.7374; Milonga: Tuesdays at Café Diem (323 Main St.), lesson 7:00-7:30 p.m., dance 7:00-10:00 p.m., \$3.

Des Moines, IA

Contacts: Valerie Williams: www.vjw.biz/docs/amessocdnc.htm; v@vjw.biz; 515.232.7374. Contact Valerie for new class schedule.

Fairfield, IA

Contacts: Fairfield Tango Community Sheryll Ryan: sryan@humanfactors.com, 641.233.1011, Kelly Custer: 641.472.1001 **Workshops:** Weekend of workshops – Apr. 23rd, 24th and 25th with Carlos Favre and Michelle Costello of Chicago. Classes and lessons will be at Morningstar Studios, 52 Court St.

Watch for details of potential events in May with Lorena Gasse and Ariel Barrionuevo of Cordoba, Argentina.

Detroit, MI

Contacts: Amy & Ray:

MotorCityMilongueros.com, 313.561.3236; Amy & Ray: MotorCityMilongueros.com; AmyandRay@comcast.net; Lori Burton: Argentinetangodetroit.com; 586.726.2370

Milonga: Argentine Tango Detroit/Tango Suave; three times weekly see Lori Burton's website for details. Brickhouse -Auburn Road, Utica; 8:00 p.m.; \$7. Milonga de la Motor City Milongueros: Tuesdays at Father O'Kelly Knights of Columbus Hall (23663 Park, Dearborn), 7:00-10:00 p.m.; contact Amy & Ray at above e-mail/phone for details.

Ann Arbor, MI

Contacts: www.umich.edu/~umtango; umtango@umich.edu; 734.327.0642 or 734.564.0811

Special Event: May Madness May 8-10. See ad on page 5 for details.

Twin Cities, MN

Contacts: Web sites: www.mntango.org www.geocities.com/twincitiestango Steve Lee: 612.729.5306 tango@winternet.com; Lois Donnay: donnay@donnay.net, 612.822.8436; Frank Williams: Frankw@tc.umn.edu, 612.379.4565

For a weekly update of Twin Cities tango activities, go to

http://mntango.org/mailmn/listinfo/ and subscribe to'TSOM- announce.'

Milongas: Tango Society of Minnesota: 2nd Saturday/monthly at Dancesport Dance Studio in Hopkins; lesson 8:00-9:00 p.m.; dancing 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.; Admission: \$5 for members or \$8 for others. Steve Lee's Tango Plus; Friday after 2nd Saturday of each month; 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.; lesson 9:00-9:30 p.m.; Admission: \$5. Michael Cordner's Mini-Milongas at Four Season's Dance Studio

Milongas at Four Season's Dance Studio 1637 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; Sundays 7:00-9:30 p.m.; Admission: \$2; 612.342.0902.

Kansas City, MO

Contacts: Korey Ireland; korey@kodair.com or 816.931.9545; http://www.kodair.com/tango

Mt. Vernon, MO

Contacts: Karen Whitesell: www.thelearningdepot.com/murrays-1/; 417.471.1001; Fax 417.471.1002 Practicas: Fridays 8pm, free with class prior to practica Special invite to out-oftowners to come to Mt. Vernon for the weekend as guest instructors. Special Event: Murray's Meet in the Middle Marathon Tangofest; August 6-8; weekend of non-stop dancing at Murray's Vintage Venue, home of the best tango ambiance this side of Buenos Aires (Well, at least this side of La Belle Epoque).

St. Louis, MO

Contacts: Roxanne McKenny: www.tangoteacher.com; 314.324.0887 Carter Maier: tngomn@hotmail.com Estella & Randy: tangoartists@tangorosa.com;

www.tangorosa.com; 314.849.3007 Lourdes Ylagan: Lylagan@path.wustl.edu Milonga: Soulard Coffee Garden (910 Geyer Ave.); every Sunday; 6:00-9:00 p.m.; call 314.241.1464

Milongas: Soulard Coffee Garden (910 Geyer Ave.); every Sunday; 6:00-9:00 p.m.; call 314.241.1464

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

Workshops: Musicality sublime with Roxanne McKenney and Korey Ireland of Kansas City; April 2-4; Location: The Barbash School of Dance, 524 Deuser. Contact Roxanne at above phone / e-mail for more information.

Workshops: Tango Week at Washington University in St Louis, April 12–19, 2004 with Pablo Alonso from Buenos Aires. Special classes, milongas and weekend workshop. Details available from Shaun Sellers: 314.961.1686; sellers@me.wustl.edu; or, website

http://cec.wustl.edu/~hs3/

Tulsa, OK

Contacts: Fred and Jessica Stowell; fjstowell@aol.com

Cleveland, OH

Contacts: Web Site: www.tangocleveland.com Timmy Tango: Timmy Tango@aol.com; 440.327.8211 Milonga: First Saturday of the month at Belinda's Bar (9613 Madison Ave.) 7:30-11:00 p.m.; \$7.

Madison, WI

Contacts: Web Site: http://tango.doit.wisc.edu Steven Fosdal: steve@fosdal.net, 608.347.0014; Krista Bultmann: kabultmann@yahoo.com; Nicole Stevens: 608-213-8301, milongamadison@yahoo.com Milonga: April 3rd, from 8pm to Midnight. \$10 (\$7 for students). Located at Art of Dance, 212 N. Henry Street. Madison. Practicas: Tuesdays 7:00-8:30 p.m.; Free. Located at Union South, 227 N. Randall St.; Univ. of Wis. campus at the corner of Randall and Johnson. Sundays 1:00 -2:30 p.m., \$3 Located at Art of Dance, 212 N. Henry Street. Workshops: Watch for details of potential

events in May with Lorena Gasse and Ariel Barrionuevo of Cordoba, Argentina.

Milwaukee, WI

Contacts: Web Site: www.milwaukeetango.com Marek Szotkowski: argtango@hotmail.com; 414.543.7665

Milonga: La Conexión – Saturdays, April 10th and 24th at Gary Allen Dance Studio (611 S. Layton Blvd. = 27th St.); 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.; Admission \$10 (\$7 w/ student ID) light buffet provided.; BYOB.

Workshops: Watch for details of potential events in May with Lorena Gasse and Ariel Barrionuevo of Cordoba, Argentina.

NOTE: Please send any information regarding Argentine tango events in the Midwest to central_tango@yahoo.com and we will be sure to update each community's contact, milonga and workshop/special event listings. Also, let us know if you'd like your community featured in an upcoming issue.