

Tango Noticias

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Street Performers in San Telmo, Buenos Aires, Argentina • Photo courtesy of Sarah Graff

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Buenos Aires – Seventh Time is a Charm

By Thomas Barnard

I have gone to Buenos Aires for years now. These trips have been roller-coasters. Great experiences followed by horrific ones. One night dancing most dances with a dream partner, the next time turned down by everyone I asked, and finally going home in anger, shame, and disgust.

Finally, I have learned the meaning of these rejections, and strategies for dealing with them. The main thing one has to know is that these people like to dance with their friends and showing up on the scene for only one night does not qualify you as a friend. It qualifies you an *extranjero* – a stranger, not porteño, that is, not of the port of Buenos Aires, not a native.

So, my strategy this year was to dance with anyone who looked in my direction. Usually, that means the older biscuits that can't get dances with the younger tigers. But in Buenos Aires, some of these older women are decked out quite nicely, and can be wonderful dancers. Of course, as a taller northern European type, I have an additional disadvantage because the people in Buenos Aires are not tall. One time I was dancing at *Lo de Celia* with a taller lady from Australia, and I looked over at the rest of dancers, and we seemed like giants. My advice to the taller dancers is to resist the temptation to hunch over to acquire your partner's height. Keep your posture. Bad posture looks worse than the height differential.

The strategy worked very well, but



Confiteria Ideal

you have to use your brains. If you go to a youth-dominated milonga like *Estrellas/La Viruta*, there may be no older biscuits to dance with, and you may not get dances with the younger dancers. Even if you're young, you still may not get dances because you don't speak the language, and you're still not a friend. Don't stay unless you enjoy listening to the music and watching the younger dancers do their stuff. Go the places where you have had luck. If you went to *Confiteria Ideal* and had good luck, then keep going to *Ideal*. But if you go back and don't have luck, maybe it's because you went on the wrong day. If you are single, any day at *Grice!* other than Friday is a crap shoot.

Eventually, you will build a network of milonga friends who will dance with you. Dance with them, because you always need to keep up alliances, and then add other partners. You can be selective if

you wish, but it may mean that you will be sitting out more tandas than you want. This is apart from the problem of bad music. I've sat out entire nights on bad music. DJs often don't pay attention to their constituents, they don't listen to likes and dislikes, and play what they like. Or they do music appreciation and play great songs by Caro from the 1920s.

This year I used all of these strategies to good effect, plus by now I have a smattering of *castellano* (the Spanish spoken by Argentines), and the natives appreciate your efforts unless they speak English well, and then they will take you immediately out of your agony (and theirs, too, because it's likely your Spanish is painful to their ears).

In addition, remember that just like you do they get bored with the locals, and many will welcome the opportunity to dance with foreigners. ■

List of Milongas in Buenos Aires

By Thomas Barnard

MONDAY

Confiteria Ideal, Suipacha 384, 605-8234/15-937-5134 • Ideal used to be the place where foreigners first got their bearings, but now they show up all over the place. It is a grand old room with marble stairways and floor, and sure there is paint peeling all over the place, but it has a nice feeling. They always drag it out for the movies. Both the Carlos Saura movie and Tango Lesson used it. There is something going on here nearly every day, either a lesson, practica or a milonga.

Mondays and Fridays are good from about 4pm to 8pm. I understand that Thursdays after 10pm are also pretty good, and that they have live orchestras. Color Tango, a superb Pugliese orchestra, was there during my latest visit.

Lo de Celia, Humberto Primo 1783, 4371-1030. 5pm-9pm • This milonga is very unpretentious. The floor is hard, a stone tile. But it has some of the best dancers in Buenos Aires. It is a favorite hangout of the old milongueros. It can be hard for the foreigners to break in here. Music is very dependable.

Salon Canning, Av. R. Scalabrini Ortiz 1331, 832-6753 • Monday & Friday are Parakultural nights at Canning. Many of the best younger dancers attend. A fair number of Nuevo Tango people dance there. The floor is one of the best in Buenos Aires. I like the music that Sylvia chooses. Sometimes they have a live orchestra.

TUESDAY

El Beso, Riobamba 416, 4953-2794 • A favorite milonga of the older milongueros. I saw Gavito and his comrades here regularly. Not a particularly big room, and if you can, try to sit where you can get some attention. It is easy to get backwatered on the far side of the room.

Porteno y Bailarin, Riobamba 345, 4372-6080 • This milonga has two dance floors, and quite a bit of space. The music is good, although in the summer it can be quite warm. It is one block from El Beso, and many people come over from there around midnight.

La Catedral, Parakultural, Sarmiento 4006, 4932-8829 • This would be counter-culture's answer to tango. It is a ratty old building, lousy floor, but somehow also charming.

There are sometimes poetry recitals or short concerts. The music is not organized into formal tandas and there are no cortinas.

Make sure that if you sit on an old sofa some spring doesn't poke you in the butt.

El Cachafaz, Humberto Primo 1462 • Using the room made famous by Niño Bien on Thursdays, it can be quiet since it has not yet established itself. However, I saw some wonderful exhibitions, and one night they had Color Tango. You may want to check your handbills, which you will find at your table at every milonga, to see what's up.

WEDNESDAY

Salon Canning, Scalabrini Ortiz 1331 (not Parakultural, older crew.) • This is not the Canning of Parakultural fame. This is an early evening venue for generally a more mature group. Quite a lot of good dancers.

La Nacional, Adolfo Alsina 1465, 15-5661-2645

A nice big room. The trendy dancers who are not exhausted from the prior two nights often come here.

THURSDAY

Lo de Celia, Humberto Primo 1783, 4371-1030. 5pm-9pm • Just a few blocks from Niño Bien, come here first, eat dinner around 10pm, and then on to the grandest room in Buenos Aires.

Niño Bien, Humberto Primo 1462, 15 4147 8687 • Big, grand ballroom, although by 1am it can be deadly crowded. People tend to dress up a little. I love this place. I come early and leave early, but if you can sleep in, it clears up a little by 3am.

Confiteria Ideal, Suipacha 384, 605-8234/15-937-5134 • Come at 10pm, often there is a live orchestra.

FRIDAY – Biggest Night of Week

Confiteria Ideal, Suipacha 384, 605-8234/15-937-5134 • Good from 4pm to 8pm.

Lo de Celia, Humberto Primo 1783, 4371-1030. 5pm-9pm • It will be busy.

Viejo Correo, Av. Diaz Velez 4820, 4958-0364

Older group. Many good dancers.

Club Gricel, La Rioja 1180, 957-7157 • This is the big night for Gricel. Probably the only night for singles. Consider going early because it will fill up.

Salon Canning, Av. R. Scalabrini Ortiz 1331, 832-6753 • Parakultural night, recommended.

La Viruta/La Estrella, Armenia 1366, 307-5357/823-3730 • Blocks away from Salon Canning. Many come here after Canning and stay until dawn. I understand they serve breakfast, although I have not been out late enough to acquire this experience. Generally a young group comes here. Floor feels like polished stone.

SATURDAY

La Viruta/La Estrella, Armenia 1366, 307-5357/823-3730

Lo de Celia, Humberto Primo 1783, 4371-1030, 5pm-9pm

Sin Rumbo, J.P. Tamborini 6157, Saturdays Quite far away. I kissed Carmencita Calderon out there (she was last partner of El Cachafaz, supposedly the best tango dancer). She just celebrated her 99th birthday.

El Tasso (Centro Cultural Torquato Tasso), Defensa 1575, 4307-6506

Kind of a dive. Very crowded (but I guess very popular). Many music performers here. Check your schedules and handbills.

Sunderland Club, Lugones 3161, 4541-9776,

This place is quite far away. A high school as I recollect. I saw Geraldine and Javier dance out there.

SUNDAY

Salon Canning, Scalabrini Ortiz 1331 (not Parakultural, older crew.)

El Beso, Riobamba 416, 4953-2794

Porteno y Bailarin, Riobamba 345, 4372-6080

OTHER MILONGAS

El Arranque (Afternoons), Bartolome Mitre 1759, 4371-6767

Additional note: The schedules sometimes say these places are open on a particular night, but you go and find the place dead. I am trying to guide you towards the better nights.

Favorites: Salon Canning on Mondays and Fridays. La Catedral on Tuesday. Niño Bien on Thursday. El Beso and Porteno y Bailarin (a block away) on Sunday. ■

Lunfardo: Slang of Buenos Aires

By Natalie Pepa

*Tango argentino...
hijo **malevo** triston y sentido
nacio en la miseria del viejo **arrabal**.*

*Argentine tango...
wicked son, tender and gloomy
born in the misery of the old hood.**

Lunfardo, the slang of Buenos Aires, is innately connected to tango; both were born in the same setting, of the same people, and for similar reasons. Lunfardo, like tango, is a hodgepodge created by poor immigrants searching for identity. These immigrants were living on the fringes of society, surviving by the skin of their teeth—many of them became criminals and prostitutes and they were often in trouble with the law. Lunfardo allowed them to communicate without being understood by the authorities—it was the language of the underworld. It is a mixture of Spanish, the numerous languages spoken by the immigrants who came en masse to Argentina in the early 19th century, African words brought by the slaves, and words from the languages of the indigenous people of Argentina such as the Quechua Indians (Gobello 1990, pp 10-30).

Slang must be the most lively and elusive of all languages—the reason for its existence is deception and its fundamental nature is transformation. A segment of a population finds the need to create a language of its own, something to distinguish them from the main stream (Partridge 1958, p 75). They invent new words or uniquely manipulate existing ones until they form a linguistic code with the capacity to conceal covert thought and activity. As soon as outsiders expose the meanings, a new word is created. Much of slang eventually makes its way into everyday language, and with time, many such words become part of



conventional speech (Chapman 1987, pp.vii-xvii)

Lunfardo words were created in various ways. Some were simply corruptions of foreign words—Italian, French, Portuguese, or English. Others used analogy or metaphor. Most Lunfardo words come from Italian, since this is the largest immigrant group in Argentina, after the Spanish. For example, the word **Cuore** in Lunfardo as in Italian means *heart*. **Fungi**—Italian for mushroom, stands for *hat*, and **manyar**—from *mangiare*, to eat. But other immigrant groups also brought their linguistic contributions. **Papirusa**, which in Lunfardo means *beautiful woman* comes from the Polish word *papiros*—cigarette, because many young women who came from Poland were smokers. Interestingly, when we dissect the meaning of the Polish word, we find that it comes from the Egyptian *papyrus*. **Cana**—*policeman*, comes from the French *canne*, a stick or a baton. **Arrabal**, comes from an Arabic word for wall, thus by extension, a *place surrounded by walls*, but in Lunfardo the **arrabal** is the ghetto outside the formal city walls, a place for social outcasts, called **arrabaleros**. **Pucho**—*cigarette*, is a Quechua word. **Chinchibirra**—*ginger beer*, **estandar**—*standard*, **orsai**—*off side*, and **sanguich**—all come from English.

Another way to introduce vocabulary is to change the order of a word, often reversing the syllables. Thus *noche*—night, becomes **cheno**, *macho* is **choma**, *café con leche*, coffee with milk, becomes **feca con chele**; *tango* becomes **gotan**, and *barajas*, playing cards, becomes **garaba**, which by extended meaning in Lunfardo signifies "a street walker who tries to win a hand, like a gambler with a winning card." A common word like *hotel*, turns to **telo**, a transient hotel where couples go to have sex.

Often, Lunfardo takes existing words and gives them a different meaning because of metaphorical connotations. **Campana**, Spanish for *bell*, is the accomplice who watches out and sounds the alarm when authorities arrive, and from this comes the verb **campanear**—*to observe*. **Crudo**, *raw*, the word for someone who is naïve. **Bancar**, to *tolerate or abide*, comes from the Italian *banca*—*a stool or bench*. **Marron**, *brown* in Spanish, means *anus* in lunfardo. Some words have several equivalents. *Head*, for example, can be called **fosforera**, a *matchbox*; **pensadora**, a *thinker*; **mate**, a *gourd used to drink the typical Argentine tea-like drink*; and **piojera**, a *container for fleas*. The word *death* also has many variations—**la de blanco**, the *woman in white* or *huesuda*, the *bony one*. **Persianas**—*louvers*, are *eyes*. The connections here are obvious, but others are more circuitous. **Palmado**—one covered by palms, means *sick*, referring to the custom of placing palm leaves on a death bed. **Boton**—*button*—is a *policeman*, because he "fastens" the culprit. **Vento**—*money*—from the Italian for wind, because it flies away figuratively and literally.

Lunfardo: Slang of Buenos Aires
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Many Lunfrado words are connected to specific events or situations.

Cocoliche—the jargon of Argentine immigrants, mixing Spanish and Italian, is the name of a vaudeville performer who did just that. **Atorrante**—a tramp, a drifter—came about after vagabonds took up residence in large culverts on vacant land owned by A. Torrent. Some of the most interesting words and phrases, however, have their origins in quick transformations that reflect the eternal need to deceive authority. One of the earliest Lunfardo words for pimp, was **cafichio**. When statute number 840, outlawing their activity was passed, they became known as **los ocho cuarenta**—the eight forties. That was changed to **nueve menos veinte**—twenty to nine, as soon as outsiders figured out what it meant (Raul Poli: interview 2003).

Tango lyrics are the documents which maintain a record of all these words.

Changes, such as the one from *cafichio* to *ocho cuarenta* to *nueve menos veinte*, are found in lyrics, depending on when the particular tango was written. The chronology of Lunfardo survives within the chronology of tango. And even though, like tango, Lunfardo began as something outside conventional social circles, it crept into the everyday language of the residents of Buenos Aires—*porteños*. Many Lunfardo words are an integral part of daily speech and writing.

*Tango lindo que se estira
en una **bandola atorrante**...
sos velorio y cocaina,
y sos tristeza de **mina**
que se clava en un puñal.*

.....
*Pretty tango, stretching music
in a wandering bandoneon...
you're cocaine and funeral wake,
you're the sadness of a woman,
you're the stab of a sharp blade.***

Lunfardo words appear in bold letters

* Tango Argentino 1929, lyrics:
Alfredo Bigeschi

** Apologia Tanguera, 1933, lyrics:
Enrique Cadicamo

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York: Bonanza Books.

Many thanks to the various milongueros I
interviewed who gave me an insiders'
knowledge of Lunfardo.

To find out more about references on
Lunfardo please contact the author at
tangonata@aol.com ■

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Time: Thursdays 7:30 – 10:00 pm

Cost: \$10 includes practica, opening workshop & refreshments

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Registration is recommended. Prior tango experience or completion of foundation class is recommended. Our classes focus on technique, musicality and connection with your partner.

Time: Mondays 7:15 – 8:15 pm

Cost: \$ 11 per class or \$60 for a session of six classes.

FOUNDATION CLASS

This class is designed to give students the foundations of tango technique. Absolute beginners are encouraged to start their tango experience here but seasoned dancers may find this class useful and are welcome as well. Registration is required. The upcoming session starts on August 9.

Time: Mondays 8:30 – 9:30 pm

Cost: \$70 for a session of six classes

.....
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introduces

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July 30 – Aug. 4

Several Chicagoans & Milwaukeeans requested we bring this dynamic young Argentine couple here – this visit has been planned for several months so please support their events and workshops. Their showcase and workshop schedule will be posted on www.tangoparatodos.com and on www.TangoCorner.com. They feature salon-style tango – and promise fun-packed sessions.

Details in **Chicago Events** section

Tango á la Leroy & Phoebe **Thursdays**

7:00-8:15 p. *Fundamental Techniques* (Aug. 12 & 19)

8:30-9:45 p. *Intermediate / Advanced* (Aug. 12 & 19)

7:30-9:30 p. *Practica* (Aug. 5 and 26)

Milongas Morocho y Rubia begin July 26th

Milonga Rubia 2nd Monday

Experience an intimate milonga a la Buenos Aires.

Milonga Morocho 4th Monday

Chicago's first "alternative" milonga – bring your favorite jazz, blues, pop, classical music on July 26th!

Details in **Chicago Events** section

Contact **Phoebe J. Grant** at (312) 342-4335

WindyCityTango@yahoo.com for more info

or visit www.tangoparatodos.com or www.tangocorner.com

Upcoming WCT (sponsored or endorsed) Events

Tango in the Middle (Mt. Vernon, MO - Aug. 6-8)

www.thelearningdepot.com/murrays-1/tango-festival.htm

5th Milonguero Fest (Denver - Sept. 1-6)

www.tango.org

Las Vegas Tango (Sept. 10-12) with Gloria & Eduardo!!

www.lasvegastango.com

Chicago=Tango Central (Sept. 23-26) with Gloria & Eduardo!!

ChicagoTangoCentral@yahoo.com

Portland TangoFest (Oct. 13-17) with Paulo Araujo!!!

www.claysdancestudio.com

Coming to Chicago in 2004-2005 with WCT, Inc.

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Paulo Araujo returns in mid-Oct.

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"El Pulpo" y Luiza

Antonio "Junior" Cervila

Marcelo Martins e Vanessa Galvao in mid-Nov.

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Contact **Phoebe J. Grant**

WindyCityTango@yahoo.com

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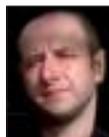
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Chicago Tango 1

Chicago Milongas

MONDAYS

Milonga Rubia

2nd Monday of Every Month - August 9
Home of Tango Vida, 346 N. Justine St. (1 blk. E of Ashland Ave. between Lake and Grand), Suite 300; dedicated parking lot along Arbour on the northside of the building. Milonga 8:00 p. – midnight, \$10 includes snacks; \$8 after 10 p. or with valid WCT, Inc. class package. Milonga Rubia features Buenos Aires style social dancing. We will encourage dancers to connect for a few moments at the beginning of a song, to keep 3 of 4 feet on the floor at all times, to use eye contact to request a dance, etc. Milongas Rubia and Morocho (on the 4th Monday of each month) are hosted by WindyCityTango, Inc. – Leroy Hearon, Jr. & Phoebe J. Grant. Contact Phoebe at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com for more information.

Milonga Morocho

4th Monday of Every Month - August 23
Home of Tango Vida, 346 N. Justine St. (1 blk. E of Ashland Ave. between Lake and Grand), Suite 300; dedicated parking lot along Arbour on the northside of the building. Milonga 8:00 p. – midnight, \$10 includes snacks; \$8 after 10 p. or with valid WCT, Inc. class package. Milonga Morocho features "alternative" music (jazz, blues, pop, nuevo, etc.) We will dance Argentine tango, vals and milonga movements to non-traditional Argentine music. We will have a play list ready but also will consider your suggestions (please bring them on a CD). Milongas Morocho and Rubia (on the 2nd Monday of each month) are hosted by WindyCityTango, Inc. – Leroy Hearon, Jr. & Phoebe J. Grant. Contact Phoebe at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com for more information.

Cousin's Restaurant

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

TUESDAYS

Tango Chicago Tuesday Night Milonga

Dancing 8:30 pm – 12 midnight, \$10 cover. Free introductory lesson: 7:30pm-8:30 pm. Street parking and paid parking lot available. For details contact Al Gates at 773.994.8180 or www.tangochicago.com

Tango Under the Stars

Giddings Plaza, 4729 N. Lincoln (next to Café Selmarie in Lincoln Square). Dancing outdoors from 8 – 10:30 pm. If it rains the milonga is held at Barba Yianni 4761 N. Lincoln. At 10:30 pm the milonga moves to Barba Yianni (see listing below). Further information: Bethdance11@aol.com; 847-846-5611.

Barba Yianni

4761 N. Lincoln Avenue (Lincoln Square) Chicago, 8pm – 12 Midnight, \$5 cover for dancers. Everyone welcome! Join us for wonderful Greek food in a casual, friendly atmosphere, with a great dance floor!! Further information on all events: Bethdance11@aol.com; 847-846-5611 www.tangoparatodos.com

Butt'ry French Style Restaurant

1137 Greenleaf Ave, Wilmette, IL.
Dancing from 9:30 pm – 12 am. No charge. Introductory lesson prior to milonga for \$5. Easy access from downtown Chicago via car (20 minutes) or by Metra train (25 minutes). For more information contact Danny Novakovich at 773.550.2646, email: info@TangoInChicago.com or visit www.TangoInChicago.com

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, or Agape 708.945.4140 findagapepappas@yahoo.com or visit www.tangoardiente.com

THURSDAYS

Tango "Entre Amigos"

Pasha Restaurant & Club, 642 N. Clark, Chicago (312.397.0100)
Dancing every Thursday from 9:00 pm to midnight, \$5 cover. Meter parking until 9:00p.m. It is easier to find meters available going west to LaSalle St. Valet parking at the door and easily accessible with public transportation. For details contact Jorge Nidas 312.437.2122 or visit his website www.21tango.com

FRIDAYS

Milonga Vida

1st and 3rd Fridays of Every Month - August 6th and 20th
346 N. Justine Street, #300 Chicago (Justine is one block east of Ashland Avenue and 3 blocks north of Lake Street. The Lake Street stop on the Green Line and the Ashland Avenue bus, #9, are 3 blocks away at Lake Street and Ashland Avenue). 9pm-2am;\$12; sweets & savories; BYOB; DJ - George Drivakos. Hosts - Beth, Mary & George. For details contact Bethdance11@aol.com; 847-846-5611, MariLiz7@aol.com; 630-254-5628.

Los Besos Milongita

2nd Friday of Every Month- August 13
346 N. Justine Street, #300 Chicago (Justine is one block east of Ashland Avenue and 3 blocks north of Lake Street. The Lake Street stop on the Green Line and the Ashland Avenue bus, #9, are 3 blocks away at Lake Street and Ashland Avenue); 9pm - 2am; \$12; Ellen's sweets & savories; BYOB. DJ - Ellen Mashkovich, Hosts - Ellen & Oleg Mashkovich, una_emocion@yahoo.com

Chicago Tango 2

Chicago Milongas

FRIDAYS

Butt'ry French Style Restaurant

1137 Greenleaf Ave, Wilmette, IL.

Dancing: 9:30 p.m. – 12 a.m., \$12 includes delicious food from homemade buffet (all you can eat!) made by chef and owner Dragana. Cash bar features special low priced Argentine wines and non-alcoholic beverages as well. Enjoy dancing golden age tango tunes in a European ambiance of a French Café. Easy access from downtown Chicago via car, 20 minutes or by Metra train 25 minutes. Introductory lesson prior to milonga. For more information contact Danny Novakovich at 773.550.2646, email: info@TangoInChicago.com or visit www.TangoInChicago.com

The Mexican Cultural Center and Educational Institute

2nd Friday of Every Month - August 13th
702 N. Wells, Chicago. Argentine Tango Party & Milonga, every 2nd Friday of the month. Tango class 7:00-8:00pm, \$10 and milonga 8:30 to Midnight, \$5 or free if you bring a dish for the food table or a non-tango person. For more information contact Danny Novakovich at 773.550.2646 or visit www.TangoInChicago.com

Nuestro Tango

Last Friday of Every Month - August 27
Latvian Community Center, 4146 N. Elston Ave. (at Hamlin) Milonga 8:30 p. – 12:30 a., \$10 includes light buffet. Join us for our 4th Anniversary!!! We'll have special treats. Valentina and Phoebe will teach a Fundamentals class from 7:30 – 8:15 p. (free with paid admission to milonga; \$7 for class only). 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

Recuerdo Tango Club

6137 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL
Milongas Every Saturday Night. Dancing begins at 9:00 pm. For further information tango@recuerdoclub.com or call 312.593.3553 or visit www.recuerdoclub.com

SUNDAYS

Cousin's Restaurant

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

Chicago Practicas

WEDNESDAYS

Recuerdo Tango Club

6137 N. Northwest Highway Chicago, IL 60631. 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. Practice Party fee \$5, no charge for students in the Wednesday night class prior to the practica. No partner necessary. For further information: www.recuerdoclub.com tango@recuerdoclub.com or call 312.593.3553

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.

Practica hosted by WindyCityTango, Inc.

August 5th and 26th
Home of Tango Vida, 346 N. Justine St., Chicago (1 blk. E of Ashland Ave. between Lake and Grand), Suite 300; dedicated parking lot along Arbour on the northside of the building. 7:30 to 9:30 p., hosted by Phoebe J. Grant. Cost \$10; \$8 with valid

WCT, Inc. class package; includes snacks. Contact Phoebe at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com for more information.

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

Mexican Cultural Center

Mexican Cultural Center, 702 N. Wells, Chicago. Practica from 5:00-8:00 p.m., \$10.00, hosted by Danny Novakovich. Practica preceded by beginning tango class 4:00-5:00pm. For more information contact Danny at 773.550.2646 or visit www.TangoInChicago.com

Chicago Classes

ON-GOING CLASSES

Check the teachers' pages on our website
www.tangonoticias.com

Contribute to Tango Noticias!

Have you written an article or story related to tango music, dancing or history? Have you created some tango related artwork? Have you translated a tango song into English? We welcome creative submissions from all over the world. If you have something to contribute to Tango Noticias send an email attaching your contribution in digital form to Sarah R. Graff at s-graff@uchicago.edu.

Chicago Events 1

July-August

July 28th - August 3rd - Omar Vega, Milonga Master Teaching in Chicago

Omar Vega is one of the strongest creative forces in the tango revival in Buenos Aires. He is considered the master of rhythm and is internationally famous for his extremely rhythmic style of dancing Milonga Traspie. He is unsurpassed in the small, syncopated steps that make Milonga an expressive and passionate experience. His trademark is a calm style based on rhythmically flowing movements with fast "traspie." His use of Traspie Technique allows the dancer to play with the beat within the traditional core of Tango. In Milonga and Tango Omar Vega teaches beautiful small steps which can be danced anywhere. His style is based on the Buenos Aires traditions of dancing figures that fit the space and interpreting the music improvisationally. Omar is celebrated as a careful and charismatic teacher, and has taught extensively in New York, Seattle, San Francisco and Boston, as well as in cities in Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands. He has also made many appearances on television and film, including dancing with film maker Sally Potter in The Tango Lesson. These workshops with Omar Vega are a must for all who seek the authentic experience of Buenos Aires Salon Dancing.

Wednesday, July 28th 7:30 - 9 PM, Fundamentals & Musicality, intro to Milonga Traspie, Practice Party to follow, 9 - 11 PM at Recuerdo Club, 6137 N. Northwest Highway.

Thursday, July 29 7:30 - 9 PM, Turns & Figures for Milonga Traspie at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox.

Saturday, July 31, 1 - 4 PM, Playing with Rhythms & Technique for Milonga Traspie I at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox

Sunday, August 1 - 4 PM, Playing with Rhythms & Technique for Milonga Traspie II at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox

Monday, August 2, 7:30 - 9 PM, Intermediate Tango, Turns & Figures for salon Tango, at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox

Special performances by Omar Vega: Join us at Milonga Nuestra Tango Friday July 30 & Recuerdo Club Milonga Saturday, July 31. Private lessons will be available Thursday, July 29 through Tuesday, August 3. Registration in advance is preferred for all classes, although students may register at the door on day of workshops. To register, for pricing info or directions to workshops, please visit our website www.recuerdoclub.com or call Michelle & Carlos at (312)595-5335

August 1st - 4th - Marcelo Solis & Romina Hahn Teaching in Chicago Both native Argentines, Marcelo & Romina offer a distinctive style in which their superb technique creates fun patterns that everyone can readily understand. Their friendly nature, love for tango and clear method of teaching make them highly sought after in the San Francisco Bay Area as well as other festivals around the country. Marcelo Solis is an experienced dancer, choreographer and teacher. He has performed and taught throughout Argentina, Europe and the United States since 1994. Marcelo interprets tango, waltz or milonga in his own unique style: deep, with soul, an understanding of the music, with novel and versatile steps and much enjoyment. He is equally at home on a crowded dance floor as he his creating and performing. Romina Hahn started her tango training in Buenos Aires about ten years ago with great maestros such as Mora Godoy, Horacio Godoy, Sergio Nataro and Alejandra Arrue, Lucas Galera and Paula Rubin. Since she moved to the U.S two years ago, she studied with Marcelo and now is his partner. Milwaukeeans who recently studied with Marcelo & Romina in SF reported they loved their teaching style and the way they work together and with the students. "Marcelo is very gentle; he dances as smooth as butter! I felt wrapped up safely when I danced with him! I never felt judged or nervous that he would criticize me if I made a mistake. He's very supportive and positive. Marcelo's teaching style is enhanced by his partner, Romina who participates in all classes and private lessons; she is able to give specific, constructive feedback. In addition to being

a great dance instructor, Marcelo is personable, open and very considerate," said Pat LeCoque of Milwaukee.

WindyCityTango, Inc. workshops:

Sun., Aug. 1 at Home of Tango Vida, 346 N. Justine St., Chicago (1 blk. E of Ashland Ave. between Lake and Grand), Suite 300; dedicated parking lot along Arbour on the northside of the building.

1:00 - 2:15 p. The Elegant Walk of Tango – playing with the music's rhythms (Intermediate)

2:30 - 3:45 p. Tango Turns & Pivots – to the closed side of the embrace; in cross system with ocho cortado (Intermediate)

4:00 - 5:45 p. Dancing into your Partner's Space – creating and using barridas & combinations (Intermediate / Advanced)

7:30 - 9:30 p. Review Practica (All Levels)

Tues., Aug. 3 – 7:00 – 8:15 p.

Interrupting Boleos for Ganchos & Wraps (All Levels) at Barba Yianni Greek Taverna (4761 N. Lincoln Ave. just S of Lawrence Ave. in Lincoln Village); \$15 special pricing (no discounts); prior to the Tango Vida's "Under the Stars" milonga at Giddings Plaza (weather permitting) or at Barba Yianni

Workshop pricing: 1 workshop = \$20 at the door; \$18 with advance registration. With advance payment (required), any 4 WCT workshops = \$65; any 6, \$95; all 8 WCT, Inc.

workshops in Chicago = \$120. All WCT-Special (SP) workshops on Friday, July 30 and Tuesday, Aug. 3 are \$15; no additional discounts apply (except for Practica).

Paid attendance at each WCT, Inc.

workshop gives you \$2 off entrance to a Review Practica (\$15) on Sun., Aug. 1.

NOTE: all "guest instructing" priced by the hosts.

Private lesson pricing and availability: \$85 (less \$15 per hour for each WCT workshop you take) for one-hour private lesson; (plus cost of studio space if necessary but free space may be available); 3-5 or more individuals may schedule a small group class at \$30/person/hour; 6-8 individuals is \$25/p/h. Private lessons will be available Friday afternoon, July 30 through the evening of Wednesday, Aug. 4. Please note that the \$15 per hour discount applies only to attendees of WCT, Inc.

Chicago Events 2

workshops (i.e., attendance at classes where Marcelo & Romina are guest instructing or Review Practica or does not qualify you for this discount). If you cancel your lesson less than 24 hours in advance or don't show, you will be required to pay for the time – no exceptions!!! SPECIAL: Paid attendance at each WCT, Inc. workshop or private will enter you into drawing for a free future WCT workshop. NOTE: All workshop subjects and locations are subject to change. WCT reserves the right to cancel workshops without adequate enrollment. Also, all Intermediate (& above) level workshops assume at least a fundamental understanding of the style or technique being taught. See the www.marcelosolis.com for additional information on the instructors. To register for classes or private lessons, contact Phoebe J. Grant at (312) 342-4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com.

September

23rd-26th – The first annual Chicago Tango Central Festival Planning is in progress for Chicago = Tango Central Festival 2004, to be held in Chicago September 23-26. The headliner instructors / performers will be Gloria & Eduardo Arquimbau (sponsored by Tango Sentido Production Inc.); the festival also will feature Cecilia Gonzalez (sponsored by WindyCityTango, Inc.) and several other internationally renowned instructors of Argentine tango. Chicago area instructors and organizers will be integral to the program. Chicago = Tango Central 2004 will succeed only with extensive local volunteer support; volunteers will be compensated with free classes. To volunteer, offer suggestions or ask questions, e-mail: ChicagoTangoCentral@yahoo.com. A not-for-profit organization will be established for Chicago = Tango Central 2004; net

proceeds will fund promotion of Argentine tango in the Chicago area. Watch for further details to be posted on www.tangoparatodos.com and www.tangocorner.com as well as www.tangonoticias.com.

December-January

December 26 to January 9 - Tango Dream Experience Paulo Araujo invites his friends and tango lovers to join him for an unforgettable holiday tango trip to Buenos Aires (Dec. 26 to Jan. 2 with an amazing New Year's Eve party planned) and to Rio de Janeiro (Jan. 2 to Jan. 9). Even if you're a jaded traveler, you'll find new pleasures in exploring BsAs and Rio with Paulo. Contact Oacy Veronesi at ileaxe@comcast.net or Phoebe J. Grant at tangoladychicago@yahoo.com or (312) 342-4335 for more information. Details will be available soon.

Planning is in progress for
Chicago = Tango Central
September 23-26, 2004

Featuring:

Gloria & Eduardo Arquimbau (*sponsored by Tango Sentido Production Inc.*)
Cecilia Gonzalez (*sponsored by WindyCityTango, Inc.*)
and several other internationally renown instructors of Argentine tango

Chicago area instructors and organizers will be integral to the program

Chicago = Tango Central will succeed only with extensive local volunteer support
Volunteers will be compensated with free classes

To volunteer, offer suggestions or ask questions, e-mail:
ChicagoTangoCentral@yahoo.com

A not-for-profit organization will be established for Chicago = Tango Central 2004
Net proceeds will fund promotion of Argentine tango in the Chicago area

Watch for further details to be posted on www.tangonoticias.com, www.tangoparatodos.com and www.tangocorner.com

Central Tango 1

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.centraaltango.com;
Ron Weigel: TangoSociety@aol.com; 217.328.1311
Joe Grohens: grohens@uiuc.edu; 217.328.1008
Milongas: Sat., Aug. 28 at Phillips Center; For information contact Ron Weigel at TangoSociety@aol.com or 217.328.1311 or visit www.centraaltango.com.
Workshops: Central Illinois Close Embrace Tango Weekend featuring Tom Stermitz, Sept. 10-13; more information is available at www.centraaltango.com or e-mail to TangoSociety@aol.com

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 / Iowa City, IA

Contacts: Fairfield Tango Community Sheryll Ryan: sryan@humanfactors.com, 641.233.1011, Kelly Custer: 641.472.1001

Indianapolis, IN

Contacts: www.tangoindy.org; info@tangoindy.org
David Crosley: dcrosley@challenge-inc.com; 317.407.8181

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.

Detroit, MI

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

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 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 8:00pm, free with class prior to practica Special invite to out-of-towners to come to Mt. Vernon for the weekend as guest instructors.
Special Event: Tango Festival: Meet in the Middle Midwest Milonga Aug 6-8 with classes by Robin Thomas with Jennifer Bratt and Robert Hauk with Barbara Durr; Robin and Robert will DJ at the milongas. Contact Karen Whitesell for more details at the above web site and/or phone numbers.

Central Tango 2

St. Louis, MO

Contacts:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/St_Louis_Tango/

Roxanne McKenny:

www.tangoteacher.com; 314.324.0887

Carter Maier: tngomn@hotmail.com

Estella & Randy:

tangoartists@tangorosa.com;

www.tangorosa.com; 314.849.3007

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

Monthly Milonga del Barrio on Saturday (37 S. Maple Ave.); 6:00-11:00 p.m.; \$10 (\$5 with student I.D.); contact Roxanne McKenny at above web/phone.

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

Practicas: every Thursday; for schedule and location, contact Rick Barbarash at above e-mail/phone.

Workshops: Close Embrace workshops Sept. 18-19 with Tom Stermitz; for more information, contact Shaun Sellers at sellers@me.wustl.edu; 314.935.6098 or 314.420.5929.

Workshops Dec. 18-19 with Brigitta Winkler; for more information, contact Shaun Sellers at above e-mail/phone.

Las Vegas, NV

Contacts: Allison and Gabriel;
www.tangosilhouette.com

Tulsa, OK

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

Cincinnati, OH

Contacts: Virginina Malton at
vmalton@yahoo.com

Cleveland, OH

Contacts: Web Site:

www.tangocleveland.com

Timmy Tango: TimmyTango@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.

Workshops: Saturday & Sunday, August 7th & 8th - tango teacher & dancer, Angel Clemente offers workshops offered in Tango, Milonga & Salsa! Private lessons available. Special "New comers" class will be offered on Saturday. Saturday night dance party, dance demonstrations, dinner buffet. Cavana Ballroom, 4189 Pearl Rd., Cleveland.

Madison, WI

Contacts: Web Site:

www.madisontango.org

Steven Fosdal: steve@fosdal.net,
608.347.0014; Krista Bultmann:
kabultmann@yahoo.com; Nicole Stevens:
608-213-8301,
milongamadison@yahoo.com

Milonga: Saturdays (1st and 3rd), August 7th and 21st from 8:00 p.m. 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.

For more info about Madison workshops go to: www.madisontango.org

Milwaukee, WI

Contacts: Web Site:

www.milwaukeetango.com

Marek Sztokowski: argtango@hotmail.com;
608.241.9544 (note new phone number)

Milonga: La Conexión – Saturdays (2nd and 4th), 14th and 28th 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 and private lessons: Mon., Aug. 2 with Marcelo Solis and Romina Hahn, sponsored by WindyCityTango, Inc.: a special 2-hour workshop "Creating Movements Using The Connection And Dynamics Between Partners" from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Kinetic Dance studio (3058 S. 13th) at a cost of \$25 per person (\$20 if you take other workshops with them in Chicago or a private lesson). Marcelo & Romina will be available to give private lessons on Monday during the day until 7:00 p.m. (and perhaps after the workshop as well); private lessons are \$60 per hour for 1-2 people if you also take a workshop or \$75 if not attending a workshop; 3+ people may schedule a small group lesson at \$30/hour; contact Pat LeCoque at 414.875.1754 to register for the workshop or to sign up for private lessons. Contact Phoebe J. Grant for more information on Marcelo & Romina at 312.342.4335 or WindyCityTango@yahoo.com or visit www.marcelosolis.com.

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Contacts: Web Site:

www.festivaldetangodemontreal.qc.ca

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.