

TANGO AUSTRALIS

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An artist's journey to Buenos Aires

A visit to the optician might be a strange precursor to an interview with a photographer, yet eye drops and disorienting lights change perception. The known world swims in and out of focus; objects retreat behind a Vaseline-like film, and little bits of reality taken out of context become abstractions. The sighted assume that others see things as they do. But everything is subjective. In the optician's chair, letters are simply shapes, devoid of meaning, yet filled with undreamt possibilities in their abstraction. As the eyes strain, the mind is free to see differently and ponder hidden codes. Later, as the veiled world materializes, daylight takes on new piercing qualities. It was good preparation for thinking about inspiration and vision.



La Boca by Lindi Huntsman

An exhibition of photographs of the Australian-Ethiopian communities had moved me deeply. Afterwards, I learned of the existence of a book of photographic images of Buenos Aires by the same artist, Lindi Huntsman. She told me something honest tango visitors will relate to: she found it difficult to 'get' the essence of Buenos Aires.

I was curious to see her images and talk about her experience of Argentina. I thought I 'got' Buenos Aires on my first visit. I saw a European-style city in the Southern Hemisphere. The city layout and architectural style felt familiar. With successive visits, however, I began to realize that I didn't 'get' Buenos Aires at all. Things were different beneath the surface. Discovering this was like lifting and peering beneath Dali's skin of the sea.

Barriers were not only of language; unwritten codes defined territory as surely as barbed wire. There was an element of helpless hopelessness. People complained bitterly, but froze and

conversation dried up when the topic of social change was introduced. *'Everything is too hard'*, we were told, many times, in different ways. *'You can't understand'*, people said, and we didn't. We were warned about safety, and not venturing into dangerous areas, but not until an Argentine friend's father was murdered in a street attack did we truly pay heed. Even in tango, warmth was tempered with distance and wariness.

Seen through the camera lens of a first-time visitor, Lindi's BsAs photos reflected tension beneath the surface that took us many visits to work out. With no expectations of what she would encounter and untainted by tango mythology, Lindi neither liked nor disliked what she saw there. She felt neutral. Buenos Aires boulevards were Parisian, for sure, but she wondered what else there was.



Photographs by Lindi Huntsman



Widely traveled, this photographer seeks to capture the spirit of a destination and of those who make their homes there. With no predetermined agenda for her art she looks for the story through her photography. Driven by curiosity about how we live our lives, she sometimes takes a lot of pictures because she's not sure of her ability. But she knows when she has taken a great shot. *"Photography is about knowing. It is a subconscious knowing of what is."* She feels the suffering of people and empathizes with the underdog and the 'other'. *'Photography is mine'*, she says, but feels her work gives recognition to her subjects too. She has struggled, to get where she is, to find her way. She used to drive past the Photography Studies College and decided she didn't want to go to her grave without giving it a go. *'The only thing to do was to do it'*. She studied part time to complete her course. Sometimes she retreats into silence, and keeps quiet about things.

She was mourning her brother's death when she saw the old couple dancing tango in Buenos Aires. She was taken by the chemistry between the two. She saw love and respect in the way they were holding one another. Their hands are the compelling point of connection.



Photographs by Lindi Huntsman

Hands feature in many of her photographs and the symbolism is always powerful, whether the image is of a work-hardened Ethiopian hand holding harvested corn and beetroot, or children's hands cupping fresh water gushing from a village pump, or musicians in a street orchestra, their hands cradling and caressing their bandoneons like lovers.

When she got lost in La Boca and her tour group left her behind, Lindi ignored her unease and sat at a table in a café taking photographs of dancers performing. *'The tango was dodgy,'* she said. *'One guy invited me to come back and meet his mother at 4pm'.* She didn't.

She is not driven by commercial need and is content to let time take its course. *'One day it will all come together as something'.* In the meantime she will keep the candle burning. We hope that one day she might train her artist's eye – and camera – on tango and its practitioners here in Australia. Her website is: www.lindihuntsmanphotography.com.au



Tango in New York

One of Adelaide's Tango dancers, Deirdre Flynn, is part of the Catherine House team of 10 runners participating in the 2011 NYC marathon to raise funds for its highly successful Education and Employment Program. Catherine House is a leader in the field of women's homelessness; it provides a range of programs and services designed to 'solve women's homelessness'. Over 700 women a year enter the doors of its emergency program and over 1,000 women a

year across all program areas. Women come to Catherine House from across the whole social spectrum; clear evidence that homelessness *defies* class and social distinction in our community. See www.catherinehouse.org.au for further info and the Catherine House Winter Newsletter for the profile and a short bio of all the runners.

Deirdre is paying all costs associated with the Marathon, therefore all proceeds raised will go directly to support the work of the Program - financial donations are fully tax deductible. You are invited to sponsor her on-line at www.everydayhero.com.au . Donors should search "everyday hero: under **find a hero**", rather than "find an event".

This month's new tango poem by SA writer dancer Paul Mabarrack...

Madame Tango

Fly into the arms of Madame Tango!
Warm to the delights of her embrace,
Swoon to that sad and hesitant music

She moves us with grace, and silent pauses
And bids us momentary silence,
In meditation of men and women joined.

In me, Tango reveals
A man broken and downcast
From life's and love's travails

But in her arms, I am held upright
And asked a movement forward
Her ready to be, with me

She trusts me to my instincts
Drowns me in her music, and echoed in our dance
Offers me, my own self-love

And then done with me
Made whole once more
She sends me back to you

Complete and refreshed
To do you honour
In our own love's embrace

By Paul Mabarrack

Why not write a poem about tango & let us take it to an enthusiastic international readership? Time is running out for entries in the 2011 Australian Tango Poetry Competition. Closing date is September 30. To get the entry form send an email, with 'Tango Poetry Competition' in the header, to the Convenor at richardandpam@mac.com or telephone 041 753 1619. Prize money of \$500 is again sponsored by the Friends of Bs As at the Beach Inc in support of Tango Arts. The winner be announced in Adelaide on December 10, 2011, and the prize-winning poem will be published and distributed across Australia and overseas in the January edition of Tango Australis. Other poems of merit will be published through the year as part of the Friends' ongoing project to develop & promote Australian writing.

Geelong to host Australia's 1st TANGO POETICA in November

Tango Arts support group, Friends of Buenos Aires at the Beach Inc, sponsors of the Australian Tango Poetry Competition, have announced a unique, stand-alone event, a first on the Australian tango calendar: TANGO POETICA, to be held on Saturday November 19 at 6pm. This salon-style evening will present Australian (and world) premiere performances of two commissioned choreographies inspired by award-winning poetry dedicated to Tango, written by Melbourne writer, artist and dancer, Tamara Tallent and Surf-coast writer, Julie Maclean. Other performances are on the program, with Tango-inspired treats to tempt the senses (including finger food from 'Meals on Heels'). TANGO POETICA promises to be utterly unlike any regular milonga, but Tangueros and Tangueras can still dance the night away, whilst others can soak up the atmosphere, lounge around, imbibe, nibble, socialize, chat with poets, and party in a very cool, not otherwise accessible, venue.

The search for the venue took in Melbourne and beyond. A standard milonga hall, reception place or studio was not what was needed. Organizers wanted somewhere that Tango could be enjoyed differently, a place where creative spirits would feel at home, a quirky place, with its own style and an imperfect, endearing kind of beauty that would welcome everybody. They found it in Geelong at a surprising new venue in what was, historically, an industrial area, but is destined to become a new Arts precinct, close to the beautiful Barwon River flats and wetland bird breeding areas. In such territory, a creative fusion of Australian tango literature and dance could be presented and celebrated in a uniquely Australian way.

Starting time for TANGO POETICA is 6pm (the evocative hour of *media luz*, the transitional 'half light' of a famous tango song), to allow time for interstate performers to arrive. Tango lovers and people interested in supporting the Arts and the culture of Tango in Australia are invited to note the date of this forthcoming event. Further details will be announced soon, and at this time it will be possible to make bookings.

Something different for Melbourne: TANGO DOJO

A surprising number of Australia's tango aficionados are also martial artists, so it's kind of appropriate (if characteristically whacky) for David to host a Tango & Martial Arts night, featuring social dancing interspersed with short demonstrations and presentations of different martial arts disciplines. TANGO DOJO is on Friday September 16 at Sidewalk Tango 327 Swan Street, Richmond 3121, 9pm – 1am. Cost is \$10 (no tango class on this night).

'Maria de Buenos Aires' in the Brisbane Festival 2011



We're heading to Brisbane to see the critically acclaimed State Opera of SA & Leigh Warren & Dancers production of Piazzolla's 'Maria de Buenos Aires' for which Leigh Warren was nominated for a Helpmann Award for best direction of an opera. Andrew Gill is the tango dancer who partners the extraordinary singer, Cherie Boogaart who plays Maria. The season is at Playhouse QPAC, 14 – 17 September. After-show forum: 5. September. Bookings 136 246. www.brisbanefestival.com.au

The challenge of change

We are fortunate to live in a tolerant society in which people of diverse backgrounds can interact and grow, and seeds of change can be sown and nurtured. At a regional Victorian celebration of France's Bastille Day tango people experienced a different cultural interface.

Compare this to the tragedy in Norway when a reactionary citizen cold-bloodedly vented destructive rage on innocent citizens and young people. We offer love and sympathy to our dear Norwegian friend, paramedic, nurse, Afghan veteran and awesome tango dancer. Anette Smith, who was on duty on the dreadful day. Anette is known to many Australian dancers who met her during her time studying in Adelaide, performing in SCT tango shows, or on her regular visits to attend Australia's summer tango festival *Buenos Aires at the Beach*. Anette's hands would have been cool and competent on her country's day of crisis.

The history of society – primitive & modern - is the story of continuing change, fed by migration, intermarriage, environmental adaptation, trade, and the sharing of knowledge, technologies and ideas. Fanaticism and fear of change is the enemy of civilization & progress.

At the Australian Bastille celebration, an aging Frenchman cracked jokes, read a La Fontaine fable, and sang traditional French songs, with joy, taking his audience with him to a distant remembered home. A music ensemble performed, and a violinist presented a lively rendition of the tango *Jalousie*, written by Danish composer Jacob Gade in 1925 to accompany a silent film. Arthur Fiedler made the first (of thousands) of recordings of *Jalousie* with the Boston Pops orchestra, and the lyrics have been translated into many different languages. *Jalousie* is the most popular and famous tango of the European genre, and is sometimes included in Argentine tango shows as an example of 'Tango Americano' or 'European Tango'.

Pam Jarvis presented a talk on '*The French Connection*', with slides & videos. The material presented surprised many in the audience who did not realize the historic significance of Tango's early Parisian triumph, the influences of Paris on the modern city and culture of Buenos Aires, or the subsequent life of tango in France and Argentina. Roger & Ingrid Howley, dancers in past SCT tango productions in SA, were persuaded to return to the performance floor to improvise romantically to the modern French-Argentine Gotan Project, and Pam & Richard danced to Francisco Canaro's traditional *Poema*. Canaro was one of the Argentine-Uruguayan orchestras that were extremely popular in Paris after the Great War.

Later the violinist played a Spanish Tango (Albeniz) and invited the tango dancers to take to the floor again. They happily did this, showing how the dance can be adapted to other music styles. The 'Spanish tango' genre is not Argentine tango, but a different music style influenced by the Afro-Cuban *habanera* rhythmic structure that became popular as the 'Andalusian Tango'. Here is an example of multi-cultural fusion and resultant change, and evidence too of the general public's confusion as to what Argentine Tango music actually is. Things get even more confusing with the *milonga* dance form of Tango (Argentine), which also has a relationship with the *habanera*.

A lovely rendition of Edith Piaf's 'anthem', *Non, je ne regrette rien*, from a guest female singer, planted the notion that it would be nice to dance tango to this song, for the words and sentiments are reminiscent of tango lyrics. The first stanza has a bit of the defiance of Discepolo's *Cambalache*: whether good or bad, things are all the same.

However, the 'little French sparrow' sings of being able to leave things behind, and of not needing to hold onto the past. Her song is more positive than his. She regrets nothing, bears no grudges. Each day she starts from zero – which is where each tango begins – 'zero hour'. Perhaps *Non, je ne regrette rien* might become an adopted foreign-kind-of-tango, expressing the sentiments of Tangueras, and a womanly tango perception as a foil to the angst of the betrayed-she-left-me-and-I-can-never-forgive-or-trust-again lyrics.

Dancing to infinity & aiming for the sky

A meditation on surfing, mountaineering & dancing tango

Though it might surprise the tango addict, some dancers have other passions. Some are drawn to the water, hearing the ocean's siren call, and challenging it as boatmen, divers and surfers. Some fish. Others pit themselves against storm, wind and fire, or challenge gravity on rocky outcrops and mountains. (Check out www.southerncrosstango.com.au.) In different ways, dancers reach for the infinite.

A reclining figure '8' is the sign for infinity – a mirrored double swirl with no beginning and no end. The distinctive figure of tango – the one that makes tango the unique dance that it is and permits its possibilities – is the *ocho*, the Spanish word for '8'. To trace an *ocho* you do a pivot and a step in one direction, followed by a pivot and a step again. It is an elegant celebration in controlled movement of an opportunity created for you. In the perfect '*ocho*' a dancer steps towards the infinite.

To be perfectly balanced, poised and still, waiting for the energy, the torsion and realignment, is a sublime feeling. It is to be close to harmony, akin to a sense of floating, of buoyancy in warm salty topical waters, waiting to feel the building energy of a wave. Patience is an essential quality for the surfer – and the tango dancer – the ability to be trustfully in the moment, without anticipation or fear, yet utterly prepared for anything.

And then this elegant possibility is offered, and the response is as natural as breathing. First is the suggestion that cannot be ignored, for the upper body to turn. Then the natural movement that flows from this, the slow downward spiral that draws the hips into alignment, so the body is comfortably in position again. Then comes the physical impending movement, sweetly, that carries the desire to step forwards or backwards, so that two people move as one. This is to know what it is to be a tango dancer.

A story about Peter Hillary, son of Sir Edmund ([After Everest](#) in Good Weekend, July 2 2011, Amanda Hooten) informed that '*nobody liked big mountains*' until the 17th century. Just think of traditional fairy tales and tribal beliefs. Mountains were terrifying places inhabited by malevolent gods and monsters. In the Andes and other regions where uncontrollable seismic activity is part of life, such beliefs still prevail. Angry gods must be propitiated. But in other cultures, mountains have become seductive – bastions of purity, silence, imposing imperviousness that create a desire for conquest. Amanda's fabulous description of Everest's power includes these words, '*... its gravitational pull attracts all liquids in its vicinity towards it. It's like an independent planet, or a moon, drawing men and women inexorably into its orbit*'.

Like Tango!

A plea for Tango diversity

A famous Argentine dancer once said that, even amongst tango's top professional dancers, there were women who could walk beautifully, dance beautiful *ochos*, or do beautiful *giros*. A dancer who could do all three of these essential tango components superbly was a rare creature. Most Tangueras can do one or two well, not all three.

In our desire to become better tango dancers we can get sidetracked, seduced by a professional dancer, or teacher who comes into town with new tricks, an admired or distinctive style, or impressive '*adornos*' (decorations). These elements get taught via workshops, and get added to local dancers' repertoires, and soon style the dancing at the milongas.

An informed tango visitor, popping in to local milongas in European cities or the USA, will be able to identify, from the steps being danced, which tango teachers/dancers have visited most recently to work with local dancers.

Tango is suffering from globalization, like other product markets.

Parallels could be drawn with Spain's ubiquitous Zara clothing chain. Where once there was regional diversity in the fashion expressions of different countries, today there is increasing standardization – the same product marketed everywhere. The loss of cultural diversity takes excitement away from the travel and tango experience. Familiar elements can be comforting, but do we want all milongas (and all tango dancers, the world over) to be too closely modeled on Buenos Aires?

Japanese connections

How lovely it was to meet a small, elegant lady at Adrienne and Andrew's tango class in Adelaide recently. The lady wanted to meet the editor/writer of *Tango Australis*. She introduced herself. She had read last month's story about the tango dance students at Kardinia International College in Geelong, and their showcase performance in the Katsumata Auditorium at the school.

Noriko is Japanese and working hard to learn English. She reads and enjoys our monthly journal, and loves tango with a deep passion. We talked about the universal, spiritual connecting power of tango – and how the bond established between dancers, and between dancers and the music has little to do with a common spoken language. I told her we danced tango all over the world. I also told her that the famous tango orchestras have visited Japan for many years, and that there is a well-established tango community there. Since she has been learning tango in Australia, Noriko has become aware of tango's popularity in Japan

Our tango poets will be thrilled to know that Noriko reads their poems aloud to practise her English. Themes and ideas so carefully chosen, meanings conveyed, worlds alluded to, and attention to rhythmic patterns and structure of language, make poetry a dance of words and ideas, as seductive as tango. Reading poetry is a most wonderful and effective way for a newcomer to explore the richness of language that is distilled in poetry. Singing songs is a way to experience the cadence and flow of words, especially in a language that is not your native one. And listening carefully to tango music as you dance, and developing a familiarity with tango lyrics, opens the door to a growing understanding of the language and culture of the River Plate region on which tango is based.

Noriko was thrilled to read about a Victorian school with such a strong connection with Japan and Asian culture – and to hear that students from so many different national and cultural backgrounds attend this school.

Argentine connections

Some readers might remember Victoria Daly. We nicknamed her 'Miss Vicky Argentina'. This young Argentine, with degrees in translating and interpreting came to Australia to further her studies and expand her writing portfolio in the Masters' post-graduate program at Melbourne University. We baptized her into social tango dancing at the milongas here – notwithstanding the fact that she is a porteña, i.e. a Buenos Aires native. With no compunction, when the rest of her family came to visit we also happily introduced them to the delights of the *Buenos Aires at the Beach* Summer Tango Festival on the Great Ocean Road. Added to the experience of the Australian Open (tennis) it made for a pretty amazing summer.

Vicky is home now, working in her field of expertise, translating & interpreting (legal and other) documents, papers, articles, and all kinds of material from Spanish to English, and English to Spanish. Her new business website www.dalyediting.com/en. If you need translating services, or help with navigating a meaningful path through Spanish language documents, look her up.

Tango visitors' eyes opened to the beauties of South Australia

A young couple from Melbourne visited Adelaide recently, on the spur of the moment for a long weekend. Both are tango dancers, born overseas and living in Australia. They turned up at the Henley Sailing Club to check out the monthly Sunday **Tango By The Sea Milonga**. Not sure of what they would find, they hedged their bets and left their tango shoes in the car. One quick look at the venue and the milonga in full elegant swing, however, was enough to send the guy straight back downstairs to get the dancing shoes. "This is so beautiful", the girl sighed as she looked across the floor and saw the silhouetted forms of dancers moving against a backdrop of a wildly surging sea and storm clouds.

They were shown to a table and seated with other interstate visitors. They were introduced to local dancers and colorful tango characters who all extended Adelaide and this milonga's customary hospitality. It was, as usual, a lovely mellow tango afternoon – relaxed and friendly and illuminated with the glow of natural, afternoon light that allows people to see what is happening on and around the dance floor. This creates a very special tango 'connection' for watchers as well as dancers. Another young couple, new to Adelaide and also to tango, popped in with their baby to check out the scene.

During conversation that afternoon, the first couple let slip that Melbourne and Sydney people 'diss' (disparage) Adelaide – not Adelaide tango, they assured, just Adelaide, the city. Visiting Adelaide for the first time, they were pleasantly surprised with what they were discovering and experiencing – and will definitely be making a return - and longer visit – as soon as they can.

A longtime resident of Melbourne (with no previous connections with Adelaide) reckons that South Australia is one state that can proudly claim to have developed full-flavoured, sustainable regional Tango, as well as splendid cuisines (note the plural) built on regional produce suited to local wines that taste of 'terroir'. The beating heart of all things 'foodie' can be found in the glorious showcase of Adelaide's Central Market and home kitchens, and you can feel Tango's heartbeat at the regular milongas and special events.

All over the city and surrounds (in the Hills and Vales, on the coast, on the Fleurieu Peninsula, in wine regions and the Riverland), often in surprisingly unpretentious places, wonderful restaurants, cafés, produce stores, farmers' markets and farm outlets are to be found, as well as initiatives, such as community kitchens where local people cook and prepare goods for farmers' markets (and satisfy health department requirements). The Slow Food movement is strong. People are pleased to source quality produce (vegetables, milk, eggs, cheeses, yoghurts, fish, free-range poultry and other meats) from known suppliers. A butcher, in a town near Adelaide, will smoke the fish the locals catch. Some tango blokes fish together.

Attitudes and opportunities that sustain the food scene, may help explain differences between Tango in Adelaide – as well as Tango in Canberra, in the evolving scene in Geelong in regional Victoria, in Darwin up north – and Tango in Australia's two big city capitals. Perhaps the tango is nice because these other places are not Melbourne or Sydney – and don't feel compelled to try to be. Big cities offer much – but people can get lost. Smaller cities can have a more human focus that allows people to be known – and we all need that.

Advance notice of an event a big city can offer

You have time to do serious training for Sidewalk Tango's All Day All Night Tango Festival Marathon Milonga in Richmond, Victoria, from 11am Saturday 22 October to 6am Sunday 23 October, with interstate and international DJs, special events and surprises.

Foot pain, a perennial problem for dancers

This is not an endorsement for an untested procedure, but if sore feet are making your life a pain, you might think the article summarized below is worth further investigation.

The article '*Kick away foot pain*' was in the Sunday Mail. Painful feet are, alas, the price dancers (especially Tangueras) pay for their passion, sooner or later. Adelaide podiatrist, Ted Jedynek, went looking for a better option for painful feet than orthotics, drugs or surgery, and claims to have developed a therapy to work in tune with your body to heal the pain rather than cover it up. The Innovative Foot Mobilisation Technique (FMT) is claimed to have freed thousands of people from painful feet, heels, knees and lower back. The technique realigns the joints in the feet, allowing them to function as nature intended. "Gentle hands-on therapy puts the bones in the joints back into the correct position and specially developed exercises strengthen the muscles to hold the joints in place...'

To cater for growing demand for the treatment a new Foot and Leg Centre has been opened in Glenelg, led by podiatrist Mike Talbot. North Adelaide Foot and Leg Centre: 08 8239 0800 and Glenelg Foot and Leg Centre: 08 8294 0100. www.footandleg.com.au

*** * * Hot news for winter tango, a special event in South Australia**

Seasonal Milonga in South Australia: *An Informal Fireside Winter Milonga* Our Place at Willunga Hill - Saturday August 27, 2011, 7pm to midnight.

The Clappis family lives on a rural property in Willunga, close to the famous McLaren Vale wine and tourism region. Their farm is the location for SCT's biennial gourmet feast of tango arts and regional produce, 'Tango on the Hill', to be held next in September 2012.

In the interim, Ady & Andrew and the Clappis family have organised a less formal, but still gorgeously enjoyable winter night of tango dancing and lovingly prepared Italian-style food. You will be able to stargaze, then warm your body beside the fire inside, buy drinks from the bar, dance the night away in the most wonderful surroundings, and tuck into a delicious Italian-style supper (Andy Clappis and his dad are renowned chefs – and the women of the family are great cooks too). \$40 pp. Bookings are now open – call Adrienne on 0419 309 439 – as always with this lovely venue, numbers will be limited. Interstate visitors – get organised!

Carlos Costes to visit Geelong, twice

Community Tango in Geelong will host a workshop & social night with visiting professional dancer, Carlos Costes, from Buenos Aires via New York (where he is now resident) on **Wednesday 17 August**, 7.30pm, \$12 pp @ Christ Church.

On **Sunday 21 August**, Carlos & Amanda return to Geelong to perform at a High Tea at Christ Church on the corner of Moorabool & McKillop Streets, 3 – 5pm. \$15pp. Funds raised go to the restoration of the heritage church building.

More information about Dance-Poetry Fusion Choreographic Opportunity

Applications can still be made for one of the choreographic commissions in the exciting new tango fusion project, a companion project to the Australian Poetry Competition created to support original, modern Australian expressions of Tango. Australasian amateur or professional tango dancers, or dancers of other genres, who feel capable of taking on the challenge of choreographing and performing an original new dance work inspired by an edgy poem with a thoroughly contemporary voice are invited to express their interest. But you will need to get moving, because closing date is the end of August.

The work will fuse, creatively, poetry with dance. This may be by incorporating spoken lines with dance, having a recitation of the poem at the beginning or during the dance, or by other means of presenting the poetry during the dance performance. The public premiere performance will be filmed for posterity, & displayed on the Friends new dedicated website to showcase the talent of Australian tango writers, choreographers & dancers to the world.

If you fancy the challenge of an exciting new dance project, please email your expression of interest to the Special Projects Committee, Friends of Buenos Aires at the Beach Inc., c/- richardandpam@mac.com or post to 'Friends' Convenor, PO Box 3024, Bareena, Newtown, Vic, 3220.

Professional dancer-choreographers should include CV information; amateur dancers (individuals, couples or groups) should include words about their experience and passion. Organisers will then forward a copy of the poem from which to take inspiration in the development of choreographic ideas.

The final decision on the awarding of this commission will be made after viewing a 30-second video sample (at work-in-progress stage) of the proposed work, that applicants will submit, accompanied by written support material. The winner of the commission will then be notified, and materials submitted by unsuccessful candidates will be returned to them. A fee will be paid to the winner of the commission, to cover the choreography of a new work and its November public performance. Organisers will have the right to put film of that performance onto the Friends of Buenos Aires at the Beach Inc. website. Subsequent live performances would be negotiated by arrangement with the poets who retain copyright in their work, and the choreographer-dancers. Profiles of poets, dancers and choreographers will be on the website.

A further opportunity - for a video photographer

If you are interested in a commission to film on video the November 19 performance of the two new dance-poetry fusion works (in Geelong) please forward your CV and samples of your work to the Special Projects Committee, Friends of Buenos Aires at the Beach Inc, c/- richardandpam@mac.com or post to 'Friends Convenor', PO Box 3024, Bareena, Newtown, Vic, 3220. Your samples will not be used for any purpose other than in the selection process for the commission. The commissioned video film will be posted onto the *Friends of Buenos Aires at the Beach Inc* website, a site designed to showcase Australian artists and Tango, and promote their work. A profile of the photographer can also be included on the website.

Tango Festivals & Events around Australia

Festival City Tango is a weekend of Milongas, Practicas & Asado Saturday lunch, taking place in the city of Adelaide, from Friday 2 - Sunday 4 September 2011, proudly presented by the Tango Adelaide Club. There will be no workshops or performances, just social tango dancing! For more information: www.tangoadelaide.org



Maria de Buenos Aires - Brisbane Festival 2011 has an amazing program of theatre, dance, music & art from 3-24 September 2011, including 'Maria de Buenos Aires' by Leigh Warren & Dancers in collaboration with State Opera of SA. Southern Cross Tango's Andrew Gill will be performing the role of Tango Dancer. Season: 14-17 September. Bookings www.brisbanefestival.com.au

The Sydney Tango Salon Festival is from 28 September - 3 October 2011, with an intensive program of workshops & milongas, featuring guest teachers Javier Rodriguez & Andrea Misse, Fabian Peralta & Lorena Ermocida, Sebastian Misse & Andrea Reyero & Joaquin Amenabar. Bookings are open! You can book online via the festival website: www.stsfestival.com



Spring Tango Festival in Melbourne is from 27 – 30 October 2011, featuring workshops by special guest teachers & themed milongas, proudly presented by Solo Tango. More details coming soon. <http://www.tangoargentino.50megs.com>

Melbourne Tango

Sidewalk Tango. David Backler has classes, Wednesday practicas & fortnightly 1st & 3rd Friday Tango Noir Milonga at 327 Swan Street, Richmond. The Tiki Bar is open on Friday, Saturday & Sunday nights – a very cool place for a drink. Check **Melbourne Tango Club** at www.sidewalktango.com.au/melbourne-tango-events Organisers can email event details to david@sidewalktango.com.au La Practica (hosted by Francesco (Frank & Carolin) is held at **Sidewalktango** on the 2nd & 4th Sundays. 3 – 6pm. \$5.

Solo Tango. Alberto & Natalia host a milonga on the last Saturday of each month at 154 Liardet St, Port Melbourne. For class details albertocortez@bigpond.com Ph: 0411 665 454

Tango Bajo. Bill 0416 015 327 & Leigh 0410 257 855 - events, milongas every Saturday (except the last of the month), practicas & classes @ St Albans Church, cnr Orrong & Wynnstay Rds, Prahran. Email leighis@fastmail.fm or get on the Monthly Calendar mailing list (or send event details) by emailing jerry@highgatebeauty.com

Tango Tambien. New classes: Thursdays (Beg – Improvers 7pm, Intermediate + 8.15pm) @ St Catherine's Church, 406 Kooyong Rd, Caulfield Sth; Fridays 6 pm – general level at Unitedstyles Dance Studio, cnr Chapel St & Brighton Rd, East St Kilda. Ph: Leigh 0410 257 855 or www.tangotambien.com.au or Tango Tambien on Facebook

Viva. Christian Drogo and Melbourne's original Tango Bar now at Hit the Floor, Level 1, 245 Glenferrie Rd, Malvern (enter from Stanhope) last Sunday of month. Doors open 7pm, class 8pm. \$15. info@vivadance.com.au www.melbournetangohotspot.wordpress.com 03 9415 8166.

Melbourne Tango continued

Melbourne Tango hosts milongas @ Czech House, Queensberry St, North Melbourne on the second Sunday of each month – class @ 6.30, milonga from 7.30 pm.

Project NFT (Neo Fusion Tango) – Practilongas – 1st Sunday of the months of August and September, 6.30 - 10pm, \$10. 1st Floor, Palace Hotel Camberwell, 893 Burke Rd, Camberwell, Opposite Camberwell train station and tram 72 stop. rjh@keypoint.com.au

Another Melbourne tango calendar/events & unique information site is www.verytango.com
To advertise a coming event go to the contact page on the website.

Community Tango in Geelong - Enjoy the beauty of simple tango social dancing - no experience or partner needed. All welcome, always @ Christ Church hall, corner Moorabool & McKillop Streets in Geelong. Good wooden floor. Tango class & social night with supper: 1st Monday of the month, 7.30 - 9.30pm. Class & Practica 3rd Wednesday, 8 – 9.30pm (Regular nights: \$3). Special workshop night with Carlos Costes, 17 August, 7.30pm, \$12
Information: richardandpam@mac.com or telephone 041 753 1619.

ADELAIDE TANGO:

Tango Salon

Classes & Milongas. **Comme il Faut Milonga – Sunday 21 August, 4pm – 8pm** at Mt Osmond Golf Club. \$10. www.tangosalonadelaide.blogspot.com

Tango Adelaide Club

Milongas & Practicas. **Club Milonga – Saturday 6 August, 8pm – late** at the Druid Hall, 2 Cassie St Collingswood. \$7/\$10. BYO Drinks & nibbles. **Festival City Tango, 2 - 4 September**, Milongas, Practica & Saturday Asado. Bookings & Info: www.tangoadelaide.org

Siempre Tango

Classes, Practicas & Milongas. **Dom Polski Milonga – Friday 26 August, 8pm – 12** at Dom Polski Centre, 232 Angas St, Adelaide. \$10/8. www.siempretango.net.au

Tango Tierra

Classes, Practicas & Milongas at Gilles St Primary School, 91 Gilles St, Adelaide.
<http://tangotierra.com.au>

Southern Cross Tango

Classes, Practicas & Milongas. **Tango by the Sea Milonga – Sunday 14 August, 4-8pm, romantic tango** at the Henley Sailing Club, 1 Esplanade, West Beach. \$12/10. Children (under 16 free). All welcome. You can bring a plate of afternoon tea or supper to share, drinks available from the bar.

Saturday 27 August, 7pm-midnight, Fireside Winter Milonga @ Our Place at Willunga Hill, cnr Range Rd & Meadows Rd, top of Willunga Hill. 45 minutes drive from Adelaide. Warm Italian hospitality & delicious supper, prepared by this family of chefs. Social Dancing & Tango Performance by Andrew & Adrienne Gill. Tickets \$40. Please book & purchase tickets by 24 August. Drinks to be purchased from the bar. To book: Ph 0419 309 439
www.southerncrosstango.com.au

SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO

South Australian Schedule:

MONDAYS

Private Tuition by appointment

TUESDAYS

Current Course until 23 August 2011

Beginners 7-8pm; Intermediate 8-9pm

Themed Workshops: Tuesday 30 August 2011

2 for 1 Introductory Workshop, 7-8pm (bring a partner for free)

Playful Tango, exploring stops, sandwiches & sweeps, Inter 8-9pm

Next 8 Wk Tango Course: Tuesday 6 September – 25 October 2011

Beginners 7-8pm; Intermediate 8-9pm

@ Kensington Centre, Hill St, KENSINGTON



WEDNESDAYS

Current Course until 24 August 2011

Beginners 7-8pm; Intermediate 8-9pm; Advanced 9-10pm

Themed Workshops: Wednesday 31 August 2011

2 for 1 Introductory Workshop, 7-8pm (bring a partner for free)

Entradas & Sacadas, Inter/Adv 8-9.30pm

Next 8 Wk Tango Course: Wednesday 7 September – 26 October 2011

@ Deaf Cando, 262 South Tce, ADELAIDE

THURSDAYS – WEEKLY PRACTICAS

Supervised Practica every Thursday from 7-9pm @ Deaf Cando, 262 South Tce, ADELAIDE.

FRIDAYS

Current Course until 26 August 2011, Beginners 7-8pm

@ Morphett Vale Community Centre, William St, MORPHETT VALE.

SATURDAYS

Tango Training for Women:

Saturday 6 August – 3 September (no class 27 August)

Saturday 24 September – 22 October 2011 (no class 1 October)

Saturday 5 November – 3 December 2011 (no class 19 November)

Semi Private Group Intensives:

Front, Back & Butterfly Voleos - Saturday 8 – 15 October 2011, Inter, 10am -12.

Complex Ochos & Back Sacadas – Saturday 5 – 12 November 2011, Inter/Adv 10am – 12.

Private Tuition (Saturdays & Weekdays)

@ Seacliff Studio, 50 Kauri Pde, SEACLIFF



Victorian Schedule:

COMMUNITY TANGO IN GEELONG

First Monday of the month:

Tango Group Class & Social with supper, 7.30-9.30pm

Third Wednesday of the month:

Group class & supervised Practica, 7.30-9.30pm

@ Christ Church Hall, cnr Moorabool & McKillop St, Geelong

Ph: 0417 531 619 richardandpam@mac.com

SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO

Ph: 0419 309 439 sctango@bigpond.com

www.southerncrosstango.com.au