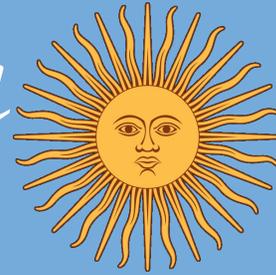


Under One Sun

The Newsletter of Tango Pacifico

Edition I — September 2007



Editors: Barb Horricks
Vanessa Winn, Linda Fear

¡Bienvenida!

Welcome to the premier edition of *Under One Sun*, the newsletter of Tango Pacifico Dance Society in Victoria, B.C. Here's what you'll find in this first issue.

Countdown to **IT TAKES 10 TO TANGO!** 2

Tango Pacifico, in cooperation with Tango Inspiración and Tango Caminar, presents a tribute to ten years of tango in Victoria, with tango workshops, milongas and a Grand Ball.

Back by Popular Demand 3

Seattle's **Tony Fan** and **Ilana Rubin** have been guest instructors in Victoria for the last ten years. We look at what makes them so special.

Live...at the Edelweiss 4

We tell you about the people behind **Tango Paradiso**, who will be providing sensational live music at the Grand Ball on September 15.

I Remember When... 5

Victoria has tango history — lots of it. Let's hear about your tango moment!

Light Housekeeping 6

Let's face it: we've all got to do it. You'll find the housekeeping notes of our first newsletter at the very end.

1

You won't find your regular tango garb in this building where the first *tangerias* — tango parties — were held in Victoria. Where is it, and what business is located there?

2

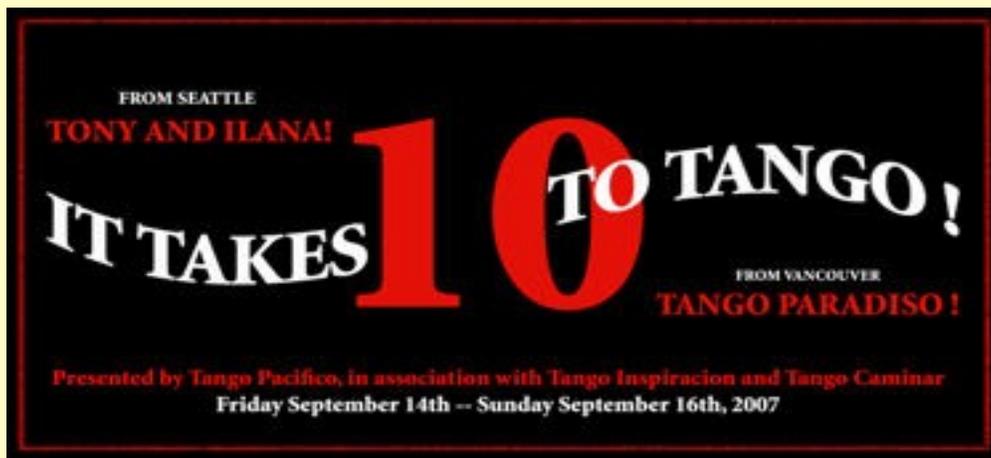
Where was the first tango stiletto in Victoria found? Hint: it wasn't on someone's foot.

And the answer is...

You tell us! Look for the yellow boxes with the question mark. Inside you'll find a local tango trivia question to get your brain working as fast as your feet. Compile your answers (use the list at the end of the newsletter) and submit to dance@tangopacifico.com or give to any Pacifico (see page 6) at Café Casablanca or at the Saturday workshops by 4:30 p.m.

3

Tangerias were what she had in mind when she installed a hardwood floor in her garage. Who is it?



Countdown to IT TAKES 10 TO TANGO

The weekend of September 14 to 16, 2007, will be remembered as a truly unique occasion for tango dancers in the Victoria and Pacific coast area.

For the past ten years **TONY FAN AND ILANA RUBIN** of Seattle have, through annual visits to Victoria, taken dancers to higher levels of achievement than many dared dream would be possible.

Join Tango Pacifico, Tango Inspiracion and Tango Caminar in a trip down tango memory lane at **IT TAKES 10 TO TANGO!**

The adventure begins Friday, September 14, as Tony and Ilana present *The Celebration of Ten: 2x5*, a workshop that looks at the “then and now” of five steps they have taught us over the years. Dancers at all levels will enjoy this workshop. Stay on for the *Opening Milonga* with DJ Brent Thompson. All at Café Casablanca, 2524 Bridge Street.

Rise and shine — but not too early — and join Tony and Ilana at the Edelweiss Club, 108 Niagara Street, at 11 a.m. for three workshops: *Molinete Revisited*, *Ten Years After*; *Milonga*; and *Barrida and Surprising Variations*. The first two are suitable for all levels; the third is recommended for intermediate–advanced level dancers.

Return home, soak your aching tootsies, and don your finest in black and white tango elegance. Then it's back to the Edelweiss at 9 p.m. for the

10 TO TANGO GRAND BALL! Dance to recording artists **TANGO PARADISO**, and take in an inspiring demonstration by Tony and Ilana. Thanks to popular demand, we're bringing back the chocolate fountain and other nibblies to keep your energy levels up.

You can sleep in Sunday, but we're not done yet. Café Casablanca is where the final two workshops will be held, beginning at 1 p.m. with Tony's favourite *What's Cool After TEN Years, Reversed Turns*, suitable for intermediate–advanced level dancers; followed by *Colgada in Vals*, for advanced dancers.

But **WAIT!** Ladies, don't hang up those stilettos yet, fellas, your Cuban heels. Finish off this spectacular weekend by joining Tango Pacifico at 9 p.m. at the Café for the *Closing Milonga* — or the *Opening Milonga for the Next Ten Years*. Tony Fan is our guest DJ, with live music interludes by pianist/composer **Andy Fielding** and accordionist **Roland Gritanni** playing together and solo.

Check out www.tangopacifico.com for full details and the schedule for this fabulous weekend.

Note that the Café is required by law to have a minimum consumption charge, and no outside beverages or food are allowed on the premises.

4

Who just adopted a puppy of the breed depicted on the RCA label listening to a gramophone? The trademark icon is based on an original painting from the turn of the century, aptly entitled “His Master's Voice” — as we know in tango, the music truly is God.

Live...at the Edelweiss

One of Canada's premier tango ensembles takes the stage at the **10 TO TANGO BALL** in Victoria, B.C.

Since forming in 1998, **TANGO PARADISO** has developed a rich, evocative and unique voice. The quartet's fresh presentation of classic, modern and original repertoire has delighted audiences throughout Canada and the U.S.

They perform traditional and post-modern tango uniquely and passionately. From tango classics to original compositions and arrangements, **Tango Paradiso**'s sound is fresh and compelling, entrancing audiences and critics alike.

In 2002 **Tango Paradiso** appeared with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra to three soldout shows for an appreciative audience of over 3,000. In 2004 the group was honoured to perform in concert with featured guest virtuoso Coco Trivisonno (*Forever Tango* bandoneonist) at the Victoria Symphony International Wine Festival.

Tango Paradiso was nominated for a West Coast Music award in 2003 for their first CD, *Tango Paradiso*. Their second CD, *Post Nuevo*, was released in November 2005. Their new CD, *Classic*, will be released in late 2007.

Who They Are

Douglas Schmidt (bandoneon, accordion) received a doctorate of music composition from the University of British Columbia in 1992 while also learning to play the bandoneon and earning himself a Governor General Award of Canada nomination. Schmidt recently completed three terms as resident composer with the Victoria Symphony Orchestra. He has appeared on *Much Music* and *Bravo TV*, and he has been featured on five Juno and CARAS award-winning recordings.

Henry Lee (viola) has an M.Mus. from Juilliard and has appeared at Avery Fischer Hall, Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall. Henry has been in the Seattle Chamber Music Festival, Las Vegas Chamber Music Festival and the San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival. He has been a soloist with Canadian and American orchestras and plays with the Vancouver Symphony, and the CBC Radio Orchestra.

Amanda Chan (piano) has achieved recognition in her career as concert pianist, teacher, lecturer, adjudicator and examiner for the Royal Conser-



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Live tango music in Victoria has been around as long as the dance itself. Name two of three early players. Hint: one will play at Café Casablanca at the **10 TO TANGO** Closing Milonga.

vatory of Music in Toronto. She has given concerts as a soloist and chamber player in Canada and abroad in the U.S., China, Austria, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Slovakia.

Mark Haney (contrabass) began playing double bass shortly after his boyhood dream of becoming a Jedi Knight proved to be unrealistic. Very busy in the Vancouver theatrical community, he has played bass for shows at the Gateway, Vogue, Arts Club and Vancouver Playhouse theatres, and this past summer he performed at the Bard on the Beach festival.

Heartfelt and dynamic take on the tango... captures the drama of the musical form that began in bordellos and bars outside of Buenos Aires.

– Vancouver Courier

For more information on the **IT TAKES 10 TO TANGO** weekend as well as the full schedule of events, please go to www.tangopacifico.com.

Back by Popular Demand



Photo by Cassie Jenkins

Tony and Ilana really help you to break the dance down into its essential elements, and then show you how to put it all together again. It's more than just talk. – Chris Chantrill, Seattle, WA

Ilana Rubin and Tony Fan bring to the tango a lifelong interest in dance. Both were trained in ballet and modern dance, and they bring to tango an exciting, accessible, individual style.

Ilana's extensive dance training includes modern dance with Martha Nishitani as well as ballet and folk dancing. **Tony** started his dance career studying modern ballet. Later he continued with ballroom dancing before discovering Argentine tango.

Tony and Ilana have been dancing Argentine tango together for over nine years. They have studied with such notable dancers as Juan Bruno, Pepito Avelleneda, Susanna Miller, Julio Balmaceda and Corina de la Rosa, Osvaldo Zotto and Lorena Ermocida, Daniela Arcuri and Armando Orzuza, Mariella Franganilla, Eric Jorissen, Brigitte Winkler, Rebecca Shulman, Cacho Dante, and Omar Vega.

Tony and Ilana teach a regular curriculum of tango classes in the Seattle area. Their lessons,

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What was the first figure Tony and Ilana taught us ten years ago? Hint: if you're up on reading your tango news, you didn't have to be there.

which focus on understanding the building blocks and musicality of tango, have grown increasingly popular since their first weekly classes in 1996.

Tony and Ilana express their thoughts about tango and teaching in this way:

“Tango is a conversation. Tango is an improvised dance with no set patterns; couples dancing the tango are responding to each other while being motivated by the music. Our classes prepare the students to enter that conversation, encouraging them to understand both the leading and following roles. We also work on the crucial foundations underlying the conversation: improving carriage, coordination, balance and rhythm.

“Taking part in the conversation means listening and responding to one's partner.

Learning the tango is like learning a foreign language. This takes patience and sensitivity, but, when mastered, it creates a dance that is truly an interplay between two people.

“Tango is a language. One can only master it when they understand how the basic elements link together to form a dance. We will teach the students how to link simple rhythmic building blocks — the phrases of tango — and show them different ways to construct these phrases into poems.

“We finish each lesson with demonstrations of more phrases built on the same principles. We emphasize the idea of building the dance from basic elements rather than offering figures for memorization.

“We believe that when students see the tango as a flexible dance and understand the beauty of how to piece different elements together with the music the dance becomes more exciting for them. They can truly make this dance their own with their own expression and flavour.”

Join Tango Pacifico as we welcome Tony and Ilana for an exciting weekend of workshops and milongas. Workshop details and the schedule of events can be found at www.tangopacifico.com.

7

The name may have been inspired by New Orleans, but the location was Douglas Street in Victoria. What was the name of this short-lived Tuesday night haunt for local tangueros?

8

Who recently purchased a car in a tango colour? Hint: colour of the vehicle was a high shopping priority. This probably rules out most tangueros. Men of style, if you disagree, please let us know!

I Remember When....

When embarking on this newsletter project, the editors endeavoured to provide a quick history of tango in Victoria and the Canadian and Pacific northwest coast — something to take in over a coffee or glass of wine, something to help with the chitchat before stepping onto the dance floor for that tanda.

Well. Like many of life’s projects we take on, it just ain’t that simple.

Short and sweet wasn’t going to work, nor was definitive. The rich stories could take up a whole volume, and the various perspectives of the writers offer diverse viewpoints.

Since there are more stories as there are dancers — way more — we’ve decided to involve you, the reader and history maker.

Everyone has had at least one a-ha! moment — that “yes, I get it now,” that tangasm, that special birthday dance, that wedding party — that involved our tango family. We’d like you to share it with us. Here’s what to do.

Write your memory down, keeping it to 100 words or less, and submit it to dance@tangopacifico.com. Photos are also welcome. We’d appreciate you signing your name, indicating we’re able to publish your thoughts.

From there, it’s up to us. The final format is totally unclear at the moment. We’ll publish individual entries in *Under One Sun*, and we may compile all into a volume.

Like most projects, all will be revealed in the fullness of time.



Remember when...Carolyn Sadowska’s fabulous mural was revealed at Café Casablanca? This tribute to the tango and our dance café, which also serves as the hub for Victoria’s salsa scene, was revealed to all on February 3, 2006.

9

You’ll notice in this photo from early 2003 that everyone is wearing a necktie. What occasion prompted this? Bonus points if you tell us where the photo was taken.



Light Housekeeping



Tango Pacifico founders and friends raise a glass of champagne to toast our new society at a launch party on May 6 of this year at — where else? — Café Casablanca, Pacifico's host tango café.

Who We Are

Tango Pacifico is a non-profit society formed in April 2007 by a group of Argentine tango lovers to promote the experience of the dance in our Pacific communities.

The purposes of our society are:

- 1) to promote the dancing of Argentine tango throughout our province and along the Pacific coast, and everywhere tango is offered in a spirit of international camaraderie and open-mindedness;
- 2) to promote opportunities for dancing to live music of all styles of Argentine tango;
- 3) to promote learning of all forms of Argentine tango through workshops and lessons;
- 4) to promote the development of our teaching communities.

The nine founders of Tango Pacifico are Frank Sullivan, president; Linda Frear, vice-president; Diane Tolomeo, treasurer; Barb Horricks, secretary; Vanessa Winn, communications; Lonny Fox; David Gurr; and Brent and Hedy Thompson.

10

Baila Tango has teachers all over the world. Which ones have taught in Victoria, and where do they call home?

Under One Sun is the newsletter of Tango Pacifico Dance Society. Many people contributed to the compilation of this issue. Our editorial team consists of Barb Horricks, Vanessa Winn and Linda Frear.

We make no promises about how often we will publish.

Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the perspective of the editors, or Tango Pacifico.

If using any material contained herein, please credit the source.

If you have material you would like considered in an upcoming issue, please contact the editors through dance@tangopacifico.com.

The Quiz Questions

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2. Where was the first tango stiletto in Victoria found? Hint: it wasn't on someone's foot.

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Fill in the quiz sheet — or copy and paste the questions into an e-mail — with your answers and submit them to dance@pacifico.com, or give to any Pacifico (see page 6) at Café Casablanca or at the workshops on Saturday, September 15. The winner will be announced at the **GRAND BALL**, and the answers will be sent out in a follow-up newsletter.

Prize? *We have to give a prize?* Okay. We will draw from the entries with the most – or all – correct answers. The winner will receive a pass for two to the *Closing Milonga* on Sunday, September 16, with guest DJ Tony Fan and musical guests Andy Fielding and Roland Gritanni.