



CAMINITO TANGO ORCHESTRA ESCUELA BRISTOL 2024-25

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN & CONDITIONS

This project has been developed in order to spread knowledge about the genre of Argentinian tango music. There are lots of instrumental techniques not used in other styles (see The Strad article: <https://www.thestrad.com/34.article>) as well as ways of phrasing and feeling music that is very particular to tango. It is a rich musical genre that is still not well-known in the UK.

TEACHERS

Caroline Pearsall, who is a specialist in this music (see biography here www.carolinepearsall.com) directs the non-profit Creative Caminito, and provides all the arrangements, and tango techniques videos. The local tango musicians, Mirek Salmon (bandoneon/piano) and Carola Hengstenberg (violin/piano) will help you with the various new techniques and styles of the different tango orchestras from the start of the 1910s to the golden period of the 1940s, and beyond including Piazzolla.

Other well-known tango maestros will be occasionally invited to come and coach you if the budget allows! The goal is to create a flourishing tango music community in the UK which is connected to the communities in France and Argentina too. As well as musical practice you will also learn more about the history of tango music and who the most important tango musicians were. You will receive various pdfs with information as the course progresses and if you wish to see Caroline's MMus research on the identity of tango music please ask.

PERFORMANCES

There will be performances each year, as the relationship between the music and the dance is a very important one and you learn a lot by playing for people and seeing how the dancers react to the music you make. And we will wear black/red and dress up (tango has a glamorous side so feel free to dress up!).

If necessary, for each performance we will bring in some professional players to reinforce the orchestra.

There will also be the possibility to learn about playing solos – for those who are interested, as solos are an important part of creating your musical identity and need work in order to become strong and musically exciting – a tango solo is never meant to be played the same twice so there are elements of improvisation needed. You will be taught the tricks of the trade if you choose to play some solos!

REPERTOIRE

The repertoire is structured to cover the main periods of tango music evolution. These being the *Guardia Vieja* 1910 - 1925 (Year 1), *Guardia Nueva* 1925 - 1950 (Year 2), *La Vanguardia* (1950 - 1970) (Year 3) and *Periodo Contemporaneo* 1970 - today (Year 4). Some of the orchestra styles we will be looking at in the Guardia Vieja period are: Francisco Canaro, Eduardo Arolas, Vincente Greco, Juan Maglio Pacho, Roberto Firpo, Orquesta Tipica Select and Orquesta Tipica Victor.

Each era has its own exemplary orchestras, and for example the Guardia Nueva (also known as Golden Era) will have works by Carols Di Sarli, Osvaldo Pugliese, Astor Piazzolla, Anibal Troilo, Juan D'Arienzo etc.

The arrangements will be made to cater to the levels so if you have any difficulties with any bars/parts please let me know so that it can be adapted for you.

The repertoire will be sent via a google drive link and there will also be mp3s so you can listen to the original recordings.

The link will be sent once the deposit has been paid and the contract signed.

You will be expected to practice a bit in between sessions – time together will be limited and the work will be more musical than technical. It is a group project so part of a good musical group experience is that people know the notes already in the rehearsal! Please bring a pencil and music stand and be prepared to make notes about how we play things. You will also be expected to print out your parts.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

The course starts in September and finishes in June. There is an optional extra rehearsal and performance in July.

The rehearsals will be held at: Cotham Parish Church. We would encourage people to take public transport where possible. The church is well served by buses and is less than 10 mins walk from Clifton Down rail station. There is also limited car parking available at the venue and metered street parking.

The last Saturday of each month from 10.30-14.30

We will have a Whatsapp group for easy communication and logistics.

PRICE

This project may be more expensive than other musical projects due to its unique nature and currently unfunded grassroots situation. It is however, the only ongoing project like this in the UK and Caroline is currently developing connections with with other orquesta escuelas in Europe, with a view to future collaborations.

One rehearsal each month at a price of £30 per session. This covers rehearsal room fees, teacher fees, administration costs, insurance, related website costs, and transcription

and preparation of arrangements. There will be 10 sessions per year split into 2 semesters. Sept – Jan (Dec rehearsal has a question mark but we will work this out in due course), Feb – June.

This comes to a total of £300 a year.

Any extra performances we organize together in July will be billed separately.

Full payment of the semester is required and is non-refundable. But you can choose to do only one semester if you prefer.

We do need a minimum number of 13 participants for the project to run

The first session you attend is free so you can try it out. This also applies to any friends or family members you might want to invite too!

ATTENDANCE

If you can commit to all the dates and performances that is ideal in order to create a group sound and learn lots of repertoire together. But it is very important that you do the concerts as we will be performing live for dancers and the orchestra needs you there!

HOW TO JOIN

Please send a message to mireksalmon@gmail.com with the following information if you wish to participate:

- 1 – Full Name and address
- 2 - Telephone number
- 3 – Level & Instrument
- 4 – What your expectations are for the course and what you want to get out of it
- 5- Let me know of any tangos/waltzes/milongas you would love to play

I will then make a contract with the information you provide and ask for payment (by sent invoice) of the semester you join (minus any sessions you missed prior to joining) to secure your place in the orchestra paid for by bank transfer.

If you have any questions please email Mirek or Carola

mireksalmon@gmail.com

carola.hengstenberg@gmail.com

Looking forward to making great tango music with you!

Mirek and Carola