CAMINITO TANGO ORCHESTRA ESCUELA LONDON 2025-26

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) is the director of this project, and is currently pursuing a doctorate in tango music pedagogy in New York (Columbia University) and will be making videos teaching you about the various new techniques and about the styles of the different tango orchestras from the start in the 1920s to the golden period of the 1940s, up to and including Piazzolla.

The tango music teacher who runs the rehearsals in London is Simon Cook, a professional London musician who runs the tango quartet El Chamuyo. Invited guest teachers include John Turville the pianist of LTO, Enrique Galassi (bass player), Alejandro Schwarz (composer & guitarist), and Guillermo Rozenthuler (voice).

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 her MMus research on the identity of tango music please ask.

Caroline has performed all over the world and worked with some of the best names in tango music (Victor Hugo Villena, Juan José Mosalini, La Chicana, Amelitar Baltar, José Colangelo (pianist of Troilo orchestra), Orquesta Imperial, Silbando, Tango Siempre...). When tango musicians come on tour to the UK or Europe her hope (if finances allow) is to invite these musicians to coach the orchestra. This will allow you to develop your musicianship and experience in this genre.

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 a professional players to reinforce the orchestra.

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 semester payment has been made.

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.

The rehearsals will be held at: UCL, 305 Bedford Way (26), London, WC1H ODS

The first Saturday of each month from 2:00 -6:00 pm

We have a Whatsapp group for easy communication and logistics.

PRICE

This project may be more expensive than other musical projects due to current lack of funding (which we are applying for), inviting tango maestros, advertising, any equipment and instruments, and travel and teaching fees. It is however, the only ongoing project like this in the UK and Caroline is currently developing other *orquesta escuelas* in the UK.

One rehearsal each month at a price of £40 per session. There will be 10 sessions per year split into 2 semesters. Sept – Jan, Feb – June. This makes a total of £400 a year. Any extra performances/rehearsals we organize together in July will be billed separately.

Dates:
First Saturday of each month starting in September and ending in June.

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

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!

In order to make the project financially viable I ask that you pay for the whole semester (even if there are dates you cannot do) as there are a lot of costs each time!

HOW TO JOIN
Please reply to this email 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 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.
If you have any questions please ask either via this email address creativecaminito@gmail.com or whatsapp me on 0033631276175

Looking forward to making great tango music with you!

www.creativecaminito.org