

# Tango Noticias

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# El Rey de la Milonga

(The King of The Milonga)

Continued from August issue

BY ROBERTO FONTANARROSA, TRANSLATED BY JAVIER GÓMEZ

**T**hat one's still a cutie...No spring chicken any more, but still hot.

I could introduce her to you Doctor, but she ain't easy, she's quite a rebel. Dancing, she wants to lead. Could you believe that? She wants to lead! You know that the man, in tango, is the one that always leads the woman with just the pressure of his fingers on her back... This way, that way, backwards, sideways. But she doesn't follow, she resists. I've always said that feminism is going to kill all the tango couples. That's how "Eladia y Gustavo" ended, that couple used to dance for many years at "Caracol". Then, she started reading Marguerite Duras and went crazy. She wanted to lead. Until one night Gustavo broke a beer bottle over her head after dancing El Once.

And last night my Old Man showed up Doctor, you wouldn't believe it. Fourteen years upset with me because I didn't study or work or I would sleep in late and was still, to some extent, being supported by them. Which is not technically true, but that's kind of a long story. My Old Man showed up. I was dancing to Bahia Blanca on an almost empty dance floor, because, when I step on the floor, they open space for me. I was dancing with that tall new girl, who dances very well, but is a little heavy and leans a little to the right side. She used to be a volleyball player, she told

me, and got her knee hurt and could never get it back to normal and her leg ended up a bit like that, a little turned out. It is a bit hard to lead her, that one, the tall one, because her leg is a little crooked...And that's when they came over to talk to me, Haroldo held my arm and whispered in my ear: "Your Old Man's here"...

I didn't even have time to react, because they must have had a very important reason to interrupt me while I'm dancing. The last time they interrupted me while I was dancing, was not too long ago, when my mother died, and the only other time before that was when Julio Sosa got killed in a car accident. I walked to the door and there he was, my Old Man with a lady. How are you Marcos? He said, quite emotionally, I might add. I couldn't believe it 14 years without a word. I almost didn't recognize his voice. Always handsome my Old Man, well dressed. Bah...nothing new, Italian silk suits, nice neck ties. He was a bit older, but still very straight. Tall, greyer hair, of course. He hugged me and, I swear, I almost cried Doctor, almost cried. "Do you remember Lolita?" he asked me. And then I recognized Lolita. My Mom's closest friend, my Mom that died only two months ago, poor thing. Obviously it wasn't easy, at the beginning to recognize her here in the darkness. But that's one of the secrets

of these older people's clubs Doctor, the darkness. Here you can't see wrinkles or double chins or crow's feet. The darkness hides everything, it's the best cosmetic. But, as soon as she spoke, I recognized her. She has the same high pitch voice, like a whistle. "How are you Marquitos? How are you?" She still calls me Marquitos, sure, since she knows me since I was this tall. But she was kind of quiet, controlling herself, as she was doing something wrong. Of course, if my Mom, her best friend, had died hardly 2 months before and she was

"But Dad, don't pay attention to them," I said.

"They didn't invite me to the party at the Golf Club, Marcos. So where was I going to go? Where could I go?"

That's why he came here Doctor, that's why he came here with Lolita, because for the last 2 months he didn't have anywhere to go. They wanted to go out, but they knew that, if they were seen anywhere together, they would be ripped apart, Doctor. Imagine that. If it was one of us, I'm sure we wouldn't give a rat's

**"I've always said that feminism is going to kill all the tango couples. That's how 'Eladia y Gustavo' ended, that couple used to dance for many years at 'Caracol'. Then, she started reading Marguerite Duras and went crazy. She wanted to lead. Until one night Gustavo broke a beer bottle over her head after dancing El Once."**

already hanging-out with my Dad.

"They gave me the 'silent treatment', Marcos," my father was telling me later, once we sat down at a table away from the dance floor, "They gave me the 'silent treatment'. My friends, all those ones you know: Polo, Dr. Iñiguez, Medrano, El Rubio, they don't talk to me, they ignore me."

"Why?" I asked.

"Because of Lolita," he said, pointing at his companion, "They don't approve of me hanging-out with her so quickly after your Mother's death. Ada says that it is scandalous. Well, Ada and all the other women. The women don't even want to hear of me, Marcos."

Lolita nodded in agreement, she looked like one of those bobblehead dolls on a taxi's dashboard.

ass about a situation like that. The next day, after breaking up with Gladys, I went to the milonga at the "Club Almafuerte" with La Negra Villa, as if nothing had happened. I used to date 2 twin sisters at the same time, the Zalewski twins Doctor, for 3 years and wouldn't even sweat it. But my Old Man, my Old Man involved with all those fucking snobs, used to that environment, for him it was a big deal. Rejected by his circle of friends. But, do you know what he told me? "I have so little time left, Marcos, so little time." And it's not that he's sick or anything like that Doctor, he is very strong, but he is 79 years old, 79 years old my Old Man. What do you know? "We have very little time left, very little time," Lolita added-in one of her very few interventions. And sure, what are they going to be waiting for?

To turn 100 to go steady? That is exactly what "El Valija" told them, one of my friends, the short one that's sitting at that table over there Doctor. He had joined us at our table, just like that, not asking for permission or anything like that. He came over with his drink and sat down. "What are you going to wait for, Adolfo?" he told my Old Man, grabbing his arm. "Go for it Adolfito, and let those fucking ass holes go fucking fuck themselves. Could I get you a drink darling?" he asked Lolita, who was still a little shocked by all the cursing.

My Old man never says a bad word. Then, Marino, Ariasca, Florencio and Mendocita approached us to talk to my Old Man, once they found out that he was my Old Man. They came over to meet him and they tried to comfort him once they knew about the situation. None of them mentioned my Mom, out of respect, they didn't even give him their condolences, not to bring up that topic. "Life goes on Adolfito!" said Oso, the cook, patting him on his shoulder; he came out of the kitchen especially to bring Lolita a grilled cheese sandwich. He almost broke my Dad's back in half, but he was so happy, very happy because nobody was putting any judgment on him, nobody was questioning them...Hi Guillermo, buddy! What a pleasure to see you here!...Let's see if you could teach me tonight that giro you did last night...Did you bring some? Did you bring it?...Later I'll get some from you in the bathroom....Rulo wants some too...A genius this Guillermo, Guillermo López, Lopecito Doctor. He's an artist. He's a painter. He makes portraits. A real wonder. The resemblance is incredible. He painted one of that one, of Maisonave, that is incredible. And it isn't only the resemblance, but the spirit and the expression that he captures. That's why he is a true artist, because he captures more than just the resemblance. Or not? Or not Doctor? But, for real, he is a hairdresser,

“But that’s one of the secrets of these older people’s clubs Doctor, the darkness. Here you can’t see wrinkles or double chins or crow’s feet. The darkness hides everything, it’s the best cosmetic...”

because he can’t make a living with the portraits. And now he’s got something totally indispensable, very necessary for all of us and that lets him make an extra buck.

I could tell you about it Doctor because I can’t keep any secrets from you. How could I keep secrets from the man who has just operated on my hemorrhoids? When you have already been involved in such an intimate area of my anatomy I could certainly brief you about me dying my hair Doctor. I dye my hair. But its hard, very hard to get good hair color. They either give your hair a reddish tone or they dye off when you sweat. The other night, Mendocita, poor thing, those brown drops were falling from his head through his forehead; he had used a bottle of this horrible Brazilian product that was good for nothing. But Lopecito is a hairdresser, they can’t cheat him! And it seems that he’s got some good crap this time, the good one.

When he was leaving Doctor, when my Old Man was leaving, at the door, because I walked him to the door, he hugged me again and, this time, he whisper in my ear: “I was wrong, Marquitos, you picked the right career. You were right.” Because everybody here, everyone that came over to support him, to comfort him, to help him, did it, and I don’t think I’m mistaken here Doctor, they did it because he’s my Old Man and because they care about me ...Do you understand? Or not? Or not Doctor? And tonight, maybe, he’ll come back again, my Old Man, with Lolita. And, maybe, I could even make him dance and all. Tango you could dance until any age. It’s not breakdancing. Or not? Or not Doctor? It’s not breakdancing.

\*From the book of short stories, El Rey de la Milonga by Roberto Fontanarrosa. Ediciones de la Flor, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Copyright 2005.

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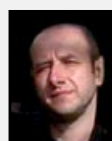
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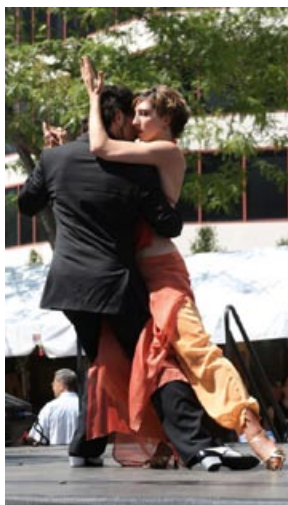


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# CHICAGO TANGO PROJECT

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11

SEPTEMBER  
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14

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## CLASSES WITH MISHA AND SARAH

### 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.

Time: Mondays 8:30 – 9:30 pm  
Cost: \$80 for a session of six classes.

### Intermediate Class

This class is a continuation of the Foundations Class. It focuses on technique, musicality and connection with your partner. Prior tango experience or completion of Foundation Class is required. Registration is recommended.

Time: Mondays 7:15 – 8:15 pm  
Cost: \$80 for a session of six classes.

For private lessons, performances or information on class registration call: 773.575.6906 or visit us online at [www.tangoproject.com](http://www.tangoproject.com)

### Advanced Class

This class provides students with the techniques for complex movements in tango applying technical skills from the Foundation and Intermediate classes. Registration is recommended.

Time: Thursdays 7:30 – 8:30 pm  
Cost: \$80 for a session of six classes.

### Chicago Tango Project Practica

The practica is where you can practice what you have learned in class and ask questions. This practica is open to tango dancers of any level and any style.

Time: Thursdays  
8:30 – 10:00 pm  
Cost: \$10 includes practica & refreshments. \$5 for students registered for classes.

Our classes are conveniently located at Dance Connection Studio in Chicago 3117 North Clybourn, just south of the intersection of Clybourn, Belmont and Western. Ample Parking.

Academy V of Music & Dance and  
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Telephone: 773-493-0666

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5320 North Lowell #208 Chicago,  
Illinois 60630, Telephone: 773-279-9414

# our 12th annual **BRANCO**

**CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH TANGO  
AT CHICAGO YACHT CLUB  
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FROM NOON TILL 4PM**

*A la Milonga!*

## **BsAs TANGO TOUR Nov. 24 - 30 2006**

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Dance Assistants if necessary in classes.*

*~7 of the City's Best Milongas: Entrance fees & Table reservations.*

*~Argentine Dance Assistants to accompany us in the milongas.*

*~Group Activities: Tango Dance Show, Tour of Historic Tango  
Neighborhoods, Parrilla Dinner Party, Tour of Teatro Colon,  
Tea at Traditional Café, Tango Music Supper Show,  
Tango Shoe/Music Outings.*

*~All Tour Transportation for Tour Activities*

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**Register before Oct. 20: U\$ 1350** (airfare separate)

Late registration fee: additional U\$100

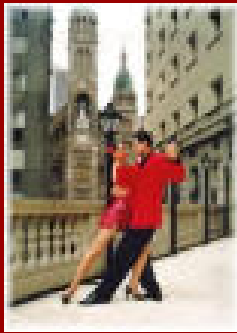
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# UNA EMOCION

Argentine tango



## LOS BESOS MILONGUITA

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## Chicago Tango

### CHICAGO MILONGAS

#### MONDAY

##### El Milongon

Mariposa. 1803 W. Byron, Chicago, Illinois  
Practica from 9-9:30pm (tango lesson prior)  
Milonga starts at 9:30pm, \$10; \$8 for students  
with ID. Hosts & DJ: Gerardo Perrez & Phoebe  
J. Grant

##### Burak's "Tango Laboratory"

Casa de Tango, 1104 N. Ashland  
Chicago, Illinois, Every Monday; \$10 covers  
the lesson and practi-longa. 8:30pm -  
10pm. Lesson prior to Practi-longa. "Tango  
Laboratory" supervised by Burak. Contact  
info: Burak 312-810-0252; burakozkosem@  
yahoo.com www.tangoshusheta.com

#### TUESDAY

##### Tango Tuesday at Rumba

Rumba 351 W. Hubbard St. Chicago. \$10;  
9:15pm. Contact: Jairo Lopez 312-222-1226,  
Daniel Noce (773-510-5726) Ramona Nita

(773-220-8918)

##### Tango under the Stars

Takes place per demand and weather condition.  
Giddings Plaza in Lincoln Square  
4729 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Illinois  
8:00 PM - 10:45 PM; \$5 donation appreciated  
Contact: Beth Braun 847-846-5611  
Email: Bethdancell@aol.com

##### Tango Fantasia Miguel

Images Restaurant. 3908 N. Lincoln Ave.,  
Chicago, Illinois. 9:00pm-12:00am; \$10  
Contact: Miguel Alarcon 773-719-6907  
Email: DuCharmeP@pcaobus.org

##### Milonga Entre Amigos

Ritz Tango Café, 933 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago,  
Illinois. 9:00 PM - 12:00 + AM; \$10; free class  
before milonga. Contact: Jorge Nidas 312-  
437-2122; Email: Jorge@2ltango.com; Web:  
www.2ltango.com or www. RitzTangoCafe.com

##### Tango Chicago Tuesday Night Milonga

Tango Chicago Dance Centre, 1043 W.

Madison, Chicago, Illinois. 8:30 pm - 12  
midnight; \$12. Host & DJ: Al Gates. Further  
info: 312.850.1078. www.tangochicago.com

##### American Tango Institute's Tuesday Night Milonga

Palwaukee Inn (formerly Kabak), 1090 South.  
Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling, Illinois. 9:00 pm - 12  
midnight; \$10. Lesson prior to milonga included  
in cover. Host & DJ: Netza Roldan. Further  
information: 312.287.8406 MyTangonet@yahoo.  
com www.americantangoinstitute.com

#### WEDNESDAY

##### Somer & Agape's Tango Motivo

Barba Gianni Grecian Taverna. 4761 N. Lincoln  
Ave., Chicago IL. 9:30 pm - 12:30 am; \$10.  
Lesson prior to milonga. Hosts & DJs: Somer  
Surgit & Agape Pappas. Further information:  
Somer 773-807-5704. somersurgit@yahoo.  
com; Agape 773-936-1619 findagapepappas@  
yahoo.com

# Chicago Tango

## **Milonga con Ritmos**

Images restaurant, 3908 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois. 8pm - 12:00am; \$10 cover  
(with lesson, \$15) Contact: Daniel Noce(773-  
510-5710), Ramona Nita(773-220-8918)

## **THURSDAY**

### **Milonga Entre Amigos**

Ritz Tango Café, 933 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago,  
Illinois. 9:00 PM - 12:00 + AM; \$10; free class  
before milonga. Host & DJ: Jorge Nieras.  
Contact: Jorge Nieras 312-437-2122; Email:  
Jorge@21tango.com; Web: www.21tango.com  
or www.RitzTangoCafe.com, Nina Tatarowicz  
312-730-8873; ninatanguera@gmail.com

### **Milonga Loca**

Café Duvall, 2257 West 23rd Place  
Chicago, IL Illinois. 8:30 PM - 12:00 AM;  
\$15 includes lesson prior to milonga.  
Contact: William Duvall 773-376-8760;  
Email: williamduvall@sbcglobal.net or Nina  
Tatarowicz 312-730-8873. ninatanguera@  
gmail.com; www.tangoelixir.com

## **FRIDAY**

### **Milonga Vida**

1st and 3rd Friday (and 4th, when there are  
5 in a month) at Mariposa. 1803 W. Byron,  
Suite 214, Chicago, Illinois. 9:00 pm - 2:00 am;  
\$15 (\$12 for students). DJ: George Drivakos  
Hosts: Beth Braun & Mari Liz Foley. Further  
info: 847-846-5611, Bethdance11@aol.com  
www.mariposachicago.com

### **Los Besos Milonguita**

2nd Friday of the month at Mariposa  
1803 W. Byron, Suite 214, Chicago, Illinois  
9:00 pm - 2:00 am; \$15 (\$12 for students)  
Hosts: Ellen & Oleg Mashkovich; DJ: Ellen  
Further information: 847-409-4513  
una\_emocion@yahoo.com or Beth Braun  
847-846-5611, Bethdance11@aol.com. www.  
mariposachicago.com

### **Nuestro Tango**

Last Friday of every month. Latvian  
Community Center. 4146 N. Elston Ave.,  
Chicago, Illinois. 9:00 pm - 1:00 am; \$12  
"Free" class prior to milonga (8:00-8:15 pm)  
with prior reservation to one of the hostesses:  
Valentina Cisar, Carmen Pinto and Phoebe J.  
Grant. DJ: Tony Cosentino or Fred Romero.  
Further information: Valentina 262.942.4587;  
Carmen 773.279.9414; Phoebe 312.342.4335  
773.260.2595. WindyCityTango@yahoo.com

## **Milonga la Moderna**

325 N. Hoyne C404, Chicago, Illinois  
Every Friday - \$15 (\$10 w/student ID). 9:30pm  
- 2:00am. Tango lesson prior to milonga. Host  
& dancing DJ - "El Turco". Contact: Burak  
312-810-0252; burakozkosem@yahoo.com;  
www.tangoshusheta

## **SATURDAY**

### **Recuerdo Tango Club**

6137 N. Northwest Highway, Chicago, Illinois  
9:00 pm - 3:00+ am; \$15. Hosts: Carlos &  
Melisa Favre; DJ: Carlos Favre. Further info:  
773-617-6311, tango@recuerdoclub.com.  
www.recuerdoclub.com

### **De Corazón a Corazón**

American Tango Institute  
325 N. Hoyne C-404, Chicago, Illinois  
9:00 pm - 2:00 am; \$15. Host & DJ: Netza  
Roldan. Further information: Netza Roldan  
312-287-8406, MyTangoNet@Yahoo.com  
www.americantangoinsitute.com

### **Chicago's All-Nighter**

Every 2nd Saturday. American Tango Institute  
325 N. Hoyne C-404, Chicago, Illinois. \$10;  
12:30am - 6am. Contact: Burak Ozkosem; tel.  
312-810-0252. e-mail: burakozkosem@yaho.  
com, web: tangoshusheta.com

## **SUNDAY**

### **Tango Matinee at the Ritz**

Ritz Tango Café, 933 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago,  
Illinois; 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM; \$10; class before  
milonga. Contact: Jorge Nieras 312-437-  
2122; Email: Jorge@21tango.com; Web:  
www.21tango.com or www.RitzTangoCafe.com

### **Somer & Agape's Tango Motivo**

Barba Yianni Grecian Taverna. 4761 N. Lincoln  
Ave., Chicago, IL. 9:30 pm - 12:30 am; \$10  
Lesson prior to milonga. Hosts & DJs: Somer  
Surgit & Agape Pappas. For information: Somer  
773-807-5704. somersurgit@yahoo.com; Agape  
773-936-1619 findagapepappas@yahoo.com

## **CHICAGO PRACTICAS**

## **TUESDAY**

### **Sweet Elixir Practica**

American Tango Institute  
325 N. Hoyne, C-404, Chicago, Illinois  
8:30pm to 10:30pm; \$10 (\$5 for students with  
ID). Free class prior to milonga  
Host & DJ: Nina Tatarowicz. Further info:  
312.730.8873, ninatanguera@gmail.com  
www.tangoelixir.com

## **THURSDAY**

### **Chicago Tango Project Practica**

Dance Connection Studio. 3117 N. Clybourn,  
Chicago. 8:30 - 10:30 pm; \$10, students  
registered for any tango classes in Chicago  
\$5. Lesson prior to practica. Refreshments  
provided. Contact: Sarah & Misha:  
773.575.6906, www.tangoproject.com

## **FRIDAY**

### **Tango Chicago Dance Centre**

1043 W. Madison, Chicago, Illinois. 7:30-11:00  
pm, open to all levels; \$12. Contact: Al Gates  
312.850.1078. www.tangochicago.com

## **SATURDAY**

### **Casa de Tango**

1104 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Illinois  
11:00 am- 1:30 pm, open to all levels; \$15  
(discounts for Casa de Tango students with  
monthly packages). Contact: Burak Ozkosem  
312-810-0252. burakozkosem@hotmail.com  
www.tangoshusheta.com; or, Nina Tatarowicz  
312-730-8873. ninatanguera@gmail.com  
www.tangoelixir.com

## **SUNDAY**

### **Practica with Instructions at Mercury Cafe**

Mercury Cafe. 1505 W. Chicago, Chicago,  
Illinois. 6:30pm-8:30pm; \$10; Contact: Daniel  
Noce (773-510-5726) Ramona Nita (773-220-  
8918)

### **Tango Sentido Productions Practica**

Drucker Center; 1535 N. Dayton St.  
Chicago, Illinois; 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM; \$10.  
Contact: Dany Novakovich 312-296-1955, 773-  
550-2646; http://TangoinChicago.com

## **ON-GOING CLASSES**

Check the Chicago Teachers link on our  
website [www.tangonoticias.com/teachers](http://www.tangonoticias.com/teachers)



# Central Tango

## FAYETTEVILLE, AR

Contacts: Elayne's Dance - The Art of Social Dancing, [www.elaynesdance.com](http://www.elaynesdance.com), [info@elaynesdance.com](mailto:info@elaynesdance.com), 479.521.6683

## DENVER AND BOULDER, CO

Contacts: Gabriela Carone, [carone@buffmail.colorado.edu](mailto:carone@buffmail.colorado.edu), 303-546-5520, [www.ragtime.org/dance/](http://www.ragtime.org/dance/); [www.danceoftheheart.com](http://www.danceoftheheart.com); Boulder - Deb Sclar: [deb@danceoftheheart.com](mailto:deb@danceoftheheart.com); Denver - [www.mercurycafe.com](http://www.mercurycafe.com); Chas Gale at (303) 320-4020, [hotchango@msn.com](mailto:hotchango@msn.com), [www.thetangohouse.com](http://www.thetangohouse.com); Colorado Springs [www.tangospings.com](http://www.tangospings.com)

## ATLANTA, GA

Contacts: [www.atlantatangofestival.com](http://www.atlantatangofestival.com)

## CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, IL

Contacts: [www.centragtango.com](http://www.centragtango.com); Joe Grohens: [joe@joegrohens.com](mailto:joe@joegrohens.com); [www.tango.joegrohens.com](http://www.tango.joegrohens.com) 217.378.4751, Ron Weigel: [TangoSociety@aol.com](mailto:TangoSociety@aol.com); 217.328.1311  
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## FAIRFIELD / IOWA CITY, IA

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## INDIANAPOLIS, IN

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## TWIN CITIES, MN

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## MINNEAPOLIS, MN

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## KANSAS CITY, MO

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## MT. VERNON, MO

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## ST. LOUIS, MO

Contacts: St. Louis Argentine Tango Yahoo Group: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/St\\_Louis\\_Tango/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/St_Louis_Tango/) and [http://cec.wustl.edu/~hs3/Tango\\_St\\_Louis](http://cec.wustl.edu/~hs3/Tango_St_Louis): <http://www.tangostlouis.com/> Roxanne McKenny: [www.tangoteacher.com](http://www.tangoteacher.com), 314.324.0887.  
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## ALBUQUERQUE/SANTA FE, NM

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## PITTSBURG, PA

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Please send any information regarding contact information for Argentine tango events in the Midwest to [central\\_tango@yahoo.com](mailto:central_tango@yahoo.com) and we will be sure to update each community's contact listing. Also, let us know if you'd like your community featured in an upcoming issue.