

## **Tango Musicality workshop (For Dancers)**

**by Paulina Fain and Exequiel Mantega**



All over this workshop, designed specially for tango dancers that want to manage the necessary tools for appreciating and understanding tango music, we work on developing listening first and then corporal skills throughout different tango music rhythms, different orchestras' styles, and different ways to take to the dancing the "commas" on the musical speech, among other aspects.

We believe Audio education is the way to approach dancing to the current evolution of tango music.

**How to find the musical keys for breathing with the music?  
How to feel in advance the change of rhythm and pauses?  
How to understand the roots and different styles of tango?  
How to play your own game with the different tango rhythms?**

Starting with the listening, feeling it, then passing it to the body and communicating it to our partner.

### **ACTIVITIES**

- We listen and discover by listening. We exchange experiences with our partner.
- We play body games with tango steps, and also with free movements.
- We learn how to discover the different orchestras' styles, dancing with the "musical commas" of each one.

### **Some comments from the students...**



*The best of the workshop was the focus on listening to the music because most dancing clases are just about learning steps and less about rhythm and listening to the music. You told us things I never had thought about!!*  
Katrin S. (Dresden)

*Perfect! Just enough to start listening all over again with new interest and making things easier to recognise and clear to understand. The activities were great! It was great to feel the new discoveries in music turned into movement and great energy!* Solko S. (Rotterdam)

*It was a good mixture of moving and listening. Thanks you very much for this good time. It was quite inspiring and I enjoyed a lot.* Katrin B. (Dresden)

*It was motivating, because of the little "challenging" games. Great atmosphere!* Susanne S. (Dresden)

**Paulina Fain** graduated in Tango Flute career from Avellaneda Popular Music School (1996); there she was member of the Tango Orchestra directed by Rodolfo Mederos for four years **as first flute**.

In 1994 she formed "**Tangata Rea**" Quintet, later, in 1999 she formed the Tango Duet "**Las Pibas**", with those groups she toured Europe 4 times: Germany, Holland, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Sweden, Norway and Poland. And twice USA: Los Angeles, San Francisco and Denver, Colorado.

With Tangata Rea recorded two CD's: "Alla Baila" and "Tango Vivo!" edited by Winter & Winter, Germany. (1998) and with "Las Pibas" as an independent production.



In June 2001 and in February 2004 she toured Europe with the Saxophone Tango Quartet "**D´Coté**", playing Tenor Saxophone and Flute.

In 2003 she played at the Sheraton "Walker Hill" Hotel in **Seoul (South Korea)** under a three-month contract.

In 2003 she formed "**Tango Desatado**" Quartet with her own arrangements and compositions. With this Quartet she recorded a Cd called "Tango Desatado" and toured Europe twice. (2004 / 2005)

Since 2005 she took the place of **flute soloist** at the Orchestra of the musical comedy "**The producers**" in Bs.As.

She devised two different workshops on Tango Musicality, called "**The Tango Language**" one for dancers and the other for foreign musicians, working on the different rhythms and styles of tango music. She is currently writing the book: "**The flute in the Tango**"

References about her flute career appear in:

"**El Libro de Oro del Tango**" (Horacio Ferrer) / The Golden Tango Book

## Exequiel Mantega



**Exequiel Mantega** graduated from the Escuela de Autores y Compositores "Sebastián Piana" (SADAIC) in 2004

He started his professional career at the "Café Tortoni" when he was 10 years old.

During 2004 and 2005 he played with the **Sandra Luna**'s group (nominated to the Grammy's awards 2005) touring various European and USA cities: Charleston, Washington D.C., L.A., California, New York, Boston and Montreal (Canada) and Europe: Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Belgium, Latvia and Estonia.

Since 2003 he is part of the band of **José Angel Trelles** (who was the singer chosen by **Astor Piazzolla** to sing "Maria de Bs.As.")

He is currently playing at the "**Mielgo-Mantega-Condómi**" trio, performing an Argentinean Folk repertory, including also some of his own compositions. This group won the "Gardel" award as a revelation. In November 2005 it was edited their second Cd "A otro lugar"

He formed on 2004 the "**Quasimodo**" trio, with Daniel Ruggiero and Nicolás Rainone, with whom he recorded a CD called "Quasimodo" with excellent press comments.

Since 2005 he realized the conduction assistance and piano at the Orchestra of the musical comedy "**The producers**" in Bs.As.