

Pan American Symphony Orchestra

— PRESENTS —

the
SOUL
of
TANGO



Pan American
Symphony Orchestra

SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 5

7:30 PM

THE BARNs AT WOLF TRAP

DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM

1635 Trap Road Vienna, VA 22182

Pan American Symphony Orchestra

The Pan American Symphony Orchestra (PASO) was founded over two decades ago by Argentine conductor and musician, Sergio Alessandro Buslje, with the objective of bringing Latin American symphonic music to Washington, DC concert halls. Over the years, PASO has performed symphonic music originating from Latin America with an on-going concert series that showcases gifted Latin American musicians and soloists. With critical acclaim from the press and a loyal following from the public, PASO remains on the cutting edge of symphonic performances with newly commissioned works, such as *Danzón no. 7*, by contemporary Mexican composer, Arturo Marquez, who dedicated this beautiful piece to Maestro Buslje. The orchestra has performed music by Latin American women composers, and was the first orchestra in the Washington, DC area to perform the unusual, but beautifully melodic, tango-opera, *Maria de Buenos Aires*, by Astor Piazzolla. PASO has featured rarely performed works by composers from Argentina, Honduras, Mexico, Ecuador, Cuba, and Brazil. PASO is perhaps best-known for its tango performances. The only tango orchestra in the United States, PASO draws audiences from across the U.S. for its annual DC Tango Festival with its variety of tango-themed events and its signature finale tango show at the Kennedy Center.



Sergio Alessandro Buslje, Artistic Director and Conductor

A native of Rosario, Argentina, Maestro Bušlje studied piano, conducting, violoncello, and tuba at the Universidad Nacional de La Plata in Buenos Aires. Before founding PASO in 1991, he was Assistant Conductor of the American University Symphony Orchestra and conductor of the American University Camerata in Washington, DC. Maestro Bušlje has been a frequently featured guest conductor in Argentina. In 2001, he was a guest conductor of the Sochi Symphony Orchestra in Russia. From 1999-2002 he was the principal guest conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra of Honduras. He has been a frequent guest conductor of the Guayaquil Symphony Orchestra in Ecuador. In 2009, he participated in a South American music festival in Lima, Peru and received critical acclaim for his orchestra's musicianship and unique programming. In 2011, he returned to Lima to play a command performance for President Alan Garcia. Maestro Buslje directed PASO for the 2013 Latino Presidential Inaugural Celebration at the Kennedy Center. In 2018, he was invited to perform with PASO at the International Festival of Tango in Medellin, Colombia. He has been the creative force behind the Pan American Symphony Orchestra. With his "sure command of the music's expressive scope" and his sensitive balancing of orchestral commentary, he has "quietly created a valuable Washington institution" (Washington Post).



Javier Sanchez

Born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Javier Sánchez has been playing the bandoneón for almost 30 years. Between 2005 and 2016, he was a member of the Latin Grammy Award nominee, Rodolfo Mederos' Orquesta Típica. Sánchez has toured the globe with well-known tango orchestras and tango companies, such as Tango Pasión, Tanguera and Tango Emotion (returning to Japan for 5 consecutive years). Sánchez has played in the most popular

tango shows in Buenos Aires, including El Viejo Almacén, Esquina de Carlos Gardel, Café Tortoni, Piazzolla Tango Theater, among others. In 2016, he relocated to the New York metropolitan area and collaborated with a variety of tango groups, the most notable being Aces of Rhythm directed by Pablo Aslan (debuted at Lincoln Center in July of 2017), the Pan American Symphony Orchestra (Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.), and the Astoria Tango Orchestra led by Daniel Binelli (11-piece orquesta típica). In August 2016, he won First Prize at the prestigious Che Bandoneon International Competition judged by bandoneón legend, Victor Lavallén. In 2018, Mr. Sanchez became Musical Director of Che Tangazo orchestra based in Montreal, Canada, making its debut in July at Tango BA Festival and World Cup. In the past five years, Mr. Sanchez has also performed with many renowned tango musicians such as Emilio Solla, Oscar Feldman, Héctor del Curto, and Sverre Indris Joner.



Heyni Solera

Praised for her “soulful bandoneón” (Washington Classical Review), Heyni Solera is a sought-after bandoneon player based in Washington, D.C. Solera has enjoyed a career in the U.S. and abroad playing with performances in Argentina, Canada, and Australia collaborating with prominent musicians in the tango music scene. She regularly performs with the *Da Capo Tango Orchestra*, which focuses on playing danceable tangos and is part of the cello-bandoneon duo, *Arco & Aire*, with

cellist Maxfield Wollam-Fisher. She is also the bandoneon player with *Solidaridad Tango Orquesta* which focuses on female tango musicians in a typically male dominated genre. As a scholar, she received her Master of Music degree in Ethnomusicology at the University of Maryland, College Park. She has developed the lectures *A GPS for Tango Listening: What Makes Tango a Tango?* and *Today's Woman in Tango: Carving Out Spaces*. Past projects include playing in the orchestra of the highly praised IN Series production of *Le Cabaret de Carmen* at Source Theatre in Washington, D.C. and at Baltimore Theatre Project in Baltimore, Maryland.

PAN AMERICAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SERGIO ALESSANDRO BUSLJE, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

THE SOUL OF TANGO

The Barns at Wolf trap

Sunday, November 5, 2023

Raúl Garelo
(1936 – 2016)

Che, Buenos Aires

Julian Plaza
(1928-2005)

Danzarín
Carolina & Andres

Rosendo Mendizábal
(1838 – 1913)

El Entrerriano
Adriana & Orlando

Juan de Dios Filiberto
(1885-1964)

Quejas de bandoneón
Guillermina & Mariano

Eduardo Pereyra
(1900 – 1973)

El Africano

Eduardo Rovira
(1925-1980)

A Evaristo Carriego
Carolina & Andres

Julián Plaza

Payadora
Guillermina & Mariano

Oswaldo Berlingeri
(1928 – 2015)

A mis viejos
Adriana & Orlando

Gerardo Matos Rodriguez
(1897 – 1948)

La Cumparsita

INTERMISSION



Marco Blandon Primavera Smog
(19
Julián Plaza Nocturna
Adriana & Orlando

Raúl Garello Verdenuevo
Guillermina & Mariano

José Dames La Luciernaga
(1907-1994) Carolina & Andres

Astor Piazzolla Adios Nonino
(1929-1992)

Mariano Mores Tanguera
(1918-2016) *Guillermina & Mariano*

Astor Piazzolla Oblivion
Adriana & Orlando

Astor Piazzolla Libertango
Carolina & Andres

Gerardo Matos Rodriguez La Cumparsita



Guillermina Quiroga and Mariano Logiudice

Guillermina Quiroga, originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, is a tango dancer and choreographer. She studied classical dance and later joined the renowned ballet of the Teatro Argentino de La Plata. Several years later she settled in Buenos Aires where she studied tango dancing. She became known worldwide from her time with the show *Compañía TangoX2* and, later, *Tango Argentino*, which had great success on Broadway in the 1980's. She then joined the cast of *Forever Tango* directed by Luis Bravo and created the dramatic-choreographic-musical multimedia show *Tango, historias breves* in 2003 which took her

to the United States for two tours. She danced at Carnegie Hall in a homage to Astor Piazzolla with the pianist, Pablo Ziegler; at the opening ceremony of the 1994 World Cup; with Jon Secada at Soldiers Field in Chicago; and with Julio Iglesias in 1997 during his three-year world tour, promoting his album, *Tango*. She worked with Argentine pianist, Mariano Mores for 20 years. She has appeared in several motion pictures, such as Luis Puenzo's *La peste* (1991), in which she is showcased in a dancing tango scene; Robert Duvall's *Assassination Tango* (2002); and in *Valentina's Tango* (2007) directed by Rogelio Lobato, in which she played Valentina. She has been a judge for the World Tango Competition in Moscow, Tokyo, San Francisco, and Buenos Aires. She danced in the rock-opera *Evita* at New York City Center in 2019, and most recently appeared in *Tango Argentino* at the World Tango championships in Buenos Aires.

Mariano Logiudice is a multi-talented dancer, having been a world champion in martial arts, a psychologist, and physical education teacher. He has performed in tango festivals in Naples, Italy, France, Tunisia, China, Hong Kong, San Francisco (Argentine Tango USA) and in Buenos Aires (World Tango Championship). In 2018, he performed with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra at the Eastman Kodak Theater and at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In 2019, he danced in Andrew Lloyd Weber's production of *Evita*, at New York City Center. Most recently, he danced *Tango Argentino* at the closing ceremony of the World Tango championship in Buenos Aires.



Soul of TANGO



Adriana Salgado and Orlando Reyes

Salgado and Reyes have been professional dancers and teachers of Argentine Tango for over twenty-five years. With backgrounds in classical ballet, they studied tango in Buenos Aires with some of the best tango masters. Their international performances include the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Aruba, Argentina, Canada, Indonesia, and their native Colombia. Since 2007, they have been based in New York City. In 2010 they received a nomination in the Latin ACE Award for Best Choreography for their performance in *Tango por Ellos* in New York City. In 2018, they placed second in the competition *Pelando Variacion* held in New York City. In 2012 and 2013, Adriana and Orlando were guest instructors and performers at *Dancing at Sea*, a dance cruise company for Holland America, Norwegian and Royal Princess.

From 2012 to 2014, they performed at Tango Malbec House in New York City. They are recognized for their smooth, romantic, and elegant style. Their teaching focuses on the subtleties of the connection, posture and overall technique fundamentals. Their passion and love for, and their constant dedication to Argentine tango has won them awards in their native Colombia and more recently in the United States where they have become the Argentina Tango-USA Official 2019 Stage Tango champions and the 2021 Tango de Pista/Salon champions. They have been dancing for the Pan American Symphony Orchestra since 2016.



Sean Mahon, Piano

Sean Mahon is a seasoned pianist, composer, and music teacher based in Northern Virginia. He has decades of experience playing several styles, including classical, jazz, tango, rock, and contemporary music. He received his Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Maryland, where he studied with Dr. Cleveland Page, Santiago Rodriguez, and Andre Watts. During his time there, he won the Homer Ulrich Piano Competition, was a finalist for the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition, and the recipient of the Music Director's Scholarship Award.

He performs around the country both as a solo and ensemble artist, including the White House for Michelle Obama, musical opener for Madison Square Garden events, and various orchestral and jazz ensembles at the Kennedy Center. He has performed with the Pan American Symphony Orchestra for 5 years.



About Tango

What is it about tango that it has held its popularity across the globe for more than a century? Jorge Luis Borges, the famous Argentine writer, described tango as "feeling that is danced". It is this feeling that transcends national boundaries and different languages to make tango the world's most popular dance. Before tango was considered a "classy" dance with its music played by the best symphonic orchestras in the world, tango music was heard only in the immigrant neighborhoods of Argentina and Uruguay, in bars as well as brothels. At that time, in the 1880's, it was not romantic music. The tone was often dark and bitter with lyrics of political dissent. Where tango originated is often disputed but we do know that in its earliest forms in the 1890's, it was a derivation of the Cuban dance, the *Habanera*. However, it was the people of the Rio de la Plata, with their distinctive speech cadences, that gave the music its pronounced patterns and rhythms -- a double beat, with a syncopated accent on the second. The *bandoneón* was introduced to the tango in the early 1900's, by the European immigrants from Italy and Spain. It made the music, up until then played with piano, harp, flute, and guitars, more portable, as the musicians performed primarily in *bordellos*.

By the end of World War I, the tango was the hit of Europe's finest salons. Conservative upper class European women wore padded bumpers around their waists to prevent dangerously close contact with male partners. Tango singer Carlos Gardel popularized the tango worldwide, having appeared in American movies before he died in 1935, and today he maintains a cult stature in Argentina equal to that of Elvis Presley in the United States. Tango's widespread and longstanding popularity has led to its recognition by UNESCO as a significant "cultural heritage of humanity" to be treasured and protected. Tango has its devotees in every part of the world, including a loyal, committed following in the United States. Some major U.S. cities host annual tango competitions and new tango groups are always being formed.

Washington, DC also has an active tango community, and the Pan American Symphony Orchestra has been at the forefront of that community, promoting tango music since 1994. PASO has taken its tango shows not only to the metropolitan DC area, Baltimore, and Easton, Maryland, but also to Honduras, Ecuador, Lebanon, Colombia, and Peru. Since 2006, PASO has produced an annual tango festival in Washington, DC, providing a month of tango-related events, such as dance lessons, tango-themed films, dance parties, and tango ensemble recitals, -- all culminating in a grand tango show at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts with 25 musicians, an international cast of dancers, and special guest artists.



Pan American Symphony Orchestra

SERGIO ALESSANDRO BUSLJE
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CONDUCTOR

Violin

Valerie Heller, *concertmaster*

Christina Wan

Victoria Vasilyevna

Caroline Esko

Cinzia Rizzo

Tetyana Royzman

Javier Godinez

Alyssa Centanni

Alexandra Fisher

Susan Worrel

Teresa Eder

Nicolas Ahumada

Wayman McCoy

Viola

Kristen Gomez

Susan Russo

Gene

Cello

Michael Hermann

Emily Doveala

Tim Thulson

Eddie Adams

Bass

Pete Ostle

Bandoneon

Javier Sanchez

Heyni Solera

Piano

Sean Mahon

Librarian

Monica Galindo

Stage Manager

Sebastian Buslje

Personnel Manager

Warren Piece

