

♪♪ T\*A\*N\*G\*O ♪♪

## ⌘ *the history of tango*

the tango, both the music and the dance, developed around 1900 in the area of la boca, the then main harbor of buenos aires in argentina - originally in pubs and brothels ....

eventually it became accepted in the wider society of buenos aires, and the tango is a crucial element of the national image of argentina.

la boca is nowadays still a vivid center of tango, which is played about everywhere. its historic section is called caminito.







## ⌘ *the tango music*

the crucial instrument of tango music is the bandoneon, developed in germany by heinrich band in 1848, technologically based on the instrument concertina.



the bandoneon may look somehow similar to the accordion, but the technology inside is quite different. it creates a unique very intense sound and can be played for fast, almost sharp music. the bandoneon is very common in argentina, but not much in use elsewhere



over time the tango music grow to be more complex and finally it became part of classical music as well.



this was very much the influence of astor piazzola, the most important composer of south america. he was also an outstandig bandoneon player. from 1950 onwards, he transformed the traditional tango into a new style termed "nuevo tango", incorporating elements from jazz and classical music.



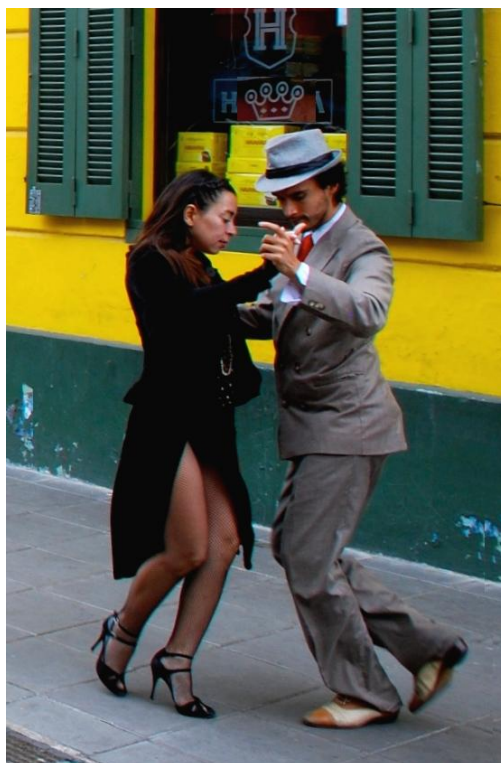


## ⌘ *the tango dance*

tango dancing is very tightly connected to the music, and it requires considerable skills, both physically and cognitively.



it's usually danced by highly trained couples, steered by live music, includes stunning moves, especially by the woman, and is finely linked to what the musicians are playing.



how tango is danced often looks quite dramatic! such intense appearances are presented in art as well.



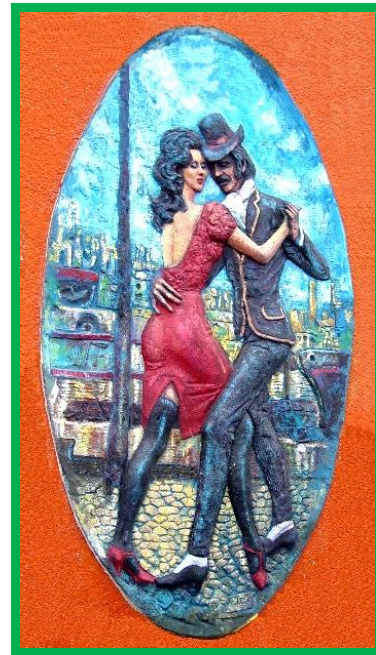
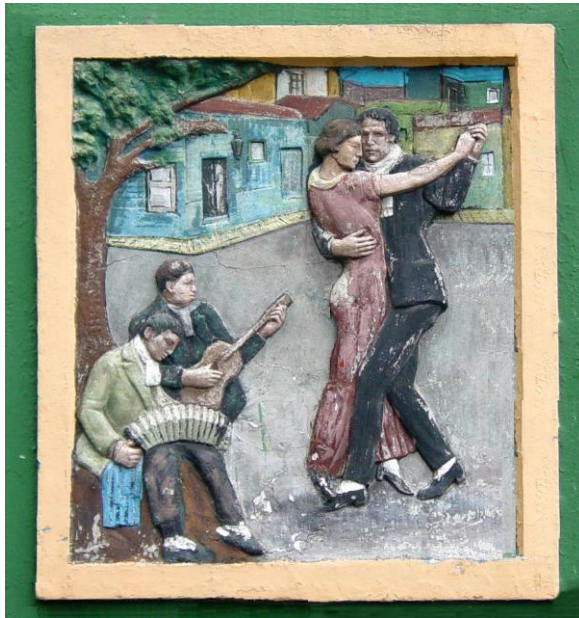
by the way, both women and men are always very well dressed. the women always wear high-heels shoes and dresses which allow the necessary movements, the man have a tie and often a hat.





## ⌘ tango at "my music events for friends" 2014

well, i have visited buenos aires several times, and i was fortunate enough to both hear and see tango music and tango dance, something which was clearly my most essential interest - more important than the congresses i attended there ... so i visited the suburb la boca, still the 'home' of tango ...



i enjoyed the historic murals, and of course walked around to explore tango 'life', that is, the music and the dance described above. and yes i was very very impressed ...

and thus i decided (crazily?) that "my music events for friends" in 2014 - was to be a tango music night.



here are my wonderful three musicians of this event, phil and amir and ruth - she was the 'principal' of the event, who has composed both tango music and pertinent lyrics.



furthermore, i gave a careful presentation about the history and the features of tango, including photos.





and then came a surprise for all i had invited to this music night - lisa and victor presented tango dances!



all my friends - especially those who had never been in argentina, and didn't know much about tango - reported that they enjoyed this event, presenting music as well as dancing, immensely ... the venue for "mmeff-2014" was again the restaurant st. ann's.



this little essay about tango shall end with a painting that displays a view of historic la boca in argentina!

