

www.CTTangoFest.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tango Sueño, the Milford Fine Arts Council and the City of
Milford Present
Connecticut Tango Festival
www.CTTangoFest.org

Saturday September 5, through Sunday September 13

A Festival Celebrating Argentine Tango with Masters from Argentina
Oscar Mandagaran and Georgina Vargas

as well as Connecticut's own tango instructors
Dale Ellison and Gem Duras from Tango Sueño

And
Judith Phelps

Program Summary:

September 5:

- Bootcamp for Beginners with Gem and Dale (Milford)
- CATS Milonga with Judith Phelps (Milford)

September 6:

- Themed Workshops with Gem and Dale (Norwalk)
- Judy's Practica (Milford)
- Milonga Alternativa, with a Performance by Gem and Dale (Milford)

September 12:

- Master Workshops with Oscar and Georgina (Milford)
- "Sunderland" Milonga in Milford, with a Performance by Oscar and Georgina (Milford)

September 13:

- Master Workshops with Oscar and Georgina (Norwalk)
- Judy's Practica (Milford)

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Tango Sueño presents the second Connecticut Tango Festival with Argentine Tango Masters Oscar Mandagaran and Georgina Vargas direct from Buenos Aires. Their activities will include master tango workshops on September 12, 13 as well as a performance at the Sunderland Milonga/Tango Dance party in Milford.

The other activities will include a day of intensive tango instruction event (Tango Bootcamp) by Dale and Gem from Connecticut's own Tango Sueño as well as a creative workshop day and dance parties at the Milford's Center for the Arts and The Tri Beach Neighborhood Center in Woodmont/Milford. The other locations include the Ballroom Experience Dance Studio in Milford and the Dance Dimensions Studio in Norwalk. For detailed schedule please visit www.CTTangoFest.org.

Oscar Mandagaran began his career as a professional dancer of tango and folk dance in 1988. He was a member of the tango company "Señor Tango" in Buenos Aires for 2 years. He performed as a member of the cast in the Oscar nominated film "Tango" under the direction of Carlos Saura. Between 1998 and 2003 he starred in the Broadway hit show Forever Tango and toured with the company all over the world.

A multi-talented professional tango dancer and tango singer, Georgina Vargas starred in Tango x 2 in Italy as well as Con Sabor a Tango, a dance company and show that she co-founded in Argentina. Georgina has recently released her first CD "Por Aquellos Tangos" to critical acclaim. Together they are one of the most sought after Argentine couples from Buenos Aires, teaching and performing in more than 20 Countries. Known for their elegance and superb technique they embody the passion and intensity of tango in their dancing and teaching.



Oscar Mandagaran/Georgina Vargas



Dale and Gem



Judith Phelps

Originally San Francisco residents, Gem Duras and Dale Ellison received their tango training from the stars of the famous show "Forever Tango" most notably Carlos Gavito. Gem had the opportunity to study with legendary Gavito extensively for several years, incorporating his technique, elegance and musicality into his own dancing and teaching. Initially an expert salsa dancer and instructor, Dale was drawn to tango for its sensuality and passion, later winning the first prize in the first San Francisco Tango Competition in 1998.

They have traveled to Buenos Aires numerous times to perfect their technique by studying with Gustavo Naveira, Juan Carlos Copes, Osvaldo Zotto, Lorena Ermocida, Chicho Frumboli, Geraldine Rojas, Susana Miller, Graciela Gonzales and Marcela Duran, among others.

One of the most established tango instructors in Connecticut, Judy Phelps trained and performed as a modern dancer before starting to study and teach Argentine Tango fifteen years ago. She has studied with a number of respected teachers in New York and Buenos Aires including Daniel Trenner, Rebecca Shulman, Brigitta Winkler, Erik Jeurissen, Carlos Gavito and Luciana Valle. She currently teaches tango classes at Yale University, Ballroom Experience Studio and private classes. Her emphasis is on clear communication between the leader and the follower to create elegant and smooth dancing on the dance floor that is both passionate and fun.

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