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For immediate release:

Tango Buenos Aires to Return to Mondavi Center

October 15, 2007; Davis, California—**Tango Buenos Aires**, one of Argentina’s greatest cultural exports and a company known around the world as one of the best and most authentic tango companies on the international touring circuit, will return to the **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts** on November 7. Tracing the tango’s evolution from the brothel to the cabaret to the ballroom, the production features 10 dancers, a five-piece band, and plenty of skilled and sensual tango dancing.

The event will begin at 8 pm on November 7 in the Mondavi Center’s Jackson Hall on the **UC Davis** campus. Tickets are available from the Mondavi Center Ticket Office at 530.754.ARTS (2787) or online at MondaviArts.org. The event is presented as part of the Mondavi Center’s **Global Beat Series**.

Tango Buenos Aires, which delighted a sold-out Mondavi Center audience in April 2003, has been widely praised as the world’s premier touring tango company. Reviewing the 2003 production, *Voice of Dance* magazine called the presentation “the finest of its kind,” praising the “dramatic focus” and “theatrical flair” that set the company apart from many other tango revues. Other critics have been equally enthusiastic: “Sometimes playful, sometime dramatic, always sensuous, the closely entwined bodies and limbs moved with amazing speed through deftly engineered movements, including frequent dips, deep slides, energetic foot stomps, and ballet-like turns,” wrote the *Ruidoso News*.

Created more than 20 years ago for the Jazmines Festival in Buenos Aires by renowned composer and tango director **Oswaldo Requena**, Tango Buenos Aires met with immediate success, which led to performances at the **General San Martín Municipal Theatre** and then national and international tours. The company made its debut in the United States in 1986, representing Argentina at the Latin-American Festival at the **Delacorte Theatre** in New York City’s Central Park. The event was followed by an extensive U.S. tour, along with trips to Mexico, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, and Japan, and the release of a CD, *Quejas de Bandoneón* (Sony). The company has since conducted numerous international tours, visiting Europe, Central and South America, and Asia, firmly establishing a reputation as an elite tango company.

The current production, *The Four Seasons: Passion and Sensuality of the Tango Art Form from the Streets to the Ballroom*, is choreographed by **Lidia Segni**, with music direction by **Julian Vat**, and features live performances by a five-piece band including **Santiago Alaniz** (*bandoneon*), **Pablo Guzman** (bass), **Adrian Lacruz** (guitar), **Fernando Bruguera** (piano), and **Cesar Rago** (violin). Dancers include **Gisela Natoli**, **Gustavo Rosas**, **Mayte Valdes**, **Carlos Barrionuevo**, **Soledad Buss**, **Cesar Peral**, **Sebastian Huici**, **Mariela Morassut**, **Magdalena Cortes**, and **Federico Fleitas**. The company’s artistic director, **Rosario Bauza**, an

Argentine cultural ambassador since 1988 and producer of numerous internationally touring tango presentations, is the production's creator and producer.

The Four Seasons presentation begins with a Buenos Aires street scene in the 1930s, as friends come together, practice their dance steps, and make their way to a local tavern for an evening of tango. At first the men dance among themselves, as is the tradition in tango, but soon the women arrive, couples pair off, and romantic entanglements ensue. As the evening progresses, the locals are joined by a tourist couple, and the plot focuses on the relationship between two dancers, Franco and Tania. After intermission, the story resumes as Franco gambles at the horse races, loses, and falls into a depression. Tania comes to the rescue, whisking him away to the tavern seen in the production's opening, now transformed to the present day, as tango traditions old and new mix.

"Tango Buenos Aires is one of the finest touring tango companies in the world today and an audience favorite here at the Mondavi Center, and we look forward to presenting them again," said **Don Roth**, the Mondavi Center's executive director.

What: **Tango Buenos Aires**
When: Wednesday, November 7
Where: Jackson Hall
Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts
University of California, Davis
Admission: \$44/\$39/\$34 Adults • \$22/\$19.50/\$17 Students & Children
Tickets/Info: 530.754.ARTS (2787)
866.754.ARTS (toll-free)
<http://www.MondaviArts.org>
530.754.5402 [TDD]

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