

► Dancers take to the floor for the city's second tango festival

LET'S GO ROUND AGAIN

By Li Yuting

On Thursday night at the Club of Shanghai on the fourth floor of Shanghai Concert Hall, the ballroom floor was pulsating to the exciting tempo and beats of Argentinean tango. This was the opening show of the second Shanghai Tango Festival.

Until July 16, this five-day tango festival is taking place in two of the city's top venues: The Paramount, and the aforementioned Club of Shanghai. There are also master workshops taking place for tango enthusiasts. And in the venues, during every night of the festival from 9:30 pm to 2 am, there are milonga performances (milonga refers to a type of South American music and associated dance that preceded the tango), all featuring dancers from China and abroad.

Saturday's Grand Milonga Night will be held at The Paramount. The evening will also feature a Turquoise Night, in which a winning couple will be awarded a pair of actual turquoise-colored dancing shoes.

Passionate moves

"In the art of tango, the meaningful lyrics, the slow but strong tempo, the evocative tunes and emotional dance moves perfectly reflect the Argentinian temperament. And the Shanghai

Tango Festival offers a good platform for tango culture to be better recognized in Shanghai, China and even the whole of Asia," said Francisco Ferro, consul general of the Argentine Republic in Shanghai.

At the opening show, three pairs of renowned tango hoofers from Argentina – Luiggi Ramirez and Analía Carreno, Pablo Giorgini and Noelia Coletti, and Martin Maldonado and Maurizio Ghella – all performed. And the musical accompaniment came courtesy of the Pedro Chemes Quartet. The same Argentinean foursome performed at the Argentina Pavilion at the World Expo 2010 in Shanghai.

Ramirez and Carreno are the lead dancers in a tango performance called *Conjuro Tango* which combines tango with flamenco dancing and which was also performed at the first Shanghai Tango Festival last year.

As tango world champions in several international competitions, Giorgini and Coletti have performed and carried out workshops around the globe, including in many cities in Asia.

And male duo Martin Maldonado and Maurizio Ghella will doubtlessly impress audiences with their unique style which

they have been dubbed "Nuevo Tango." "Tango is not only about learning new moves, but also about choosing suitable dancing skills via mutual interaction. The most important thing is, to feel the mutual bond with your dance partner," said Maldonado.

According to Vivian Yeh, founder of Shanghai-based Tango organization TangoBang, and also one of the organizers of the festival, 18 separate classes given by the three pairs of dancers will also be offered during the festival.

Musical accompaniment

Another big selling point for the festival is the coming together of the six-member Sexteto Milonguero orchestra. They will perform over the next three nights (Friday, Paramount; Saturday, Club of Shanghai; and Sunday, Paramount) for the festival.

Formed in 2006, the group has played in festivals all over Latin American and Europe, but this will be their first time in Shanghai.

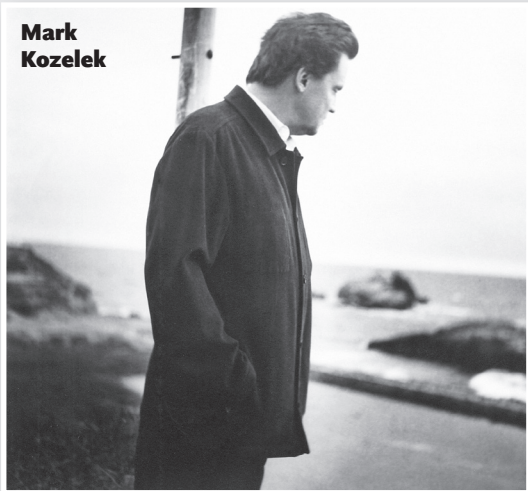
"Tango music enjoys a long history, and we want more Asian people to know that it remains an integral part of tango culture," said a member of the orchestra.

Venue: Club of Shanghai
Address: 4/F, Gate 7, Shanghai Concert Hall, 523 Yan'an Road East 延安东路523号上海音乐厅7号门4楼
Venue: The Paramount 百乐门
Address: 4/F, 218 Yuyuan Road 愚园路218号4楼
For detailed schedule go to tangobang.cn/shanghai-tango-festival



The renowned tango dancers Luiggi Ramirez and Analía Carreno Photo: Courtesy of TangoBang

Liberty, equality ... and drink

Mark
Kozelek

By Ewa Manthey

It is going to be a bumper weekend on Shanghai's nightlife scene. Between the Bleu Blanc Rouge parties for France's National Day (Bastille Day) celebrations, and a concert being staged by acclaimed American songwriter, Mark Kozelek, there are plenty of things to do and see.

The Global Times has con-

sulted this weekend's calendar and has chosen some of the hottest events that are definitely worth checking out.

Friday night

It may be Friday the

13th, but that hasn't deterred the night guys at Shanghai Tattoo (4/F, 1 Maoming Road South, 茂名南路1号4楼, 1358-5944-558) from teaming up with the city's only "metal" bar, Inferno (480 Yongjia Road, 永嘉路480号, 5466-6068) for a fiendish event.

Everything kicks off at 5 pm at Shanghai Tattoo where staff will be offering all small tattoos for a diabolically good

price of 666 yuan (\$104.54). There will be live music from Bucktown Kickback, a barbeque and cheap beers aplenty. The fun goes on until 9 pm when there will be a free bus to Inferno where the party will doubtless continue until the wee small hours. Make sure to catch the spectacle of some lucky individual being suspended by their body piercings from the ceiling. On a lighter note, Raina Skar will perform her very own Burlesque show.

If tattoos, metal music, and masochism aren't your bag, head down to Lola (Bldg 4, 570 Yongjia Road, 永嘉路570号4号楼, 1381-6927-970) to listen to Swiss duo Round Table Knights who will be playing their dancefloor smash hit "Calypso." Entrance is 80 yuan including a drink.

Saturday night

This Saturday is French National Day and Uffie, the queen of the French electro-

disco scene, will be at Mao Livehouse (308 Chongqing Road South, 重庆南路308号, 6445-0086). At only 24 years old, she has already been labeled a "muse" for many French DJs. She has worked alongside Mirwais, Pharell Williams and Steve Aoki. On Saturday she will be joined by Berlin-based band Headman, and Shanghai's R3 and Razor. Tickets are 200 yuan presale, and 300 yuan at the door.

Also Mr and Mrs Bund (6/F, Bund 18, 18 Zhongshandongyi Road, 中山东一路18号6楼, 6323-9898) is throwing a huge bash to celebrate Bastille Day called La Boum. Expect plenty of bubbly as well as 70s and 80s disco music. The dress code is red, white and blue. Entry is 100 yuan on the door including 50 yuan worth of drinks.

Sunday night

On Sunday night head over again to Mao Livehouse to listen to singer/songwriter,

**A poster for Uffie's show**

Mark Kozelek, of Red House Painters and Sun Kil-moon. He is one of the most acclaimed songwriters of his generation and is coming for his first-ever tour in China. He has recorded six albums with Red House Painters, four solo albums, and four with Sun Kil-moon, the latest of which, *Among the Leaves*, was recorded almost completely on a nylon-string guitar.

The show starts at 8 pm and entry is 120 yuan at the door, 80 yuan for students.

