

Argentine Month in Canberra Program

October 2008 is now declared to be Argentine Month. With the support of the Embassy of Argentina, University of Canberra, and local communities, Canberra will see a great range of Argentine cultural activities. Movies, tango and beef... all the good stuff!

Argentine Month kicks off on Friday 3 October at the University of Canberra. This grand opening will be a joint effort of the Embassy of Argentina, the University of Canberra, and the Tango Social Club of Canberra.

3 October / 6:00pm / Launch movie: Si Sos Brujo: Una Historia de Tango / Free

Free Argentine movie screening

In an epic against the loss of memory, US filmmaker Caroline Neal tells of the Tango Orchestra school in Buenos Aires and the relationship between its creator, young double bass player Ignacio Varchausky (now bassist with modern tango orchestra El Arranque), and 87 year old tango maestro Emilio Balcarce. *Argentine Month in Canberra* will be officially opened by Ambassador Pedro Villagra Delgado from the Embassy of Argentina before the movie.

University of Canberra (2B11)

3 October / 8:00pm till late / Tango café

Free Argentine wine and finger food

Soak up the Argentine tango atmosphere, and enjoy Argentine wine and snacks

Following the movie, you are invited to experience an evening of beautiful tango music at UC's one-night-only Tango Café. The Tango Social Club of Canberra is hosting a nationwide Argentine tango festival *Tango in the Spring* over the long weekend, and the opening dance is right next door in the refectory. So you can enjoy beautiful traditional tango music from one of Australia's best tango DJs, and watch a magical evening of social Argentine tango, while enjoying Argentine wine and snacks sponsored by the Embassy. Coffee and other drinks will also be available for purchase from the café.

University of Canberra (Green Room)

4 October / 12:00-2:00 pm / Asado (Argentine BBQ) / \$35 per person

Asado – an authentic Argentine BBQ – by local Argentine charity Puente Austral

Booking essential by 19 September.

Local Argentine charity Puente Austral is running an Asado – an authentic Argentine BBQ. If you are a red-meat lover, this is an opportunity not to be missed. They love their beef, and they sure know how to cook it!

The asado menu includes:

1 *empanada* as entrée,
Chorizo (Argentinean sausage),
morcilla (black pudding),
costillas (beef ribs),
chicken kebabs,
costillitas de cerdo (pork spare ribs),
salad and bread,
1 *alfajor* with *pasta frola* as dessert,
coffee and tea

Puente Austral is a non-profit organisation which is managed and run by volunteers to raise funds to support rural Argentinean schools. They fund projects such as establishing vegetable garden, and bakeries for schools, and also sponsor those schools by sending textbooks, school material

(such as pens, pencils, and notebooks), heaters, fans and other items that are in need. They have sponsored three schools and funded seven projects since July 2005.

All profit from this event will go to build schools in a remote area of Argentina.

Booking is essential. Please contact Puente Austral at

< puenteaustral@dodo.com.au >

by 19 September.

You can pay directly into the Puente Austral account:

Commonwealth Bank BSB 062-903 Account No. 1032 8720

St John's Church Hall, Constitution Ave, Reid

5 October / 2:00-2:30pm / "Tragedy, hopelessness, unrequited love: Tango and demography"

Free after admission to Old Parliament House, \$2.

Short lecture on tango and demography by Dr Daniel Martín, followed by a small afternoon dance "milonga" – a social dance for tango dancers.

"The popular image of tango is that of a sensual dance, the epitome of romantic passion. When the tango lyrics are analysed, however, there is only tragedy, hopelessness and unrequited love. This talk will analyse those perceived lack of correspondence between music and lyrics, especially those lyrics created between 1914 and 1930, when tango-canción (that is, tango with lyrics) was born in the outskirts of Buenos Aires and Montevideo. The social context of the tragic characters depicted in the tango will be analysed, and it will be shown the demographic profile of the Province of Buenos Aires in Argentina can provide an explanation for the lyrics' content."

(Dr Daniel Martín is a Senior Lecture in Spanish and the convener of the Spanish program at The Australian National University.)

This will be followed by a small afternoon dance "milonguita" – a social dance for tango dancers. King's Hall, Old Parliament House, King George Terrace, Parkes

7 October / 6:30pm / Movie: "El DIA Que Me Amen (2003)" / Free

Argentine movie screening

"Mental illness and the power of friendship. Mara and Joaquín were childhood friends, next-door neighbors. They are now in their early 30s. She's returned to Acassuno after eight years abroad, ostensibly to audition for a part in a musical. Joaquín has been a recluse in his parents' house, perhaps because Mara left without a word years before. Mara seeks to renew the friendship, which may be good for Joaquín, but it soon becomes clear that both face formidable obstacles to a lasting relationship with anyone. The past contains both causes of unhappiness and keys to change." - IMDb
University of Canberra (2B7)

14 October / 6:30pm / Movie: "Un Oso Rojo (2004)" / Free

Argentine movie screening

"Bear has never gotten over the separation from his wife and daughter after having been convicted for armed robbery and homicide and sent to prison. Now he is out, to finally get his cut of the money and reunite with his family, or at least avenge the damage done." - IMDb

University of Canberra (2B7)

21 October / 6:30pm / Movie: “¿Quién dice que es fácil? (2007)” / Free
Argentine movie screening

“Director Juan Taratuto takes the helm for this romance highlighting just how unpredictable true love can be. Aldo is in complete control of his life and surroundings, and he wouldn't have it any other way. Andrea has long since thrown caution to the wind, having travelled the world for fifteen years. Now Andrea is pregnant, and she's not even sure she can identify the father of her unborn son. On the surface it would seem almost impossible to love a man as rigid as Aldo or a woman as unpredictable as Andrea, but as fate would have it their eccentricities might just fit together like pieces of a puzzle?” – The New York Times

University of Canberra (2B7)

28 October / 6:30pm / Movie: “Cautiva (2006)” / & the closing of Argentine Month in Canberra / Free

Argentine movie screening followed by closing drinks hosted by Embassy of Argentina and University of Canberra

“The film tells the story of Cristina, a typical Argentine teenager. Her life is suddenly uprooted when she is plucked out of class at the summons of a judge and the couple she knows as her parents are revealed to not be so. In the early '80s, her biological parents were "disappeared" for criticizing the military junta which had taken power in a coup. Surviving relatives of her biological parents, including Cristina's grandmother, have spent years trying to track down the child. Ordered to now” –MSN movies

After the screening of the movie, we will have the closing function of the Argentine Month in Canberra. The Embassy of Argentina and University of Canberra invites you for closing drinks and nibbles to celebrate a wonderful month of Argentine culture in Canberra.

University of Canberra (2B7)