

Héctor Del Curto's Eternal Tango Quartet

Héctor Del Curto.....Bandoneon
Jisoo Ok.....Cello
Gustavo Casenave.....Piano
Pedro GiraudóDouble Bass

Biography of Eternal Tango

Praised as "superb in their powerful and dynamic rendition" for their outstanding performance, the Eternal Tango has been reviving and extending the rich tradition of Argentinean Tango.

Formed in June 2003 by master bandoneon player Héctor Del Curto, Eternal Tango has been bringing riveting performances to numerous festivals, concert halls and shows including Lincoln Center Summer Festival, Winter Garden at the World Financial Center, Jazz Standard, Spiegeltent at Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College, National Folk Festival, Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts in Connecticut, Le Carrefour Mondial de l'accordion in Quebec, Fiesta Iberoamericano de las Artes in Puerto Rico, Festival Internacional da Safona in Brazil, among many others. The ensemble performed with prestigious guest artists like Pablo Ziegler and Paquito D'Rivera.

Héctor Del Curto's *Eternal Tango* CD had a successful release at Jazz Standard on June 18, 2007. The album has been featured throughout the United States on National Public Radio's PRI segment "The World" and on KPFA 94.1FM and was also featured in various documentaries.

Eternal Tango's new CD will be released in 2011. www.eternaltango.com

Members' Biographies

Héctor Del Curto (Bandoneónist/Artistic Director/Composer)

Praised by the *New York Times* as a "splendid player", Argentinean bandoneónist Héctor Del Curto has captivated the audiences around the world as a soloist and chamber musician, sharing the stage with the world-renowned tango legends Astor Piazzolla and Osvaldo Pugliese, pianist Pablo Ziegler, clarinetist Paquito D'Rivera, ballet dancer Julio Bocca, National Symphony Orchestra (Washington D.C.), Buenos Aires Symphony Orchestra and Teatro Colón Ballet among many others.

After a Carnegie Hall concert in April 1999 with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and outstanding artists such as Gary Burton, Joe Lovano, Pablo Ziegler, José Angel Trelles and Maria Graña, the *New York Times* highlighted Mr. Del Curto's artistry, making special mention of his "wistful, piercing solos on the bandoneón."

Mr. Del Curto had won the title of "Best Bandoneón Player under 25" when he was only 17 years of age. This award led, Osvaldo Pugliese to invite him to play in his legendary orchestra, which made him the youngest bandoneonist in the history of Pugliese's Orchestra.

In 1999, Héctor Del Curto received the Golden Note Award from the Italian–American Network in recognition of his artistic achievements.

As conductor, he directed the spectacular show "Forever Tango" on Broadway and founded the "Eternal Tango Orchestra" a ten piece ensemble. Mr. Del Curto has produced a critically acclaimed CD, *Eternal Tango* and the album was successfully released at Jazz Standard in New York City on June 18, 2007.

Héctor Del Curto's recordings include performances with Osvaldo Pugliese and Astor Piazzolla on "Finally Together" (Lucho Records), Pablo Ziegler on the albums "Asphalt" and "Quintet for the New Tango" (BMG), "Tango Magic" (Sony Music–USA) on video and DVD and "Tango and All That Jazz" (Kind of Blue Records), and Luis Borda Cuarteto on "Linea de Tango" (Jazz and Fusion Records). Also he appears as guest artist in recordings such as Tito Puente's "Masterpiece", Paquito D´Rivera's "Funk Tango", Ricardo Arjona's "Santo Pecado" (Sony International), and Shakira's "Laundry Services" (BMG).

Jisoo Ok (Cellist)

A versatile, young cellist, Jisoo Ok has performed throughout North America, Europe, Argentina, Korea and New Zealand as a soloist, recitalist and chamber musician. Ms. Ok has appeared in venues and festivals such as Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, Weill Recital Hall of Carnegie Hall, J.F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the FOCUS! Festival, Spoleto Festival "Festival dei Due Mondi" in Spoleto, Italy, the Town Halls of Auckland and Wellington in New Zealand, and Kumho Arts Hall in Seoul, Korea.

Since graduating from The Juilliard School in 2006, Ms. Ok has been deeply committed to the music of tango. She has closely collaborated with renowned tango musicians such as Pablo Ziegler and her husband, Hector Del Curto. Recent highlights include performances at Miami International Piano Festival, Beaches Fine Arts Series, Zero Hour Tango Fest and Festival Internacional da Safona in Brazil.

In 2003, Ms. Ok was the winner of the New Juilliard Ensemble's Concerto Competition which led to the performance of Jonathan Keren's Concerto for Cello and Chamber Orchestra in Alice Tully Hall. She also premiered Matthew Kajcienski's Concerto for Cello and Orchestra with the Manhattan Virtuosi Orchestra (now Ensemble du Monde) at the Great Hall of Cooper Union.

Originally from Korea but grew up in New Zealand, Ms. Ok began cello studies at age

eleven after studying violin. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from The Juilliard School, studying with Bonnie Hampton and Fred Sherry, where she received the Irene Diamond Graduate Fellowship and the Heward Memorial Scholarship.

Gustavo Casenave (Pianist)

Hailed by Jazz Times for playing "with distinct straight-a-head jazz feeling at times and melds into the elaborate voicings of the tango", pianist Gustavo Casenave performed and recorded with numerous acclaimed artists in New York City since 1997. He has been touring throughout Europe, Asia, South America, Central America and United States, performing in the prestigious festivals and concert halls such as Lincoln Center (New York), Kodak Theatre (Los Angeles), Hypo Jazz Festival (Austria), Jazz Festival Seeon (Germany) and International Jazz Festival at Kempten (Germany) to name a few.

Deeply committed to the music of tango, Gustavo Casenave works exclusively with tango masters such as Victor Lavellen, Carlos Niesi and Hector Del Curto. Since 1997, he regularly performed with "Eternal Tango", "New York-Buenos Aires Connection", "New York Tango Trio" and "Avantango" in New York City. He also toured worldwide with the Broadway hit "Forever Tango".

As a composer, Mr. Casenave composed and arranged over 200 works which includes original music for featured movies "The Rind" directed by Cali Amerglio and "The Aliens" directed by Maxim Darshkin. Some of his compositions are recorded on Fula Record label.

Mr. Casenave has performed and collaborated with renowned singer Bette Midler and Neil Sedaca also with jazz musicians such as John Benitez, Mark Egan, Jorge Trasante, Manolo Badrena, Roland Gebhardt, Rob Blumenthal, Charlie Persip, Satoshi Takeishi, Avishai Cohen, Curtis Lundy and Miguel Zenon among others.

Pedro Giraudo (Bassist)

Originally from Córdoba Argentina, Pedro Giraudo moved to New York City in 1996. A highly versatile bassist, he has become an in-demand player performing in a wide variety of musical projects, both his own and as a member of several prominent ensembles, ranging from tango to jazz.

As a composer and arranger, Giraudo leads his 13-piece ensemble, the Pedro Giraudo Jazz Orchestra, and has been hailed by critics as one of the most creative and daring bandleaders on the scene today. His compositions combine his love of classical forms, Argentine tango and folk music, and the spontaneity of jazz improvisation, and the band boasts some of New York's finest jazz musicians. His discography includes "Destiny of Flowers" (2000), "Mr Vivo" (2002), "Desconsuelo" (2005) and the most recent, "El

Viaje", which was voted "2009 Latin Jazz Album Of The Year", and "2009 Latin Jazz Large Ensemble Album Of The Year", as well as "2009 Latin Jazz Composition" for Giraudo's "El Bajonazo".

John Murph of Downbeat described it as "an opulent listening experience of modern, orchestral jazz, brimming with passionate improvisations, deliberate contrapuntal melodies and plush harmonies."

In 2008, Giraudo was awarded a composer's commission through the Jazz Gallery in New York, for new work for his large ensemble; the resulting suite will be the centerpiece of his next album to be recorded in Spring of 2009.

The band has performed regularly in the most prestigious jazz clubs in the New York City area, including the Jazz Standard, Birdland, the Jazz Gallery, Joe's Pub, as well as abroad.