

Critic, Venue, and Audience Feedback

Critic Reviews

“If all this sounds as if this writer has lost his wits, blame it on QuinTango, the terrific quintet currently playing tango concerts at the Midtown Theatre (a Piccolo Spoleto event). For haunting melody, rhythm that makes every part of your anatomy move, and a feeling of warmth and enthusiasm, QuinTango is downright wonderful.”

– Robert Jones, *Spoleto Critic, The Post and Courier (Charleston, S.C.)*

“One of Washington’s finest instrumental ensembles.” – Eric Brace, *The Washington POST*

“Last night, the Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen was packed with lovers of this alluring, enduring music to hear QuinTango, five classically trained musicians, who gave it their absolute all. The night was cold, windy and wet, but the music was definitely hot.” – James Jerritt, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*

“With great respect for the essence of the tango, the North American quintet offered us a program of sixteen pieces...The group showed a thorough understanding of the rhythmic structure of this type of music. The...well-modulated instrumental balance, so crucial to the tango, allowed us to observe the technical capability of each member of the group and so to appreciate each musician’s successful handling of tango’s constant emotional tensions...performed with exceptional mastery...the group’s admirable precision shone...luxurious, descriptive, very dramatic and demanding piece..which QuinTango delivered with striking poise.”

– Alberto Zuñiga, *La Nación, San José, Costa Rica [text translated]*

“Piccolo Spoleto's ‘Piccolo in the Footlights’ series featured the tango music quintet Quintango, in the first concert of an eight-day run at the Footlight Players Theatre Sunday. A popular attraction for four years in Charleston, QuinTango brings a fresh and vivacious spirit to an Argentine tradition that has few exhibitors in North America, and fewer with the dash and instrumental excellence of QuinTango.” – Jack Dressler, *Charleston Post and Courier*

Venue and Audience Responses

“QuinTango lit the fire in the chamber and kept it going until the encore...and beyond. The group generated so much energy, and the musicians' showmanship and professionalism were evident. I know that everybody in the audience had so much fun. They were still raving about the concert weeks later.”

– Ayoko Doi, *Music on the Lake, Falls Church VA (1/28/2015)*

“[Our students]...really enjoyed the variety of music played during the concert as well as hearing the back story of each song before it was performed. Having dynamic female performers on stage was a great bonus for our girls to see. Adding the two dancers really enhanced the music for the students. It was a great blend of artistry!”

– Kate Briante, *Old Fields School (11/4/2014)*

”Quintango brings to the stage exceptional musicianship and a passion for Tango that leaps across the footlights to delight audiences. Their arrangements highlight the richness of the musical form. We enjoyed them so much that we invited them to perform at our annual Gala.”

– Mary Hall Surface, *Director of INTSERSECTIONS Festival, Atlas Theatre, Washington DC (10/17/2014)*

“QuinTango gave the best concert we ever had here.”

– Colombian Ambassador to the USA, *Ambassador Villegas, after a concert at the Ambassador’s residence in D.C. (10/22/14)*

“QuinTango was amazing! Very professional and organized...Joan steered the music in a softer yet inspiring direction. Patients came from their rooms, staff from their units, visitors and families heard the music and sat down to enjoy. The dancers added another wonderful dimension. The local news came out to get the story which aired that

evening. Music and art in healthcare creates a very healing environment. It transports people from a scary place or procedure to a comfortable and relaxing place. We would definitely have QuinTango back.”

– *Martha Hunter, Hospital Coordinator, Martha Jefferson Hospital, Charlottesville VA (April 2014)*

“I wanted to say you guys were extraordinary in Alexandria's first night. I am originally from Argentina, and stopped at the concert without an idea of who you are, and loved everything. Will certainly buy your cds and bring to friends in Argentina. Thanks for the great performance.” – *Zulema Garraffo, audience member (12/31/11)*

“You have a true gift and it is presented in a fabulous way. I’ve not enjoyed an evening of music as much as I did last night. I’m so thankful that you had CDs and I can enjoy the music over and over. Thank you for sharing your Talent with the world!” – *Janet Clark (note after the Westminster Canterbury concert in Richmond, VA, 5/4/2011)*

“Three standing ovations! This was a first for our opening performance of the season. They were great with the audience, explaining the different types of tangos and how the composers felt while writing the music. It was wonderful. I loved everything about QuinTango and will have them back for sure.”

– *Ginger Branton, Richlands, VA (August 2013)*

“We have had two responses to QuinTango’s show:

1. ABSOLUTE RAVES
2. Regret for NOT being present

My dear, it was an incredible night. [E]veryone in the hall was delighted and impressed. The music itself was incredible, and as I am sure you know, all of you are incredible musicians. No one missed that. the dancing was a delight. As were the dancers. WHAT AN EVENING!!! Thank you thank you THANK YOU!!!!”

– *Wendy Harriman, Presenter, Sanibel, FL (2/24/2011)*

“Tonight you conquered Buenos Aires!” – *Ambassador Lino Gutierrez, U.S. Ambassador to Argentina (following a concert at the Embassy in Buenos Aires)*

“I cannot appropriately verbalize how marvelous QuinTango’s concert was last week at the Barter Theatre. Sublime – passionate - those are the adjectives which come to mind! Your concert was for me (and for many others) the highlight of this year’s Virginia Highlands Festival. The several cases of CDs that were sold and the thunderous standing ovation that QuinTango received surely attested to the audience’s enjoyment of the evening’s music.”

– *Ben Jennings, Performing Arts Chair, Virginia Highlands Festival, Abingdon, VA*

“First let me say you WOWED Asheville and UNCA. Everyone was incredibly appreciative of your group’s musicianship, your sense of humor and history and you gave a fabulous performance Friday.”

– *Bunny Halton, Office of Student Activities, UNC/Asheville, NC*

“I just wanted to tell you again what a wonderful time I had at tonite’s concert...it was one of my most enjoyed concerts. I won’t forget such a fun night. The master class this afternoon was awesome as well. It’s always nice to meet musicians who aren’t stiffs (like so many I’ve met). I really think that the class and the concert tonite have sparked a new personal love of tango, and it’s definitely one I’d like to pursue, both playing it and learning to dance a tango.” – *Bettina Holmes, high school senior, Dover, DE*