

# Press release – for immediate release Date 3 August

# Argentina's 'Voice of Tango' returns to UK

Tango star <u>Martín Alvarado</u> will be the headline act at this year's La Feria Festival of Latin American Arts and Culture at the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room on Friday 22 September.

The world renowned tango troubadour will be the highlight of the festival which is organised by the North's leading Latin American cultural promoter Luma Creations.

Joining him on stage will be a guitar quartet from Argentina, <u>Gerardo Villar and Los Aguirre</u>, who will be making their debut in the UK.

The concert in Liverpool will be part of a ten-date tour in Britain, which also takes in performances in London, Nottingham, Bristol, Warwickshire, Berkshire, Surrey, Norfolk and Leicestershire and Devon.

It forms as part of Alvarado's 53<sup>rd</sup> international tour as a soloist which includes performances in Finland, Italy, Denmark and Kazakhztan.

He said: "I am thrilled to be playing at La Feria and delighted to be able to have with me on this UK tour, this fabulous quartet who have shared the stage with me in Buenos Aires for several years.

"They are all accomplished and committed music makers who share my passion to make art and to share that art and the culture of our homeland with new audiences in the UK, in Europe and around the world.

"It will be great to tour the UK again. The audiences are always very interested and respectful of what I am trying to achieve which is to go beyond the usual expectations when people think of tango and to deliver an artistic experience that will move them and stay with them."

Alvarado received the honour of being declared an "Academico" (Maestro) by the National Academy of Tango in 2019 in recognition of his illustrious career of two decades during

which he toured continually, performing in many major theatres, festivals and concert halls around the world.

He has performed over 120 times in Britain since 2011 but this will be the first time he has been accompanied by guitarists and the first time Gerardo Villar y Los Aguirre have performed in the UK. A new single, <u>La Pulpera de Santa Lucia</u>, recorded by Alvarado with the quartet in Buenos Aires, has been released this year to seal their collaboration.

Alvarado's promoter in the UK Lisa Cherry-Downes, of L Tango Promotions, said: "I have wanted to present Martín with a trio or quartet of guitarists for years as this is a particularly authentic Buenos Aires sound and one that I think complements Martín's vocal dexterity especially well.

"He is always well received in the UK and over the years has picked up quite a few fans here so I hope they have a chance to hear him with Gerardo Villar & Los Aguirre as this will be very special – not least as Martín will be singing at La Feria on his birthday.

"For anyone unfamiliar with his talent, check him out. His tenor range vocals have incredible nuance, colour and warmth and his charismatic stage presence always has that wow factor."

#### **Notes to Editors**

Martin is available for interviews via email or WhatsApp at any time and for live or prerecorded performances and interviews during his UK, schedule permitting. Contact: Lisa Cherry-Downes +44 (0)7530 549570 or email lisacherrydownes@outlook.com to arrange.

#### Performance details

- Thursday 21 September, Arlington Arts Centre, 8pm, with dancers Adrian Perez and Valentina Ferroti, including a tango dance lesson at 6.45pm. <u>Tickets link</u>
- Friday 22 September, Liverpool Philharmonic Music Room, 7pm. Info link
- **Saturday 23 September**, Tango Northampton, Lutterworth Town Hall, 7.30pm. This is a social dancing event with live music sets. <u>Info link</u>
- Sunday 24 September, Wells Maltings, Wells-next-the-Sea, 7.30pm. <u>Tickets link</u>
- Monday 25 September, Temperance Bar, Royal Leamington Spa, doors 7pm Tickets link
- Wednesday 27 September Lakeside Arts, Nottingham, 7.30pm. This includes performances and pre-show tango workshop by dancers Exequiel Relmuan and Monika Zaborowska. Tickets link
- Thursday 28 September, Tuned In London, Hope City Church, Bermondsey, 7.30pm Info link
- Friday 29 September Cranleigh, Cranleigh Arts Centre, Surrey. Tickets link
- **Saturday 30 September**, Tango Alchemy, Hope Chapel, Bristol, 7.30pm. This is a social dancing event with live music sets. <u>Tickets link</u>
- Sunday 1 October, Ashburton at Ashburton Arts Centre in Devon Tickets link

#### **About Martin Alvarado**

Born and raised in Buenos Aires, **Martín Alvarado** discovered his talent to sing at the age of 19 and is now world renowned and widely recognised as one of the most significant vocalists in the history of tango.

Alvarado's warm and sensitive tenor voice has been influenced from rock and pop as well as tango itself. He counts Stevie Wonder and former Deep Purple vocalist Glenn Hughes among his inspirations along with the late tango legend Ruben Juaraz who mentored Alvarado during the early days of his career.

In his twenties he travelled to Spain where he was spotted singing in the street in Barcelona and invited to perform in Finland, where tango is a national pastime. News of his talent quickly spread and within two months of arriving there, he was performing with the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra.

He has since completed 52 international tours, released 10 albums and performed as a soloist in many major theatres and music festivals around the world. These include the Kremlin Palace Concert Hall in Moscow, National Auditorium in Madrid, Maailmantangofestivaali in Tampere, Finland, Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival (Finland), Buenos Aires Tango Festival, Teatro Solís in Montevideo, Uruguay, Festival Internacional de Tango in Medellín, Colombia.

## Gerardo Villar & Los Aguirre

Gerardo Villar is a guitar and music teacher, graduate of the Music School Conservatorio Julián Aguirre. He also studied musical composition, orchestration, and jazz improvisation.

He has been working in the music industry since 1988 performing and recording alongside numerous leading figures of both popular and traditional folk music including Nelly Omar, the legendary Argentinian singer. He has also worked as the music director of Festival de Tango de Granada in Spain and is the conductor of jazz big bands in Argentina.

Los Aguirre is a group of talented young musicians graduated from the School of Music Conservatorio Julián Aguirre. They are Miguel Torres, Matías Lafonte and Alejandro Lera.

# Adriàn Pérez (Arg) and Valentin Ferrotti (It)

Adriàn hails from Bariloche in the south west of Argentina and Valentina from and Milan. The couple met in Buenos Aires and started working together in 2021. They have performed at theatres and festivals around Argentina and South America. They are on their first international tour taking in Spain, Italy, Jordan, and Turkey as well as the UK.

# Exequiel Relmuan (Arg) and Monika Zaborowska (Pol)

Exequiel and Monika live and teach tango in Patagonia in Argentina after starting to work together in 2020. Their performance in Nottingham is part of their first international tour together. Exequiel has reached the final of the Tango World

Championships in Buenos Aires in both stage and salon categories multiple times since 2013 and is a former teacher and performer at various schools and shows in Buenos Aires. He has taught and performed around the world.

### **Reviews and links**

http://www.martinalvarado.info

https://www.facebook.com/martinalvaradoinfo

https://www.instagram.com/alvaradotango/

https://www.youtube.com/@MartinAlvarado

https://twitter.com/alvaradomartin

Martin on Spotify

#### Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILQrsj--Xzc

- "The world needs to experience this extreme form of aural pleasure... totally mesmerising, a tango epiphany." Max Reinhardt, BBC Radio presenter
- "Completely beguiling tenor" Mary Ann Kennedy, World on 3, BBC Radio 3
- "Indisputably one of the world's finest vocalists" DJ Ritu, Resonance FM, London
- "On the road to becoming a tango legend" Latino Music UK
- "One of the most beguiling voices in world music" Red Sky magazine, UK
- "One of the most renowned voices in tango in the world today" La Radio 2x4, Buenos Aires
- **"The best voice in Buenos Aires"** the late Hector de Rosas, former singer with Astor Piazzolla
- "... a certain Latino charisma mesmerises his audiences...Stunning vocals, pure class!" Nottingham Post
- "Glorious .... a masterclass in vocal expression" Derby Telegraph.
- "Tango has found not just a curator but an innovator to carry it forward. If you get the chance to see this man, grab it with both hands, you won't see many of his like."
  Worldmusic.co.uk
- "I believe I have been given a gift to play and sing and reach people's hearts. So giving it all whenever I have the chance to perform is my way to honour that gift I have been given." Interview in the Nottingham Post, UK