

## Survey of Music Played at Milongas in Buenos Aires By Ron Weigel, Tango Society of Central Illinois, Urbana IL

This survey was taken during July and August 2008. There are 14 milongas represented, all close to downtown Buenos Aires. These are listed below, with the days of the week indicated:

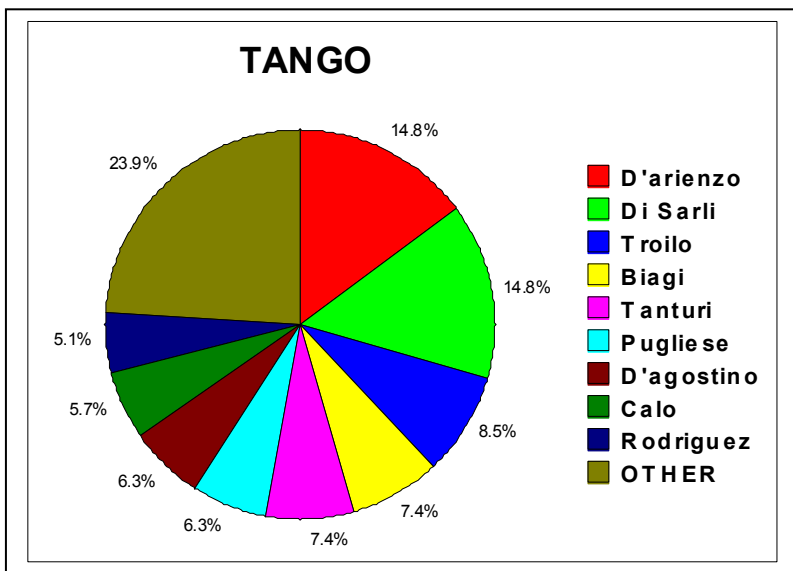
- El Beso – Thursday (3)
- Club Gricel – Friday, Monday
- Centro Leonesa – Saturday (2), Friday (2)
- Lo de Celia – Sunday, Wednesday (2)
- El Arranque – Monday
- Plaza Bohemia – Tuesday

All DJs followed a TTV TTM format with minor deviations (e.g., 3 consecutive tandas of tango) and occasional sets of non-tango music.

The orchestra was recognized for all homogeneous tandas (consisting of music of only one orchestra). On a few occasions it was not possible to recognize every orchestra in a mixed orchestra tanda of milongas or valses.

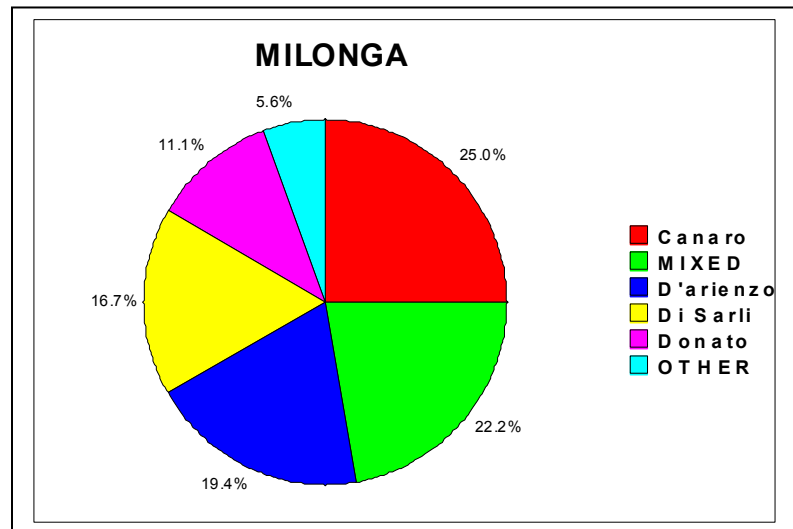
The distribution of tandas by orchestra by rhythm is indicated below by table and pie chart:

TANGO		
Orchestra	N Tandas	% Tandas
D'arienzo	26	14.8%
Di Sarli	26	14.8%
Troilo	15	8.5%
Biagi	13	7.4%
Tanturi	13	7.4%
Pugliese	11	6.3%
D'agostino	11	6.3%
Calo	10	5.7%
Rodriguez	9	5.1%
OTHER	42	23.9%



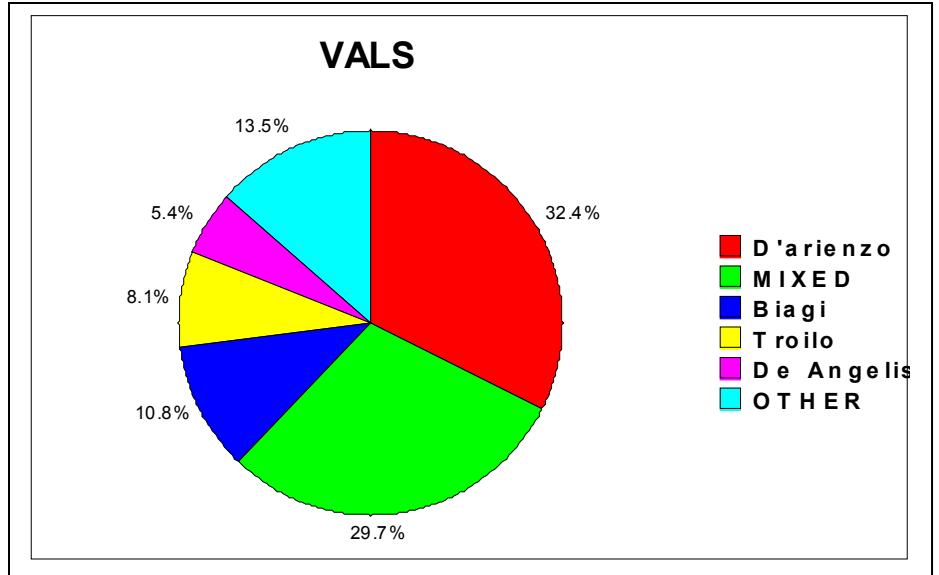
For tango, 'Other' (< 5% of homogeneous tandas for an orchestra) includes Canaro, De Angelis, Demare, Donato, Fresedo, Gobbi, Laurenz, Malerba, and Orquesta Tipica Victor.

MILONGA		
Orchestra	N Tandas	% Tandas
Canaro	9	25.0%
MIXED	8	22.2%
D'arienzo	7	19.4%
Di Sarli	6	16.7%
Donato	4	11.1%
OTHER	2	5.6%



For milonga, 'Other' (< 5% of homogeneous tandas for an orchestra) includes Biagi and Tanturi. Orchestras identified in 'Mixed' tandas include Caceres (*Tango negro*), Calo, Canaro, Color Tango (*La luciernaga*), D'arienzo, Donato, Laurenz, Tanturi, Troilo, and Villasboas.

VALS		
Orchestra	N Tandas	% Tandas
D'arienzo	12	32.4%
MIXED	11	29.7%
Biagi	4	10.8%
Troilo	3	8.1%
De Angelis	2	5.4%
OTHER	5	13.5%



For vals, 'Other' (< 5% of homogeneous tandas for an orchestra) includes Calo, Canaro (Quinteto Pirincho), D'agostino, Donato, and Tanturi. Orchestras identified in 'Mixed' tandas include Biagi, Calo, De Angeles, Demare, Di Sarli, Firpo (orquesta), Laurenz, Tanturi, and Troilo.

Orchestras from the golden age of tango (1930s-50s) not heard in this survey: De Caro, Firpo (cuarteto), Lomuto, Francini-Pontier.

There were also sets of non-tango music, approximately once every 60-90 minutes. The following genres were identified: Chacarera, Cumbia, Merengue, Jazz, Paso Doble, Rock & Roll and Salsa. No one was observed dancing tango during these sets of music.

Not played during these milongas: Electrotango or Tango music from other cultures

This is not intended to be a statistical survey. The milongas were selected based on experience and recommendations by dancers of high quality music and dancing. The milongas represented are popular and have experienced dancers, including milongueros. My subjective impression from experience with 60+ milongas in Buenos Aires is that overall the distribution of orchestras played is similar to this survey.