

WOLFF

Te Amo, Argentina

3. Astor Piazzolla/José Bragato - *Milonga del Angel*

Astor Piazzolla's music has moved and enthused millions around the world. For me, his works are kaleidoscopic images of Buenos Aires, the bright colors of La Boca, the nightlife, the unique and haunting tones of the bandoneon (which Piazzolla played so eloquently), and the origin and evolution of tango. Piazzolla was a probing and thoughtful musician who had high ambitions. In his youth he often struggled to find his compositional identity. Yet he would eventually, through his performances, virtuosity, creativity, and determination, become the man to redefine "tango" as we know it today. In *Te Amo, Argentina*, we perform some of his most celebrated works, arranged supremely by his long-time friend and musical collaborator, José Bragato.

4. José Bragato - *Graciela y Buenos Aires*

José Bragato, born in Italy in 1915, dedicated his life to both classical and popular music. During his long career Bragato discovered, revived, and published important collections of Argentine and Paraguayan folk music. Despite an increasingly busy career as a cello soloist and chamber musician with the Buenos Aires Quartet, the Pessina Quartet, and many other respected chamber quartets in Argentina, he never stopped composing music. In addition to his career as a classical performer, Bragato always celebrated his love of the tango. He played with some of Argentina's most outstanding tango orchestras, such as those led by Francini Pontiers, Anibal Troilo, and Stampone, the latter two with which he recorded. In 1954, Bragato accepted Astor Piazzolla's challenge to assemble the Octeto Buenos Aires. From that moment on, he and Piazzolla remained close friends. In 1989 Piazzolla convinced Bragato to join Sextango. Bragato's "*Graciela y Buenos Aires*" has become a classic in the symphonic tango repertoire.

5. Astor Piazzolla - *Fuga y Misterio*

6. Osvaldo Golijov - *Omaramor*

Including "Omaramor" in this musical program provided the fortunate opportunity to get to know and receive valuable advice from the eminent South American composer, Osvaldo Golijov. After our initial meeting he invited me to send him a live recording of my first performance of the work. This process was revealing and extremely helpful, as it allowed me to probe deeper into his thoughts and desires about his music, especially for a work he wrote quite early in his career. I eventually sent him the final CD version, to which he kindly responded " I like it a lot. It's definitely dirty enough, especially as it gets into the tough tango section. It's a beautiful interpretation. I'm grateful that you include it in the CD along with music from composers I admire so much!".scf 99(ol.0) [ing

7. Astor Piazzolla - *Four for Tango*

“Robert Hurwitz, who produced the records of the Kronos Quartet took Piazzolla to one of its concerts. The quartets meticulous musicianship, and its repertory on the cutting edge of contemporary music were bound to attract him. He went backstage to compliment the musicians. ‘I asked him if I could

recent review on Musicangle.com declares it “among the most beautiful recordings of cello and piano you are likely ever to hear”, and Absolute Sound recognized it as one of the 40 best recordings of all time.

Highlights of his recent work include an extraordinary recital, broadcast on live radio, celebrating Bach and the cello through performances on baroque, acoustic, and electric cellos at the Los Angeles County Museum of the Arts. A recent program with Les Violons du Roi in their new and fabulous hall in the heart of Quebec city, led “Le Soleil” to remark: “Antonio Lysy shone and enchanted his audience in an arrangement for cello and strings of Schubert’s Arpeggione”. He presented a multimedia concert with pianist and comedian Jean Marchand, showcasing the history of his Carlo Tononi cello on its 300th birthday. He has performed in recitals in New York and Los Angeles with pianist Rascal Rogé, and enjoys frequent collaborations with distinguished fellow faculty at UCLA’s Royce and Schoenberg Hall, and Colburn’s Zipper Hall.

Other recent performances include a solo Bach recital at the Uffizi Library in Florence, Italy; two programs with Vladimir Ashkenazy and his sons, Vovka and Dimitri, in Lugano, Switzerland; a concerto performance with the American Youth Symphony Orchestra in Los Angeles; and touring the States, Canada, Italy, and Argentina with the show ‘Te Amo, Argentina’.

His love and commitment to chamber music is demonstrated by his musical directorship and founding in 1989, of the annual Incontri in Terra di Siena Chamber Music Festival in Tuscany, Italy (www.itslafoce.org). Distinguished artists from around the globe take part in this idyllic summer retreat, which is crowned by performances in medieval fortresses, palazzi, and churches in the Southern Tuscan region.

Lysy has recorded extensively for CBC Radio, BBC Radio, Classic FM, and other European radio networks. His live recording of

solo cello repertoire by Bach, Berio, Henze, and Walton, released on the Pelléas label, is “...some of the most beautiful Bach ever heard” (– La Presse, Montréal). In addition, he has recorded for the Claves, Dinemec Classics, and Fonè labels. In January 2012, he recorded and premiered the reworked Eric Zeisl cello concerto with the UCLA Philharmonia directed by Neal Stulberg. This cd is available on the Yarlung Records label.

In the summer of 2003 Lysy accepted the position of Professor of Cello at University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to moving to the United States, he held a professorship at McGill University in Montréal. He was also, for a number of years, visiting professor at the International Menuhin Music Academy in Switzerland. He now resides with his family in Los Angeles.

Larici and Barrionuevo

Fox’s “So you Think You Can Dance” tango choreographers **Miriam Larici** and **Leonardo Barrionuevo**, are considered one of the top tango couples in the world. Miriam is the iconic image of The Broadway-London hit “Forever Tango”. Leonardo was a member of the cast of “ Forever Tango”, and danced

tional reputation as instructors, performers and choreographers of Argentine tango. In 2009 they won the Gold Medal representing Argentina in the International Dance Com