

"Eso es el tango" - ETS QUIZ, VOLUME 1 (2005)

Name	Artist	Composer/Lyrics	Comments
A La Gran Mueña	Carlos Di Sarli	Jesús Ventura Letra: Miguel Osés (1920)	Di Sarli plays slow, steady rhythms and flowing melodies. Recognisable from beginner's classes. Lots of violin. This recording sounds like it made in an empty swimming pool. Many tangos and musician's nicknames come from the name of cabarets where they played.
A Pan Y Agua	Angel D'Agostino Con Angel Vargas	Juan Carlos Cobián Letra: Enrique Cadícamo	"To bread and water". Song by leading composer Cobián recalling military service, words by leading tango writer and poet.
Adios, Nonino	Astor Piazzola	Astor Piazzola	Piazzola wrote this when his grandfather 'Nonino' died.
Alma De Bohemio	Firpo, Roberto	Firpo Lyric: Caruso	"Bohemian Soul" (1929) 'I live what I dream, and I dream what I sing'. Original version by Firpo, much recorded. Descending scale piano/violins
Así Se Baila El Tango	Ricardo Tanturi cantando A. Castillo	Elías Randal. Letra: Marvil (Elizardo Martínez Vilas)	"The tango is danced like This". By the 'gentleman of tango'. Tanturi made excellent recordings with singers Castillo and Campos. Castillo was a heart-throb tango singer and gynecologist. Very cheerful sound.
Balada Para Un Loco	Goyeneche/Varela	Astor Piazzolla. Letra: Horacio Ferrer	Unmistakeable voice of Roberto Goyeneche, the leading tango singer of the late 20th Century (died 1994).
Boedo	Orquesta Julio De Caro	Julio De Caro. Letra: Dante A. Linyera	De Caro and his brothers created the classic Orquesta Típica of piano, bandoneon, 2 violin, bass. Created a more sophisticated sound that did not appeal to mass market, but is the basis of the evolutionary or decaetano style of tango. Violins pizzicato.
Cafetin De Buenos Aires	Astor Piazzolla Con Fontan Luna	Mariano Mores, Enrique Santos Discepolo	Discepolo was one of the leading tango poets of the Golden Age. A Cafetin is a small, cosy cafe - a place to learn about life and drown your sorrows.. The poet recalls his cafetin with nostalgia: 'you are the only thing in my life that resembled my mother'.
Campo Afuera	Rodolfo Biagi Con T. Ibanez	Rodolfo Biagi	Milonga. Biagi's milongas have lots of synchopation. He was known as 'Manos Brujas' - bewitched hands, and was key in D'Arienzo's style.
Corazón De Oro	Orchestra from Saura's tango	Francisco Canaro Letra: Blanco	Vals. "Heart of Gold". Canaro worked to secure the rights of tango authors.
Cristal	Osváldo Fresedo	Mariano Mores Letra: José María	Fresedo was popular with the upper class in the 20s, playing romantic tangos.
Desde el alma	Francisco Canaro. Vocal: Nelly Omar	Melo, Rosita	Vals. "From the Heart" http://www.rositamelo.com/ The argentine vals (1911). Melo is perhaps the leading female tango composer, also music professor and concert pianist. Definitive lyrics written for a film in 1948 by Manzi.
El Choclo	EL Arranque	Angel Gregorio Villoldo	Possibly the oldest tango - El choclo refers to a 'corn cob', at least literally. Played by modern orchestra, some of whom have visited Ed.
El Día Que Me Quieras	Carlos Gardel	Carlos Gardel Letra: Alfredo Le Pera	"The day that you love me." Gardel was the greatest star of tango, an Argentine Elvis and Crosby rolled into one, killed in a plane crash in 1936
El Firulete	Quinteto Pirincho	Mariano Mores	Canaro, milonga. Bandoneon plays the melody, followed by violins.
El Pollito	Carlos Di Sarli		"The chicken" (lit.)
Época	Gotan Project	Gotan Project	Franco-Argentine new tango-dance combo.
Flores Del Alma	Orchestra from Saura's Tango	Juan Larenza Letra: Bayardo y Palacios	Vals. Classic song, this version from the film, Saura's Tango.
Fuimos	Osváldo Pugliese. Cant: Chanel	José Dames Letra: Homero Manzi 1945	"We were". Very delicate song, violins play introduction.
La Casita De Mis Viejos	Adriana Varela	Juan Carlos Cobián Letra: Enrique Cadícamo	(I return defeated to)"The house of my parents". Varela has been recording classic tangos in the 80s and 90s. "Only a mother forgives us in this life - that is the only truth, the rest is lies", "It's always women who shatter illusions (dreams)"!
La Cumparsita	Juan D'Arienzo	Gerardo Matos Rodríguez	One of the original tangos, recorded by everyone, often played at the end of a milonga. D'Arienzo produces a well known version with stops. He was one of the most popular and prolific band leader in the Golden Age and after. Went back to rythmic 2/4 tango feel of early days.
La Morocha	Ada Falcon w. Canaro	Saborido Letra: Villoldo 1905	"The Brunette". A very early tango. Falcon was a big tango star in 20s and 30s, esp with Canaro, her lover. Became a nun. Slow violin intro.
La Puñalada	Roberto Firpo	Castellanos Letra: Flores	Milonga. "The Stab". Firpo was one of the original tango artists, part of the "Guardia Vieja" , developing the tango sound. Heavy piano descends and rises in intro.
La Yumba	Osváldo Pugliese	Osváldo Pugliese	Pugliese's signature tune. played at his funeral. Pronounced 'Jumba' with a soft J. It is the sound of the Bandoneon going <i>Yum-ba</i> . Pugliese was a leading tango pianist, composer, arranger and bandleader, working especially with bandoneon player Ruggiero. He was key innovator in synchopation and counterpoint. He was also blacklisted put in jail for being a communist.

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Lagrimas Y Sonrisas	Rodolfo Biagi	Pascual de Gullo	vals. "Tears and Smiles". Big hit for Biagi
Leonora's Song	Astor Piazzolla	Piazzolla	From album The Rough Dancer and the Cyclical Night (Tango Aspasionado) performed by The Quintet (Second incarnation) 1991
Libertango	Astor Piazzolla	Astor Piazzolla	One of Piazzolla's most popular works
Malena	Lucio Demare, Canta Juan Carlos Miranda	Lucio Demare Lyric: Homero Manzi	Argentine Poet Mazini writes that Malena has "penas de bandoneón" (bandoneon blues). Demare's greatest composition.
Milonga De Mis Amores	Pedro Laurenz	Pedro Laurenz Letra: José María Contursi	Milonga. 1937 Typical nostalgic tango - I remember you by old milongas, I just want the peace of my old barrio (district), but that has been destroyed by progress etc etc.
Milonga Sentimental	Carlos Gardél	Sebastián Piana Letra: Manzi	1931 Milonga to remember you... 'I sing not to cry'. Gardel with Guitars
Milonga Triste	Hugo Diaz	Sebastián Piana Letra: Homero Manzi	"Sad Milonga". Hugo Diaz, folk harmonica player was featured with this much recorded song in the film "The Tango Lesson".
Milongueando En El 40	Aníbal Troilo	Armando Pontier	Alternating melodic phrases and sharp rhythmic sections. Pontier was a Bandoneon player known as co-leader of Francini-Pontier Orchestra
Nostalgias	Charlo	Cobián Letra: Cadícamo	Charlo was a singer, composer, pianist and actor who died in 1990, probably most important tango singer after Gardel. His best recording date from late 20s, Solo with guitars.
Ojos Negros	Aníbal Troilo	V. Greco	"Black Eyes"
Organito De La Tarde	Carlos Di Sarli	Cátulo Castillo Letra: J G Castillo	The Barrel Organ in the evening. Piano intro. A story of a girl running off with a unknown milongero, and leaving her father and fiance behind.
Palomita Blanca	Anibal Troilo Con Florel Ruiz Y Alberto Marino	Anselmo Aieta Letra: Francisco García Jiménez	Vals. "White Dove". Aieta wrote over 100 songs, many with lyrics by Jiménez. This is one of the most famous.
Pasional	Osváldo Pugliese	Jorge Caldara Letra: Mario Soto	Pugliese's 40s and 50s music is very romantic
Pedacito De Cielo	Miguel Caló	Francini -Stamponi. Letra Homero Expósito	Vals. "A little piece of Heaven". Charlo was a singer, composer pianist and actor who dies 1990, probably most important tango singer after Gardel. His best recording date from late 20s.
Percal	Miguel Caló, Canta Alberto Podestá	Domingo Federico Letra: Expósito	"Percale". Mysterious intro. More tango suffering.
Pobre Flor	Alfredo De Angelis Con Carlos Dante Y Juan Martel	Gardel. Letra: Razzano. (1913)	Vals. "Poor Flower" - once beautiful... De Angelis worked with some of the greatest singers of tango , such as Dante and Martel, and promoted vocal duets in the 40s.
Por Una Cabeza	Carlos Gardel	Carlos Gardel and Alfredo Le Pera	"By a head" (of a horse), as in 'to lose by...'. Le Pera wrote the scripts for most of Gardel's films.
Porteño Y Bailarín	Carlos Di Sarli, cantando Jorge Durán	Carlos Di Sarli Letra: Héctor Marcó	"Porteño (Citizen of Buenos Aires), and Dancer". Violins play melody, piano enters rythmically. 'I'm romantic, and sweet' - a song to the tango.
Quejas De Bandoneon	Aníbal "Pichuco" Troilo	Juan de Dios Filiberto	"The Complaints/Groans of the Bandoneon". Much recorded tango in one of its definitive versions.
Recuerdo	Osváldo Pugliese y su Orq. Típica	Osvaldo Pugliese Letra: Eduardo Moreno (1921)	"I remember". Pugliese's music is some of the richest and radical of the evolutionary school from the 40s. This was his earliest hit and introduced dialogue between bandoneons. Pugliese 'discovered' many of the greatest tango musicians e.g. Piazzolla, Troilo, Tanturi, Salgán etc
Rondando Tu Esquina	Osváldo Pugliese	Charlo. Letra: Enrique Cadícamo	"Hanging around your corner". Cadícamo was a leading tango poet.
Soñar Y Nada Más (vals)	Alfredo De Angelis voc Dante y Martel	Francisco Canaro Letra: Ivo Pelay	Vals. "Dream and nothing more". De Angelis plays wonderful lush waltzes.
Sur	Ciriaco Ortiz. Voc: Enrique Rivera	Aníbal Troilo Letra: Manzi	"South". Warm interpretation of Troilo classic. Southernness is important concept for Argentine identity.
Taquito militar	Quinteto Pirincho	Mariano Mores Letra: Dante Gilardoni / Raúl Canabarro	Milonga, 1952. Canaro's other band. Listen for the distinctive tapping. "To dance this Milonga all you first need a good partner who feels the rhythm of fire in her soul..."
Trenzas	Francisco Canaro	Armando Pontier Letra: Homero Expósito	"Plaits". Canaro was one of the most important people in the history of tango. He was one of the early band leaders and composers, helping lay the basis of the tango sound, introducing the bass and singer. His music is simple and easy to dance, but with plenty of space for interpretation.
Uno	Francisco Canaro	Mariano Mores, Enrique Santos	"One". Popular song about suffering in life and love. Piano intro slowly ascending scale. One bandoneon brings in theme.

This is a quiz to help learn some more about tango music and its creators. There are 50 clips on the CD of 30 seconds each, and 50 titles listed on this sheet in alphabetical order. Try and work out which number song has which title. Clues come from the artist, and the comments. All these songs are well known from being played at the milongas. A few are classics but not for dancing. These are some of the best known tangos, but not a definitive top-50. Volumes 2 and 3 are on the way! The answer sheet will be available from James or the ETS library. You can use various Internet resources to help: e.g. www.todotango.com or www.zirvals.com. Any comments or questions to James (james@edinburghtango.org.uk)