



Redwood Tango Ensemble

San Francisco Bay Area - Argentine Tango Sextet - Short Bio

Redwood Tango Ensemble is a sextet from Oakland, California, dedicated to both traditional Argentine tango music and original tango composition. The ensemble's arrangements are inspired by the styles of Anibal Troilo, Carlos DiSarli, Juan D'Arienzo, and other master orchestras in tango, which has made Redwood Tango popular among the dance communities in the bay area and on tour. Their signature is a growing repertoire of original compositions by bandoneonist Charles Gorczynski, centered around the creative and wide-reaching modern tango composers in Argentina and around the world.

Redwood Tango Ensemble was the featured orchestra for Chicago Tango Week 2013 and 2015, and has performed for milongas in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, Montreal, London, NYC, and dozens of cities in between. The group keeps a highly active presence in the bay area tango scene with over 80 performances each year, and tours as the full sextet, various trios, and the highly acclaimed bandoneon/guitar *Maldito Tango Duo*.

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Redwood Tango Ensemble

San Francisco Bay Area - Argentine Tango Sextet - Long Bio

Redwood Tango Ensemble is a sextet from Oakland, California, dedicated to both traditional Argentine tango music and original tango composition. The group is led by bandoneonist / composer / arranger Charles Gorczynski, and has been relentlessly developing since its inception in 2010. Joining Charles are musicians Kendra Vernon (*violin*), Celia Harris (*violin*), Daniel Fabricant (*double bass*), Alexander Lazarev (*piano*), and Scott O'Day (*guitar*). Redwood Tango keeps a highly active performing schedule, playing original tango compositions for the creative music community in the bay area, as well as regularly performing traditional Argentine tango music for milongas.

Though tango dancing is extremely popular in the US, live tango music specifically for dancers is rare. Redwood Tango shares the dancer's love for early master orchestras from Argentina, and spent years transcribing hundreds of pieces played by Anibal Troilo, Carlos DiSarli, Juan D'Arienzo, Julio De Caro, Osvaldo Pugliese and others, all the while learning tango's specific stylistic necessities by playing milongas around town. In later years, the ensemble continued to transcribe and study this wealth of music, but also began to develop their own arrangements of classic tangos, eventually releasing some of this work on the dance album *Comme Il Faut* (2015). To develop their sound in arranging and style, Redwood Tango Ensemble has studied with a host of the current masters of this music: Ramiro Gallo, Pablo Aslan, Ignacio Varchausky, Diego Schissi to name a few. These experiences inspired the ensemble to begin playing original compositions and finding an even more personal voice.

Redwood Tango Ensemble's signature is a growing repertoire of original tango compositions inspired by the current tango composers in Argentina, creative music communities in the US, and modern chamber music from around the world. After a few years of releasing demos and developing scores, the ensemble released the album *Unison* (2016), an album of original tangos written by Charles Gorczynski and painstakingly developed with the band through rehearsals, performance, study, and touring.

The band has toured extensively in the United States and Canada. Redwood Tango Ensemble was the featured orchestra for popular tango festival Chicago Tango Week 2013 and 2015, and has performed for milongas and concerts in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, Montreal, London, NYC, and dozens of cities in between. The group keeps a highly active presence in the bay area tango scene with over 80 performances each year, and tours regularly as the sextet, various trio formations, or the highly acclaimed bandoneon/guitar *Maldito Tango Duo*.

On the heels of *Unison* and *Comme Il Faut*, Redwood Tango Ensemble is moving into the future with a deepened dedication and love for the ever-evolving art of the tango.

Redwood Tango Ensemble

Quick Fact Sheet

- Performers:** **Redwood Tango Ensemble - Tango Sextet**
Charles Gorczynski - Bandoneon
Kendra Vernon - Violin
Celia Harris - Violin
Alexander Lazarev - Piano
Scott O'Day - Acoustic Guitar
Daniel Fabricant - Double Bass
- Smaller ensembles**
Redwood Tango Trio - Bandoneón, Violin, Piano
Redwood Tango Trio - Bandoneón, Piano, Double Bass
Maldito Tango Duo - Bandoneón and Acoustic Guitar
- Programs:** Milongas (tango social dances)
Concerts
Private Events: weddings, corporate events, etc.
Educational Programs: musician clinics, musicality workshops
- Requirements:** Varying, see technical specifications.
- Performances:** Bay Area Tango Association milongas and events
Independent milongas around the Bay Area, midwest and eastern US, and Canada. Selected:
Chicago Tango Week Festival 2013 and 2015 featured orchestra
Chicago Summerdance
La Tangueria - Montreal QC
Aeolian Hall - London ON
Reed College Music Department - Portland OR
Norse Hall Milonga - Portland OR
Verdi Club Milonga - San Francisco CA
See www.redwoodtango.com for a full listing of past performances
- Discography:** Redwood Tango Ensemble - **Unison** (2016) Euclid Records
Redwood Tango Ensemble - **Comme Il Faut** (2015) Euclid Records
- Fees:** \$500-5000. Please contact us about specific concert or milonga fees. We do our best to work with everyone wherever possible.
- Contact:** Charles Gorczynski (510) 213-9927 redwoodtango@gmail.com
www.redwoodtango.com

Redwood Tango Ensemble

Technical Requirements

The Redwood Tango Ensemble (or trio/duo variation) performs in a wide variety of spaces, and comfortably adapts to the available options in each. Those venues with specific questions should use the contact below.

Physical Needs:

The band occupies a space approximately 12' wide by 8' deep. For milongas nothing more is required, we work comfortably on the dance floor. For concerts where dancers are involved in the program, extra space is appreciated to allow room. All measurements are flexible, this group fits just about anywhere.

Audio Needs vary by venue:

For milongas on the west coast, nothing is required. The ensemble travels with individual instrument microphones, mixers, and a 600 watt PA. This is plenty for small and mid-sized dance studios and smaller concert halls. For larger milongas, we feed our mixer to your house system.

For all other milongas, needs vary by venue. Please contact for specifics, we are almost always able to work out the sound requirements easily.

For concert venues, the sextet requires five direct lines-in for our own microphones: Bandoneon mics (2 AT-350), string mics (3 DPA), as well as a DI for our keyboard. Pianos are always preferred if available.

The ensemble will make all efforts to inform each venue as needed, and make the process as pleasant as possible. Please feel free to contact for questions. Thank you for including Redwood Tango Ensemble as part of your season!

Contact:

Charles Gorczynski
(510) 213-9927

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