

# MESSIEZ / RAGUSA – TANGO DUO

## BIOS

### EMILIANO MESSIEZ

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1979 and based in New York City since 2016, [Emiliano Messiez](#) has become one of the most in-demand tango pianists in the US. He has played some of New York's most notable music venues, including Lincoln Center, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Minton's Playhouse, Trinity Church, The Bitter End, Caffè Vivaldi, Terraza 7, Club Bonafide, Fordham University, Astoria Tango Club, The Flatiron Room, Thalia Spanish Theatre and the Sembrich Opera Music Venue in Bolton Landing, among many others.

Emiliano has had the opportunity to play with some of the world's top musicians throughout his career, such as Paquito de Rivera (16 time Grammy Award winner), Dino Saluzzi (3 time Konex Award winner), Concha Buika (Grammy Award winner), Raul Jaurena (Latin Grammy Award winner), Fernando Otero (Grammy Award winner), Celeste Carballo, Leon Gieco, Horacio Romo, JP Jofre, Pablo Aslan, Pedro Giraudo, Alan Plachta, Martin Sued and Jose Luis Infantino. With Jose Luis Infantino, he recorded an album titled "Silencio" in 2004 which received a Unesco Prize for music, given to musicians whose work has contributed to the enrichment and development of music.

Emiliano is the pianist for the hit Broadway and London show "Forever Tango", a show that has been seen by more than 8 million people around the world, and the pianist of the group The Aces of Rhythm, a Tango sextet based in New York City. He has also served as the music director and pianist for the successful shows "Impact" and "Tango Buenos Aires", created by Mario & Daniel Celario, and is the creator of "Barolo Tango," a live tango show based in Argentina.

Since moving to New York City, Emiliano has created several different projects such as the "Messiez Duo", the "Messiez Trio", the "[Típica Messiez](#)" (a 10-piece Tango Orchestra) and "Tango Dueling Pianos" a unique and never-seen-before concept featuring two tango pianists.

Emiliano is the composer and musical director for the upcoming musical, "Bordello," which is set in 1920s Buenos Aires, and combines the musical influences of tango, klezmer, pop, rock, jazz, and swing, among other genres. The book and lyrics of Bordello are written by Barbara Bellman.

Emiliano began playing the piano by ear at the age of 3. From there, he dedicated his life to the piano, studied and graduated from the National University of the Arts (UNA - Universidad Nacional de las Artes) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He later joined the faculty there, teaching courses in Counterpoint, Harmony and Music History in the Department of Composition. He also attended and graduated from Berklee College of Music's Escuela de Music Contemporánea (EMC) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Beyond his extensive training in Classical Music, Emiliano has also mastered Tango, Jazz, Pop music and the many Latin-American Rhythms of Argentina, Spain and Brazil.

## LEANDRO RAGUSA

[Leandro Ragusa](#) studied bandoneón with Masters Néstor Marconi, Carlos Lazzari and Juan Carlos Caviello and composition & arrangement with Masters Gabriel Senanes, Laura Baade, Manolo Juarez and Diego Taranto. Leandro Ragusa was awarded a scholarship by the Konex Foundation and completed the First Higher Diploma in Tango, graduating in 2004. He teaches in Tango history at the University of Tango in Buenos Aires.

Leandro is a co-founder of [Centro'feca](#) (Forum of Argentine Cultural Studies), an NGO dedicated to the research and dissemination of Tango. He is currently part of the [Típica Messiez](#), and has been part of a number of other tango orchestras, including La Juan D'arienzo, the orchestra of Rodolfo Mederos, and the Orquesta Escuela de Tango. As a soloist he participated in the Tango show of the Huis Ten Bosch Center (Nagasaki-Japan), National Radio Youth Orchestra, the Orchestre Symphonique de Longueuil (Montreal - Canada) and the Symphony Orchestra of the Municipality of San Martín (Buenos Aires)

Since 2016, Leandro has been arranging music for different ensembles in Argentina and abroad. He currently performs as a bandoneonist, composer and arranger of [Quinteto de Academia](#), music for woodwinds and bandoneon, with whom he performed during the months of June and November 2018 in the cities of New York, Boston and Montreal, and in September 2019 in Montreal. He also performs at major tango festivals, and other events, with the New York City-based [Típica Messiez](#).