

University of Texas at El Paso

From the Selected Works of Oscar Macchioni

November 11, 2004

Phoenix, Arizona, Heard Museum. November 11,
2004

Oscar E Macchioni, *University of Texas at El Paso*

Piazzolla da Camera is dedicated to performing the works of the Argentine Tango master Astor Piazzolla. The trio was founded in Tucson, Arizona in 2000.

*For booking information
and availability, please call
(520) 327.6860*



Piazzolla da Camera

Carla Kountoupes, violin

Andrew Nickles, cello

Oscar Macchioni, piano

520.327.6860

tucsontangotrio@yahoo.com

CARLA KOUNTOUPES, violinist, is a graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. She has been teaching and performing professionally for ten years. She is a former tenured member of the Costa Rican National Symphony Orchestra and was on the faculty of that orchestra's Youth Program. She was a member of the Bella Cose String Quartet while living in San Francisco from 1999-2002, as well as an active teacher and freelance musician in the Bay Area. She enjoys performing Latin and Jazz music, as well as Classical music. Currently located in Tucson, Arizona, Ms. Kountoupes performs with various ensembles, including the Tucson Symphony and the AZ Opera. She also directs a high school orchestra program, and has a private violin studio at the PRIME School of Music.

ANDREW NICKLES, cello. Since receiving his Master's degree in cello performance from the University of Illinois in 2003, Andrew has intensively pursued a career in teaching. Returning to Tucson, where he earned a BA in French and a BM in cello in 1999, he now works for the public school district hoping to convert his 4th and 5th grade orchestra members into great musicians and the concert goers of tomorrow. On the weekends, Andrew focuses his attention on the littlest musicians, as a Kindermusik instructor and maintaining private studios at the PRIME School of Music and the Music Academy of Tucson. His true passion as a performer is tango—a love passed down from his Argentine mother, whose insistence on a Spanish-speaking household instilled in the family an affinity for all things Argentine. Andrew joined the Tucson Symphony Orchestra in 1998 before becoming a Fellow at the University of Illinois in 2001 where he studied with Laurien Laufman. At the University of Arizona he studied with Gordon Epperson, Nancy Green, and Richard Bock. His performing accolades include the Bach Solo Suites in Brussels, Belgium, ensemble tours in Vermont, California, and Arizona, and in 2003 he was awarded Second Prize for his interpretation of the Dvořák Cello Concerto in B minor in the Reno Chamber Orchestra Concerto Competition.

OSCAR MACCHIONI, piano, was born in Tucumán, Argentina. Upon his graduation from the National University of Tucumán, he received a scholarship from the Polish Government to study piano in the city of Krakow. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from the University of Arizona in Tucson. Currently, Mr. Macchioni is an Assistant Professor of Piano and Piano Pedagogy at the University of Texas at El Paso. Oscar Macchioni has performed extensively in his native Argentina, Poland, and in the USA, at such notable locations as Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Columbia University, Steinway Hall, and the Donnell Library in New York. He also enjoys research activities and recently presented research papers and lecture-recitals at national and international conferences. He won several competitions in Argentina and the USA, such as the Green Valley Piano competition in Arizona, Promociones Musicales de Buenos Aires, and Tucumán National University (composition), and was a finalist in the International Audio-Tape Piano Competition, organized by the Germaine Pinault International Music Society in New York. Oscar Macchioni has been sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C., the Polish Government, Organization of American States, and the Leschetizky Association of New York among others.

Piazzolla da Camera

Friday, November 5th, 7:00pm

The Heard Museum

Phoenix, Arizona

Opening for

Auto Immune Response

an art installation by
William Wilson

Program

*All pieces composed by
Astor Piazzolla (1921 – 1992)*

Oblivion

Verano Porteño

Otoño Porteño

Invierno Porteño

Primavera Porteña

Ave Maria

Muerte del Angel

Piazzolla da Camera

Carla Kountoupes, violin

Andrew Nickles, cello

Oscar Macchioni, piano

Butoh Dancers

Heather Joy Clawson

Antonio Delbenes

Notes on the Program

by Carla Kountoupes

While the connection between the photographic/sculptural pieces of William Wilson (b. 1969) and the musical compositions of Astor Piazzolla (1921 – 1992) may not be immediately apparent, the parallels are many.

Wilson's work, like Piazzolla's music, synthesizes diverse cultural influences into a unique and original artistic language. Both artists combine the traditional with the contemporary, creating striking pieces rooted in an awareness of cultural identity and spiritual "place."

Piazzolla's compositions reflect a mix of the influences of New York Jazz, Argentinean Tango, and Classical training - all of which played a pivotal role in his life and artistic production. Of Piazzolla, it has been said:

"His music is unmatched; when we listen to it we are obligated to question the roots and say, 'This is Piazzolla.' It is all about the 'language' he created, which is unique and can be identified as his and only his. With heterogeneous and rebellious elements (Jazz, classical music, experiments in sound) he produced a unique music under the drastic pulse of his Tango."
- Jorge Pessinis/Carlos Kuri

Piazzolla was born and lived most of his life in Argentina. However, he spent a large part of his childhood in New York City and as an adult he won a scholarship to study music in Paris with the legendary Nadia Boulanger.

He has become known as the inventor of the "Nuevo Tango" – a style of music that has taken Tango music and rhythms from the dance floors to the concert halls of the world.

William Wilson similarly integrates a myriad of cultural influences into his work. He uses modern, industrial materials in combination with ancient forms and meanings to create site-specific installations. Reflecting an upbringing that straddled such diverse geographical and cultural backdrops as Tuba City, AZ on the Navajo Reservation and San Francisco, California, Wilson's work fuses seemingly dichotomous elements into beautiful and powerful spaces that the viewer not only "observes," but also briefly inhabits.

The works of both Piazzolla and Wilson resist simple categorization, preferring instead to open ears and eyes in order to create new paths, new ways of seeing and hearing, rather than conform to old beaten ones.

We hope you enjoy the concert and the exhibit.

A Note on the dance portion of the program: by Antonio Delbenes

"When you dance...dance...Take what you have learned and find your own way. Find your dance."
- Hiroko Tamano

I dream I dreamed... a glimmer of all that has passed through me, timeless space where all of my heart is open to the universe. In between worlds... you look into this to catch a reflection of something within yourself.

"The body follows the soul...The living should feel themselves responsible for their ancestors, not just think about them, not just be grateful, no; they should feel responsible for the growth of their ancestors. In this way the living can reach down towards the dead." - Kazuo Ohno

Dedicated to my sensei's Koichi & Hiroko Tamano