

Since 2015, the award-winning [Lorena Guillén Tango Ensemble](#) has captivated US and international audiences with their exuberant and dynamic blend of traditional Argentine tango, "new" tango (tango nuevo), and pan-Latin fusion original compositions. Their music is defined by its deep narrative power, intertwining classical arrangements with contemporary jazz and Latin American folk rhythms.

In their arrangements, mostly orchestrated by electric bassist Alejandro Rutty, the instrumental parts provide a clear, uncluttered canvas that amplifies the emotional weight of the lead vocals of Lorena Guillén, which can be appreciated in their two albums, [Exótica Flor](#) (2023) and [The Other Side of My Heart](#) (2018).

“Not Your Average Folk Contest 2021” Grand Prize Winner (**North Carolina Folk Festival**) and “World Music” category winner of Music-At-the-Museum Contest 2021 (**NC Museum of Art**), the Lorena Guillén Tango Ensemble has been featured on TV performances for **NC PBS** channel and **Fox8News**, and live radio programs: **WUNC’s “The State of Things”** (NPR affiliate, Chapel Hill, NC), **KUNM’s “Corazón Tanguero”** (NPR affiliate, Albuquerque, NM), **WFDD “Triad Arts”** (Winston Salem, NC), **“Musicaldo” (KGLP 91.7, Gallup, NM)**, and **Radio DAMus** (Buenos Aires, Argentina).

The ensemble has toured nationally and internationally. On September 2023, the LGTE embarked on its first concert tour to Argentina, with invitations to perform at two emblematic venues, the CAFF Festival of Alternative Tango and the Conservatorio de Música Astor Piazzolla. They have also presented shows in US festivals such as Charlotte International Arts Festival, Winston-Salem FIESTA Festival and NC Folk Festival, and various concert series: Western Piedmont Symphony (NC), Choral Society of Durham (NC), Frick Museum Summer Concerts (PA), Center Stage Series at the Sangre de Cristo Auditorium (CO), Alvas Showroom (LA), MusicBox Theater (Saint Lucia Island, West Indies).

Lorena has developed multi-media art projects that explore topics such as Latina women migration, [The Other Side of My Heart](#), a song cycle built directly around recorded audio-collages and interviews, incorporating photographs and video. She also created projects that examine how music travels across borders. Their [Jewish Tango Project](#) features historically rich repertoires sung across Yiddish, Spanish, and English, highlighting the intersection of European migration and South American traditions.

The Lorena Guillén Tango Ensemble frequently collaborates with orchestras and choirs performing custom arrangements of Guillén’s original compositions and standard tango repertoire. The LGTE establishes the foundational tango groove and blends it with the classical vocal and instrumental forces, creating a grand layered textural fusion.

Many of these creative initiatives have been generously funded by grants from the following organizations, which have supported the group's creation of original works, audio-recording, videorecording and implementation of workshops: New-Music USA, ArtsGreensboro “Regional Artist Project,” NC arts Council, and UNCG-College of Visual and performing Arts.