



EMBASSY OF THE
ARGENTINE
REPUBLIC

Foreword

The Argentine Embassy is delighted to add this evening to the celebrations of the 195th Anniversary of the First Autonomous Government, the initial step in our long history towards independence. We are pleased to introduce in his debut at the Royal Festival Hall a musician whose work is focused on building bridges between past and present: Quique Sinesi.

Quique Sinesi is considered today one of the most talented Argentine musicians and has gained international recognition as an innovative guitarist and composer

He will be joined on stage tonight by Sergio Terán, a well known figure and virtuoso musician playing Andean instruments, saxophone and South American percussion.

The music of Quique Sinesi emerges from the very roots of our traditional music. A popular genre that Sinesi rewrites and expands with new concepts and styles, exploring the borders between indigenous tradition and global modernity, an interest shared by many of the most important contemporary Argentine musicians. His compositions ranges from elements of Argentine urban rhythms – such as *Tango*, *Milonga* and *Candombe* – to folkloric cadences and strains – as *Chacarera*, *Zamba*, *Huayno*, etc. – he reinvents and explores them through jazz improvisation, classical and world music harmonisations.

Today's programme offers a full variety of Argentine's folk rhythms which will be performed with a number of different indigenous instruments, most of them belonging to the pre-Colombian culture. Throughout the evening, Quique Sinesi and Sergio Terán will play instruments such as *quenás*, *pinkullo*, *zampoña*, *charango*, apart from a selection of different guitars such as classical, seven stringed Spanish guitar and piccolo guitar. Instruments that we mostly share with the musical folklore of Latin America, together with its simple formal structures, the extraordinary strength of the native rhythms and the delicate and sweet sophistication of its melodies.

Tango and Milonga pieces, though strongly related in its origins with Argentine folklore, will offer quite a different experience. Melancholic and passionate, tango is the expression of feelings such as the urban loneliness and the nostalgic remembrance of the "good old times". But

over and above this apparent pessimistic vision, tango has always been sustained by an even deeper philosophy of hope, and perhaps is there where we should search the reasons for its perdurability and worldwide success. With his "Microtangos", Quique Sinesi has been able to recreate this universe and to place tango once more within the context of contemporary music.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the sponsors for their contribution towards making this concert a successful event and my cordial thanks to the Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Society (LACCS) for its praiseworthy effort in organising this musical evening.

Federico Mirre
Ambassador

Thursday 26th May 2005

