



# Midsummer Night's Tango

A documentary by **Viviane Blumenschein**

In coproduction with **ZDF/3sat, Illume Ltd. and Gema Films**

In cooperation with **SRF, YLE und SVT**

With the support of **the MEDIA Programme of the European Union.**

Funded by **Eurimages, FFA, Mediaboard, Filmstiftung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Finnish Film Foundation and the Instituto Nacional de Cine y Artes Audiovisuales**

**82 min**

Tango was born in Buenos Aires and no one dances tango as passionately as the Argentinians do - that at least what the Argentinians themselves believe. Tango is as Finnish as sauna and skiing - that is what the famous Finnish director Aki Kaurismäki and many of his fellow countrymen are convinced of. Two countries, two opinions, two musical traditions.

"Midsummer Night's Tango" is a humorous, light-hearted road movie, accompanying three Argentinean tango musicians as they leave the milongas of Buenos Aires behind to discover tango in faraway Finland.

Singer Chino Laborde, guitarist Diego "DIPI" Kvitko and bandoneonist Pablo Greco are the stereotypical Argentinean tango musicians. They are noisy, passionate and one hundred percent convinced that their music is the only true tango. Travelling through Finland, they dive into a completely new world. Long strips of forests, hundreds of lakes, bright summer nights and, above all, slightly shy and quiet people who play this foreign music called Finnish tango.

Travelling through the scenic landscape, they encounter great Finnish tango singers and composers such as Reijo Taipale, Sanna Pietiainen and M. A. Numminen. They stumble across open-air dance halls in the deep forest, where people dance through the long midsummer nights to the sound of the melancholic Finnish tango.

Director Viviane Blumenschein created a delicate music documentary, using big, beautifully shot images to capture a longing every tango song sings about. The film is filled with great tango music and the masterpieces of Finnish tango, like "Satumaa (Wonderland)".

"Midsummer Night's Tango" is a music-laden, humorous cinema documentary, capturing the many comic and charming moments when musicians from two worlds come together - to discover that they all share the same love for tango music, however different it might sound.