

PABLO ZIEGLER Pianist



For decades, Buenos Aires-born, Grammy-winning pianist, composer and arranger Pablo Ziegler has been one of the most important figures in Argentine nuevo tango, the vibrant musical hybrid of traditional tango, American jazz, and European art music. "He is cool, understated and makes everything look easy and natural," writes Mark Swed of The Los Angeles Times, "just as a really suave tango dancer seems not to move with feet but on wheels, Ziegler skates the keyboard." Dan Bilawsky of All About Jazz affirms: "When [Astor] Piazzolla departed this Earth in 1992, the torch was passed to his longtime pianist who's been carrying it proudly ever since."

After performing in tango grand-maestro Astor Piazzolla's legendary quintet, appearing on iconic Piazzolla recordings including *Tango: Zero Hour*, *La Camorra* and *Central Park Concert*, Ziegler has led his own groups for over 25 years, refining and re-imagining the bounds of the modern tango tradition.

Touring throughout the world with his trio, quartet and mixed ensembles, Ziegler has performed at such esteemed venues as Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Muziekgebouw, Sydney Opera House, Colon Theatre, Sala Villa-Lobos del Teatro Nacional, Seoul Arts Center, Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall, Blue Note, Birdland, Ravenna Festival, Verbier Festival, SFJAZZ, JVC Jazz Festival, Tokyo Jazz Festival, among others.

Recent highlights include a performance in front of 6000 people at the Royal Albert Hall in London during the BBC Prom season and at the Lincoln Center Out of Doors on a shared bill with the Paul Taylor Dance Company. The evening included a set by Ziegler's quartet – described by The New York Times as "rapturous" – as well as a historic, first-ever collaboration: Taylor's *Piazzolla Caldera* with live accompaniment from the Pablo Ziegler Ensemble. In summer 2012, Ziegler joined violinist Lara St. John at the Naumberg Bandshell in Central Park to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Piazzolla's historic Central Park Concert of 1987, in which Ziegler also played. The 2012 concert brought the largest crowd in the 107 year history of the Naumberg Orchestral Concerts series.

In addition to performing with his own groups, Ziegler has been a featured guest soloist with many major orchestras, playing his own compositions as well as the music of Piazzolla with the Britten Sinfonia, Colorado Symphony, the Tokyo Chamber Orchestra, the Presidential Orchestra of Turkey, the Charleston Symphony, the Metropole Orkest in the Netherlands, and Jazz Sinfonica Orchestra in Brazil.

Pablo Ziegler's *Tango Meets Jazz* project – which for over ten years saw an annual week-long residency in New York, starting at the Jazz Standard and later taking residence at Birdland Jazz – paired Ziegler's quartet with guest artists including Branford Marsalis, Regina Carter, Stefon Harris, Paquito D'Rivera, Kenny Garrett, Joe Locke, Randy Brecker, David Sanchez, Nestor Torres, and others.

Ziegler's most recent recording, *JazzTango* with his JazzTango Trio, won the 2018 Grammy Award for Best Latin Jazz Album. This was the first time nuevo tango won a major Grammy. Ziegler's recording, the Latin Grammy-nominated *Amsterdam Meets New Tango* (Zoho Music 2013), paired his quartet with the Netherlands' Metropole Orkest, playing his most famous works arranged for jazz orchestra. His work as music director, arranger and pianist for bass-baritone opera star Erwin Schrott earned an Echo Klassik Award in 2011 for the album *Rojotango*. Ziegler's 2005 release, *Bajo Cero*, won the Latin Grammy Award for Best Tango Album, and in 2008, his album *Buenos Aires Report* made the final list of nominees for the same honor. Other major recordings include 1998's *Tango Romance* with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and 1996's *Los Tangueros* with Emanuel Ax.

Ziegler has been artist-in-residence at major institutions, such as the Latin American Music Center at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, and the MusicUnitesUs Intercultural Residency Series at Brandeis University.

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