

DANCE AL FRESCO IN REGENT'S PARK

This summer, the sights, sounds and thrill of outdoor ballroom, Latin American and Argentine Tango dancing commence its second decade in Regent's Park. The **Dance Al Fresco** series will take place during the weekends of July 9th/10th and August 13th/14th. The **Dance Al Fresco** series will benefit The Royal Parks Foundation with all proceeds being used for tree planting in Regent's Park.

Partner dancing continues its enormous resurgence, with dance schools maintaining record attendance. Argentine Tango is a dramatic and passionate dance which originated in the back streets of Buenos Aires at the end of the 19th century and is hugely popular today. Ballroom dancing comprises all the elegance of Waltz & Foxtrot with the exuberance and playfulness of Salsa, Samba and Cha Cha Cha. If you were inspired by Scott Maslen's Jive and Kara Tointon's Argentine Tango, then why not have a go yourself? Dance Al Fresco events start with a beginner's class at 1pm (Ballroom and Latin American on Saturdays, and Argentine Tango on Sundays), all taught by event founder and organiser Kele Baker. Experienced dancers join in for an afternoon of dancing from 2-6pm. Bring a picnic, and dance the afternoon away. It is fun for dancers of all standards and all ages.

Dance Al Fresco organiser Kele Baker is the Argentine Tango choreographer for BBC1's hit show *Strictly Come Dancing* and the co-author of the book *Strictly Come Dancing: Step-By-Step Dance Class* (BBC Books). Kele says "It is fantastic to see partner dancing so popular. It is a great way to stay in shape, have fun, and meet new people at the same time. You get all of this at **Dance Al Fresco** plus the joy and freedom of dancing outdoors. This summer's **Dance Al Fresco** events will be jumping with dancers, so come along and take part."

These vibrant outdoor dance parties will take place in the Avenue Gardens, at the south end of the Broadwalk, Outer Circle, Regent's Park, London. Each day will start with a class for beginners at 1pm, taught by event organiser and leading dance teacher Kele Baker, followed by general dancing from 2-6pm. Tickets including class and dancing are £10 for each day (available on the day), with spectators welcome free of charge. All proceeds from the event will go to The Royal Parks Foundation for tree planting in Regent's Park. For details on how to purchase tickets as well as event details, log on to www.dancealfresco.org.

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Notes to editors:

The Royal Parks Foundation was established in 2003 to support the Royal Parks and to help safeguard their long term future. Since its establishment, the Foundation has raised funds for the Royal Parks, including a number of flagship projects such as the Regent's Park sports project and the Bushy Park restoration. It is also active in conserving the Royal Parks and wildlife within them.

For further information on **The Royal Parks Foundation**, please contact:

Old Police House
Hyde Park
London W2 2UH
T: 020 7298 2000
Registered Charity No. 1097545

Press information:

For further information or images for **Dance Al Fresco**, please contact:

Kele Baker, organiser
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E: info@dancealfresco.org

- Dance Al Fresco Fact Sheet -

The Broadwalk Ballroom (two dates):

Dates: Saturdays, July 9th and August 13th, 2011

Order of the day: 1-2pm – Ballroom & Latin American class for beginners,
taught by Kele Baker
2-6pm – Ballroom & Latin American dancing for all levels

Tango Al Fresco (two dates):

Dates: Sundays, July 10th and August 14th, 2011

Order of the day: 1-2pm – Argentine Tango dance class for beginners,
taught by Kele Baker
2-6pm – Argentine Tango dancing for all levels

All Events:

Location: Avenue Gardens, south end of the Broadwalk, Outer Circle, Regent's Park, London NW1.

Nearest Tube: Regent's Park

Tickets: £10 including beginner's class and general dancing, available on the day. Spectators are welcome free of charge – bring a picnic and make an afternoon of it!

Notes to Editors:

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