

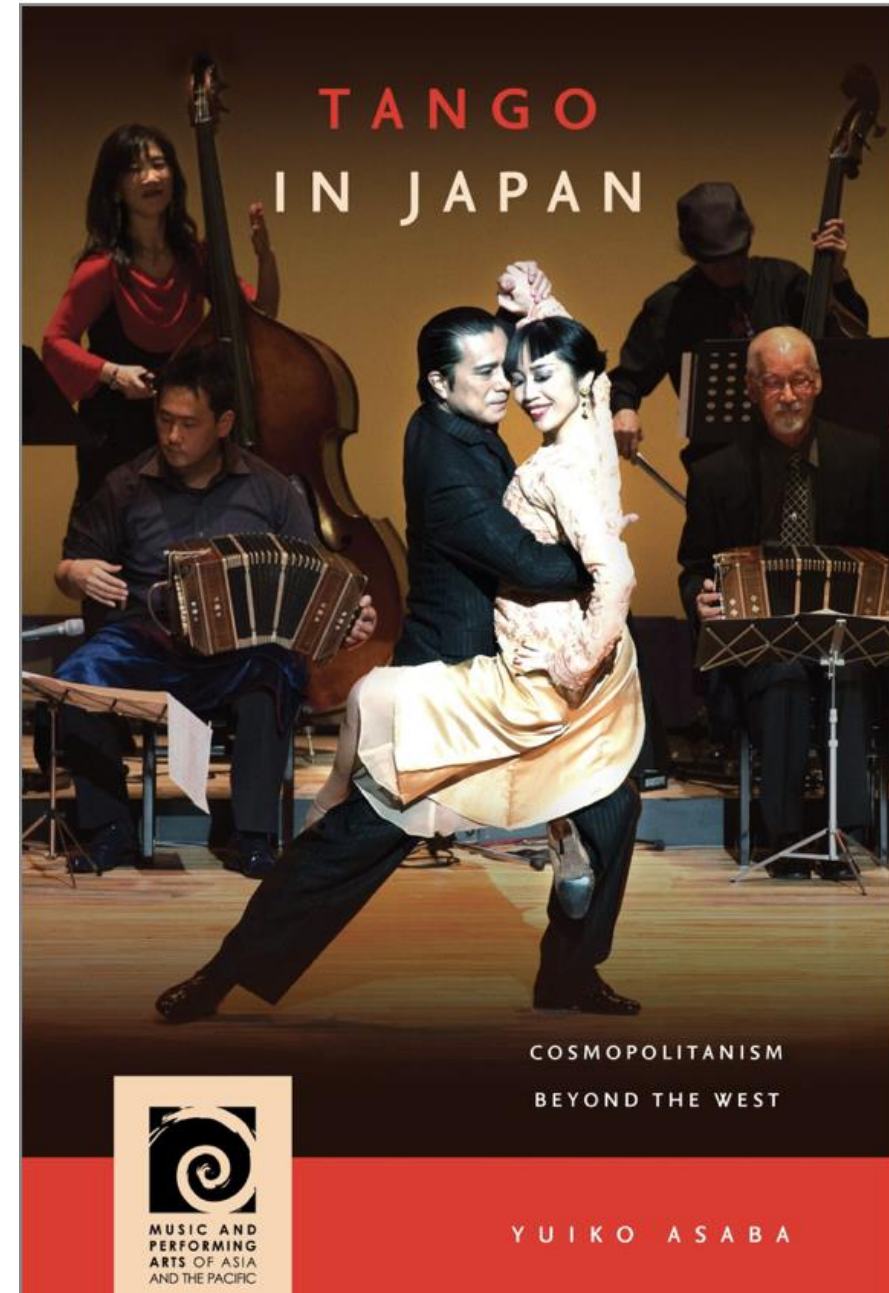
Tango in Japan: Cosmopolitanism Beyond the West

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Book Launch

Wednesday 5 March 2025

*Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation
London, U.K.*



Historical Overview

c1870: Argentina – Beginnings of tango in Buenos Aires.

1914: Japan – First tango performances in Yokohama and Tokyo.

1946-late 1970s: Japan's 'Golden Era of Tango.'

1980s-present: New tango groups continue to emerge in Japan.



Figure 6.2 Kawanami Yukie performing her own composition titled “Requiem for a Butterfly” at a ruined warehouse in Moji Ward, Japan, in 2021. Reproduced by kind permission from Kawanami Yukie.



Figure 6.1 Hayawaka Jun performing in Tokyo in 2022. ©Ami Hirabayashi. Reproduced by kind permission from Hirabayashi Ami.

Photos & texts from:

Asaba, Yuiko (2025). *Tango in Japan: Cosmopolitanism Beyond the West*

Why Tango in Japan?



Tango in Japan: Cosmopolitanism Beyond the West

Yuiko Asaba (2025)

Preface: 'Why Tango in Japan?'

Introduction: Cosmopolitan Otherness, Tango, and the Japan-Argentina Connection

1. Authenticating Tango in Japan
2. Regulating and Fashioning the Body Through Tango
3. Knowledge, Patronage, and Japanese Tango Fandom
4. Performing Emotion and the Middle Culture in Post-World War II Japan
5. The Institutionalisation of Tango in Japan

Conclusion: Tango and Cosmopolitanism in Japan



Talk Structure

The Japan-Argentina nexus

Tango's arrival in 1910s Japan

Regulating the dancing bodies

Emotion



**‘Libertango.’ Ryo & Hazuki
with Tango Ensemble Astrorico, Japan**

The Japan-Argentina nexus

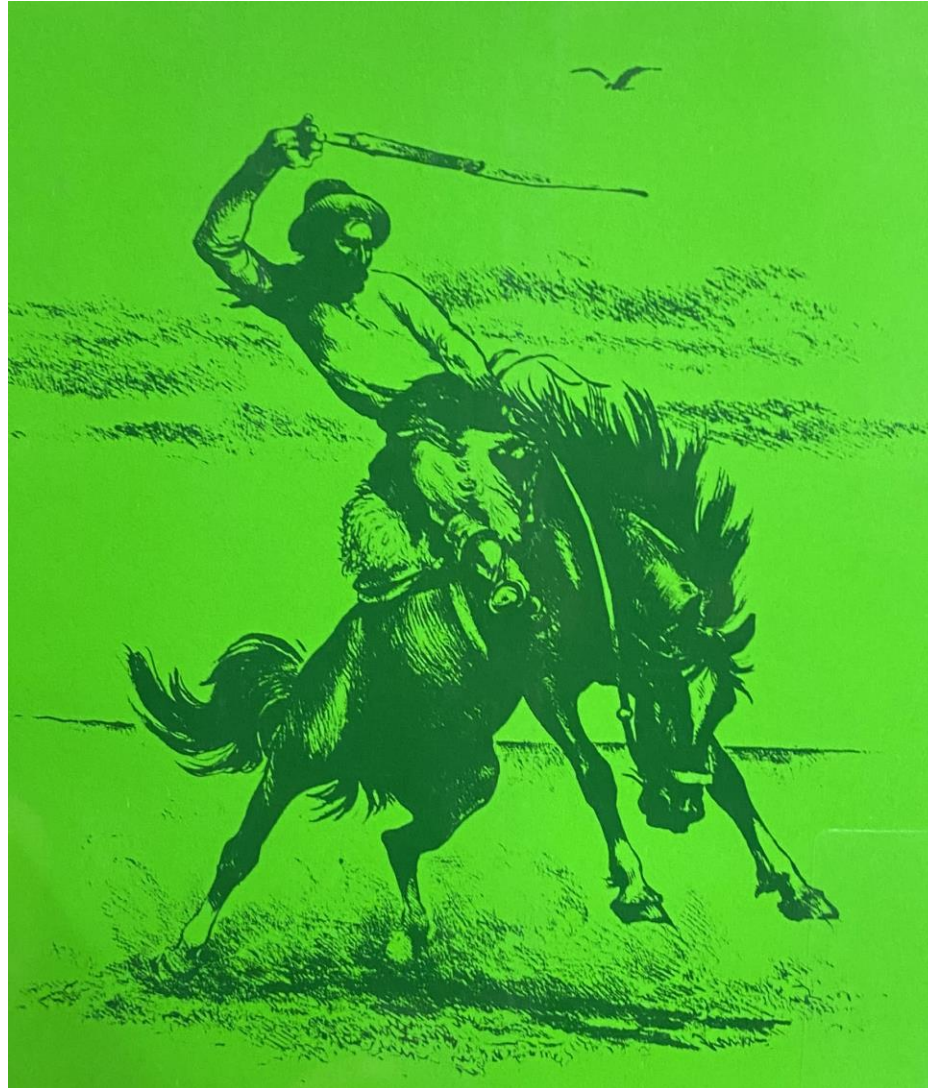




Figure 1.1 *Asahi Shinbun*, August 20, 1913, titled “Scandalous Dance in the West: One of the Sexual Dances, the Dance of Tango” and featuring Maurice Mouvet and Florence Walton. Reproduced by kind permission from the *Asahi Shinbun*.

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Regulating the dancing bodies



Emotion



Japan's 'Golden Era of Tango,' 1946-late 1970s



Fujisawa Ranko
(1925-2013)



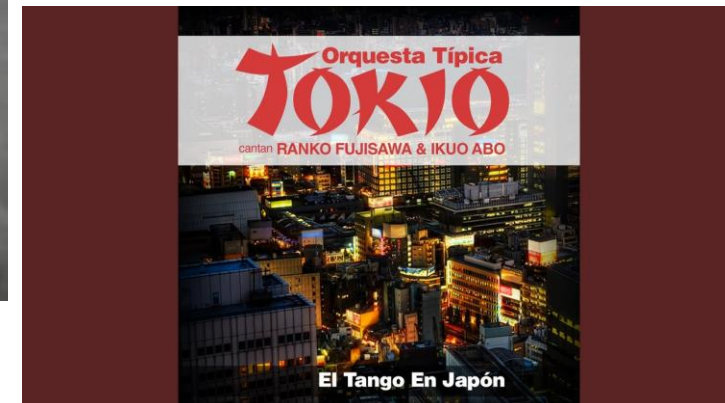
Sakamoto Masaichi
(1909-1995)



Abo Ikuo
(1937-2021)



Hayakawa Shimpei
(1914-1984)



Abo Ikuo (1937-2021)





**‘En Esta Tarde Gris’ (Mariano Mores; José María Contursi)
Abo Ikuo with the Orquesta Sakamoto Masaichi (Teleritmo, 1967)**



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