

PABLO ZIEGLER

Selected Press Quotes

“Ziegler... plays straight from the beating, bleeding heart of nuevo tango, with its Argentinian mix of swagger and sweetness.”

The Guardian

“His group maintains the essence of the new tango which translates structural experiments into mood swings: astringent to sultry, gruff to tender, agitated to buoyant”

The New York Times

“There’s no question that Ziegler takes the tango to levels of sophistication and refinement probably undreamed of by Piazzolla.”

The Chicago Tribune

“At various points, the quartet’s music is as baroque and driven by counterpoint as anything by Bach, and at the same time it also makes extensive use of jazz-style improvised solos.”

The Wall Street Journal

“And then there’s Ziegler’s playing. He is cool, understated and makes everything look easy and natural, although those rumbling left hand figures, those clever glissandos are anything but. Just as a really suave tango dancer seems not to move with feet but on wheels, Ziegler skates the keyboard.

Piazzolla’s music is bittersweet, but it should never be allowed to become sentimental, and that requires fine texturing of chords, fluid swinging of the melody and a strong sense of drama. These are all qualities that Ziegler has internalized in a way that no one outside the tradition will ever quite equal.”

The Los Angeles Times

“As the unequalled heir to Piazzolla’s Nuevo Tango, Ziegler has been integral in the music’s continued evolution.”

Lexington Herald-Leader

“It is called Nuevo Tango for its blending of jazz and the more traditional tango. But in the hands of Pablo Ziegler, it is, above all labels, transcendent music.”

Montecristo Magazine

“Pablo Ziegler’s New Tango Ensemble, which played its own rapturous set at the top of the show, returned at the end to accompany “Piazzolla.” The lavish, steamy score (by Astor Piazzolla and Jerzy Peterburshsky), like the summer night, filled up the dancing in a way I hadn’t seen before, both igniting it and letting it breathe... What a pleasure.”

Siobhan Burke, *The New York Times* reviewing Pablo Ziegler & Paul Taylor Dance Company at Lincoln Center Out of Doors

“[Ziegler’s quartet] proved this Argentine music could rub shoulders with Schubert and Brahms and hold its head high.”

San Diego Story

“Far beyond the confines of Tango, or Latin Jazz, or Bossa Nova, or world music, or classical. [Ziegler] brought something from each to a stew that somehow simultaneously edified and electrified as the quartet effortlessly negotiated myriad tempo changes, key changes, mood changes and shifts from complex unison passagework to stretches of inspired improvisation, especially from Ziegler and an inspired Del Curto.”

U-T San Diego

“*Beyond Tango*, Pablo Ziegler’s 17-song performance, fused the sharp sexiness of tango music with the jaunty improvisation of jazz to create an enlivened and engaging musical experience at the Mondavi Center on Friday.”

Sacramento Press

“Mr. Ziegler is the steadfast headliner of the Tango Meets Jazz Festival, an event produced by Pat Philips and Ettore Stratta, that is in its seventh year at Jazz Standard. A percussive, demonstrative pianist, he has a rigorous command of harmony and a knack for steel-girded ornamentation... [Ziegler] also has a considerable cache of his own compositions in the Tango Nuevo lineage. Some of them appear on an excellent acoustic trio album, “Buenos Aires Report” (Zoho), issued in 2007.”

Nate Chinen, *The New York Times* reviewing the Tango Meets Jazz Festival

“Pianist and composer Ziegler, who played with Astor Piazzolla’s own band for 10 years, delivered the real thing with the help of a sensational youthful-looking bandoneón player, Héctor del Curto, and a jack-of-all-trades guitarist, Claudio Ragazzi (who had to carry the bass line and play chords and solos). They imbued an 80-minute set of music by Piazzolla and Ziegler with plenty of energy and jazz-steeped music that enthralled an enthusiastic audience.”

The Aspen Times Weekly

“If you’ve never experienced tango, this new jazz-tinged tango may be for you. Ziegler’s music carries all the weighty seriousness of life, complete with all the carefree, improvised trappings of hope.”

Savannah Morning News

“Potent... bittersweet... the audience is clearly spellbound by the music... offering enthusiastic applause after each number. Highly recommended. 4½ out of 5 stars”

Ken Dryden, *All Music* reviewing *Tango & All That Jazz*

On Pablo Ziegler & Metropole Orkest - *Amsterdam Meets New Tango* (Zoho):

“Sumptuously orchestrated... stirring beauty... one needn't be a tango aficionado to appreciate what Ziegler does here... 4½ out of 5 stars”

Joe Tangari, *DownBeat Magazine* reviewing *Amsterdam Meets New Tango*

“Ebullient... both subtle and zesty... wonderfully urbane and smart... Listeners may be unfamiliar with this background, but they'll have no problem engaging with Ziegler's memorable compositions.”

Carlo Wolff, *JazzTimes* reviewing *Amsterdam Meets New Tango*

“[Ziegler] takes what Piazzolla began and pushes it to new heights... This is a big album with a big sound, combining Ziegler's quartet with the full scale Netherlands orchestra. It is a combination that works.”

Jack Goodstein, *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* reviewing *Amsterdam Meets New Tango*

“Like an imagined collaboration between Ziegler, Piazzolla, Igor Stravinsky, Bernard Herrmann, and Leonard Bernstein... [Ziegler] brings a sense of passion and surprise to every one of his solos.”

Dan Bilawsky, *All About Jazz* reviewing *Amsterdam Meets New Tango*

“Lush, towering, majestically symphonic... Mingus-esque.”

Alan Young, *Lucid Culture* reviewing *Amsterdam Meets New Tango*

“Sensual rhythms and dark mysterious lyrical intensities... Ziegler and his prowess behind the piano are equally matched with his compositional excellence and gift for transforming the expected rhythmic pulse into an abstraction that creates an intriguing dynamic tension... An inspiring release proving that the brilliance of New Tango did not die with Astor Piazzolla but instead has been reinvented under the skillful hands of the great Pablo Ziegler.”

Brent Black, *Critical Jazz* reviewing *Amsterdam Meets New Tango*