



## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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### **1.1 Why dancing on 7th of July? What has Tango to do with Terrorism?**

Tango requires the co-operation of opposite forces. Through collaboration, steps are made with passion and sensitivity.

Terrorism - "is the calculated use of violence (or the threat of violence) against civilians in order to attain goals through intimidation or coercion or instilling fear"

Tangocommute was created as means of bringing compassion and connectivity in response to events that caused fear and separation

### **1.2 Why Tango in the middle of commuters at rush hour?**

The daily commute is often perceived as an disconnected and dispassionate activity.

TangoCommute will bring a contrasting experience to the journey from work to home.

Unsuspecting commuters were subject to terrorist attacks on that day. Tangocommute is open to all who wish to participate, to silently dance tango to promote peace.

### **1.3 Has TangoCommute happened before?**

Yes, TangoCommute first took place on July 7th 2008 in London, marking the London bombings on July 7th 2005. Further tangocommute events took place in new York on September 11th 2008, and Madrid March 11th 2009, the anniversaries of the terrorist attacks in those locations.

### **1.4 Is TangoCommute a political or religious demonstration?**

No, TangoCommute is silent in nature and does not support any political or religious agenda.

Any body is welcome and any body is entitled to their opinions. There is no message promoted other than what is implicit in the dance itself, the peaceful embrace. The objective is to suspend or move beyond judgements for the hour at least and to focus on being connected and compassionate.

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7TH OF JULY 2009 : IN 7 STATIONS AND ON 7 BRIDGES IN LONDON : 6 - 7PM



### **1.5 Is TangoCommute a flash-mob?**

No, TangoCommute is not coreographed. The event is suggested rather than directed. A distributed network event of autonomous couples listening to their music via shared music players, dancing in locations of high pedestrian traffic.

### **1.6 Can I not dance near my friends or other dancers?**

Previous tangocommute events have shown that dancers feel more comfortable being near other dancers, however the intention is to be dispersed. Not only is there is a strong impact when couples are seen dancing in isolation within the commuting crowd, it is essential that you avoid crowding, which requires permission from the authorities. If you want to create a dance mob, apply for permission.

### **1.7 How can passing commuters participate on the day?**

Commuters are encouraged to send their texts, images and video clips from the mobile phones via email to [share@tangocommute.com](mailto:share@tangocommute.com) to appear in the central media archive. With your permission, they may be selected for future publications.

### **1.8 Does Tangocommute have commercial affiliation? or part of an advertising campaign?**

TangonCommute is mission driven and not subject to primal commerical interests. There is the potential for a reputable corporate partnerships in the future, however Tangocommute was conceived to recognize the significance of peacebuilding through dance and intends to develop itself as a global movement promoting 'passion for peace'.

### **1.7 Is TangoCommuting charitable?**

In 2009, TangoCommute will encourage the support of charities who dedicate their work for peace building. For London we have interviewed international-alert and found that they are in keeping with TangoCommute's aims and objectives. While we recommend this charity, the participant may chose for him or herself which charities he or she may want to support in the context of the tangocommute project. Participants are encouraged to gather sponsorship from friends and colleagues who recognise that peace is not passive, and that it takes courage to dance tango in public.

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**1.9 Do I have to raise funds for the charity TangoCommute recommends?**

No. TangoCommute recommends a charity which is in keeping with the objectives of it's organisers. We are aware that there are many other charities which would qualify for our recommendation. just giving.com enables you to raise money for the charity of your choice. Please let us know how much you raise and for whom, so we may consider to get in touch with them.

**1.10 Have the views of people directly affected by acts of terror been considered?**

Yes, a letter of clarification was written to the 7/7 victim families and survivors prior to the London premiere. The spirit of TangoCommute is sensitive towards the people who experienced loss of life but ultimately is about empowering the love for living.

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## **2. Participantes: Dancers and Commuters**

### **2.1 Who can take part in TangoCommute? Do you have to be an experienced Tango dancer?**

Everybody is welcome regardless of dance ability. We can direct you to classes which offer basic steps and principles. Even the simplest of steps taken in an embrace show sensitivity and connection.

### **2.2 Where can I find music to TangoCommute?**

We recommend you download the TangoCommute podcast or iphone application with slow but energetic Tango music with local and international musicians

[www.tango commute.com/find/music.html](http://www.tango commute.com/find/music.html)

### **2.3 How is music "shared"?**

For the best Tangocommuting experience we suggest the use of headphone connectors. This is a small adaptor that plugs into the music player, but has two outlets so two sets of headphones may be connected to the one music player. This connector is available from the tango commute webshop or in affiliated tango schools

### **2.4 Does Tangocommute provide musicplayers?**

No. Alternatively you can play back the podcast from your mobile phone or CD player.

### **2.5 I don't have an ipod, do you have any equipment I can borrow?**

Many commuters have music players nowadays (it does not have to be an ipod). Find a friend who has a player and share two headphones. A headphone splitter is highly recommended, which you can buy in any electronic store. Tom? How are we distributing the connectors?

### **2.6 Why can the music be heard? What does it mean by "dancers dance 'silently'"?**

Couples can hear their own music through their shared portable music player. To anyone watching, they appear to be dancing in silence. In addition they do not contribute to the urban noise.



### **2.5 Why shall should I register on [www.tango commute.com](http://www.tango commute.com)**

Registration is not necessary, but it will enhance your experience of participation. and give us an indication of numbers.

You can find a tango school close to where you live or work, download a tango music podcast, build your fundraising page, buy a headphone connector, find a dance partner and buy a beautiful Tshirt (hopefully soon ;-).

### **2.6 May I participate using another form of dance?**

TangoCommute does not exclude dance forms, but we recommend Tango for specific reasons which are in keeping with the 'passion for peace' objective: Argentine Tango is danced in an open or closed embrace requiring participants to face each other. In other dances you find frequent turns and jumps while in Tango you walk complete steps, which is close to the commuting experience. Tango also allows for dancing with the shared music player with little risk of headphone entanglement.

### **2.7 Is TangoCommuting safe?**

Past events in London, New York and Madrid did not produce reported incidents. We advise to take care with respect to ones ability. Choose a more spacious spot if concerned. Dont cause obstruction. Take the same degree of care you would otherwise in public spaces. We recommend soles with grip for slippery floors in stations and soles with slip on rough floor surfaces.

### **2.8 Is there anywhere I must not dance?**

There is a greater risk that Tangocommuters will be cautioned by network rail security staff if they are deemed to be causing an obstruction or posing a risk to their safety or to anyone else. Avoid congested areas, narrow thorough fares and railway platforms.

### **2.9 Does TangoCommuting require a certain dress code?**

TangoCommuting is free from any dance style etiquette. TangoCommuters are encouraged to dance in their regular commuter attire. There are no dress code restrictions. However, tangocommuting is not so much about a tango show or performance, so much as a public display of connection. We therefore recommend an everyday/commuter style of clothing.

### **2.10 Do I need special shoes? or clothing?**

Specialist shoes are not necessary. Although dancers familiar with tango, recognise the benefits of adapting the soles of their shoes to the surfaces they are dancing on. However, dance shoes may not be suitable for outdoor locations. The railway stations provide smoother polished flooring.



**2.11 Do i have to dance in the suggested locations?**

No, we have chosen 14 locations of high pedestrian traffic which constitute commuter interesections. Many of these locations, commuters may cross naturally and we don't invite commuters specifically to any location. In these locations we are hoping to provide ancillary stewards to support the tangocommute experience and answer questions of curious commuters and suggest to couples to distribute widely across the locations.

**2.12 I don't live in London, can I tangocommute elsewhere in the country?**

Yes, as a matter of fact, you can dance with your partner at any time and at any place because in this country you have rights to express yourself freely.

**2.13 Can I change my location depending on the weather?**

Yes, you can dance wherever you please. Be aware of your footwear and choose slippery soles for rough ground and sticky soles for smooth ground. The weather can be changable in Britain, which is one of the country's most distinguisd features and should not prevent you from dancing wherever you choose to.

**2.14 Once at the suggested location, where shall I go?**

There will be stewards present on the bridges from 5.45 - 7.30pm as detailed on the map. They can offer additional guidance, however the objective is to disperse throughout all the locations. It is not necessary to identify a steward to participate. Pick your spot find a keen dancer and off you dance.



### **3. Tango Leaders / Teachers / Schools**

#### **3.1 How can I support TangoCommute as a leader in my tango community?**

Tell your students about the event and explain them how they can participate.

Print flyers and posters and hand them out to your students.

Advise your students e.g. which shoes to wear when dancing outdoors, how to protect themselves from the weather, where to buy a headphone connector.

#### **3.2 Does TangoCommute promote the services of TangoSchools?**

Commuters are encouraged to take a tango class before participating in the event and all Tango Schools are being listed.

#### **3.3 Can I advertise my business during TangoCommute?**

No, TangoCommute is not a commercial opportunity for your business and therefore not a publicity stunt for Tango schools. Only the official event flyer shall be handed out to inform passing commuters. We trust your judgement and respect.

#### **3.4 Will there be more TangoCommutes in other countries?**

There has been interest by local organisers in the UK and beyond to organise tangocommutes, e.g. Berlin in Germany, Athens in Greece and others further afield. This movement will be coordinated by the TangoCommute website. Are you interested in creating your own local TangoCommute, please respect the original spirit of the movement and get in touch [info@tangocommute.com](mailto:info@tangocommute.com).

#### **3.5 Does TangoCommuting require permission?**

No, TangoCommuters are acting as individuals and don't form an assembly. They do not move or behave any different from a hugging couple, a tourist holding a camera or a parent pushing a pram. TangoCommuters are primarily commuters using public squares as citizens or private stations as railway customers. Moreover, Tango dancers are highly trained in avoiding collisions on the dance floor. Station Management and City Administration will be notified one week prior to the event. TangoCommuters will be informed that they should dance with consideration and follow health and safety instructions by security staff.



### **3.6 How are TangoCommutes organized?**

TangoCommute is a community project created by individual tango dancers, supported by some leaders of any local tango community. As central hub of disseminating information will serve the [www.tango commute.com](http://www.tango commute.com) website, which is being run by the initiator of the TangoCommute idea, Thomas Lindner, London, UK. If you want to organize your own TangoCommute please get in touch.

### **3.7 How is TangoCommute funded?**

TangoCommute at present is solely funded by the individuals investing their time and money in creating and maintaining it. The first TangoCommute in London 2008 was listed as an event during BigDance week 2008, UK, and therefore was obliged to use respective logos but never received any funds.

TangoCommute is a non-for-profit project. Sponsorship has not been sought but could support further development of the website, image/video archive, printing of steward T-shirts and free headphone connectors. In case you are interested please contact [info@tango commute.com](mailto:info@tango commute.com)

### **4.0 Further : Questions / Suggestions?**

In case you have further questions or suggestions to the future development of tangocommute, please get in touch. We are interested in your take on tangocommute. Contact [info@tango commute.com](mailto:info@tango commute.com)