

best of times

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It takes two, no four to tango

This Kallaroo quartet aims to make music to stun even the Argentinians

By **FRANCES SACCO**

CUARTETO Farol, The Streetlamp Tango Band, is heading to Argentina to learn more about tango with the help of a \$10,000 Arts WA grant.

The band will study at the Collegium Musicum del Tango with some of the world's top musicians and perform at various venues in Buenos Aires.

They will also record a CD entitled *The Buenos Aires Sessions* with other musicians from Argentina.

Violinist Miranda Wageman has already been to Argentina and picked up some of the intricacies..

"It's quite different to playing instruments here," she said.

"In tango the violin is a percussion instrument – it gives the rhythm and the body as well as the melody.

"It can sound quite rough and scratchy."

Cuarteto Farol's core group is based in Kallaroo and consists of four musicians who perform a dynamic cross-section of tango music from around the world.

With Wageman on the violin, Domingo Herrera plays the bandoneon, Jeffrey Harrold the guitar and Leon Pratt the double bass.

The bandoneon in particular is at the core of true tango music, and there is only one bandoneon player in WA.

The bandoneon is a rarity outside Argentina and is considered the most advanced member of the accordion family.

The group already has an audience in Argentina, where they received airplay for their first CD, *Streetlamp Tango*.

Joondalup MLA Tony O'Gorman said the primary focus of the trip was the development of a teaching partnership between Australian artists and Argentinean experts in their field.



Leon Pratt, Miranda Wageman, Domingo Herrera and Jeffrey Harrold.