MIDNIGHT TANGO EXHIBITION, Works by Charles Willmott

by <u>Claire Mitchell</u> 30. January 2012 21:03 The magic of Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace's Midnight Tango appears on canyas!

Renowned figurative painter <u>Charles</u> <u>Willmott</u> was granted special access to two of the stars of BBC s Strictly Come Dancing in order to paint dance sequences from their sell-out Midnight Tango stage show, which is currently at the Aldwych Theatre in London s West End.

Set in a late night bar in downtown Buenos Aires, Vincent and Flavia take the audience on a journey into the heart of this intoxicating city, as danger and excitement, joy and jealousy, pain and passion combine into a spectacular and explosive live stage show.

Charles Willmott is a renowned artist whose portraits of dancers have been keenly collected for decades. Charles describes himself as a figurative realist and as such his paintings are faithful reproductions of his subjects. In the case of Vincent and Flavia, however, he took special care to capture the dancers facial features, making them instantly recognisable as the stars of Strictly Come Dancing. Several stages of Charles creative process are captured in the show. The resulting exhibition ranges from soft sketches to bold oil paintings that capture all the drama and atmosphere of the Midnight Tango show.

I ve enjoyed the great privilege of working with these talented World Argentine Tango Champions, and I thank Vincent and Flavia for re-enacting some of their stunning routines for me, says Charles.





Born in Stratford-Upon Avon, he is the only son of artist and metal craftsman Hague Willmott and originally studied at the Birmingham College of Art. As a contemporary figurative realist he prepares graphite & charcoal studies before painting in oils.

Charles has worked with the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, The Royal Ballet and dancers Miyako Yoshida and Darcey Bussell. In 2000 and 2003, this dedication to the stage and performance earned him a finalist place in the prestigious Garrick/Milne Prize and today his Works include Portraiture, Female Form and Dance.

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