

IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO

Classic dances like the tango have experienced a resurgence in popularity during the past few years. Anyone who saw the movies "Scent of a Woman" or "True Lies" will recall the memorable scenes in which the main characters danced the tango together.

In fact, the tango is one of the most popular and sensual dances of the 19th century. Audiences in Las Vegas can now see professional dancers in a production show dedicated completely to the tango. Direct from San Francisco, "Forever Tango: The Eternal Dance," features a company of 20 world-renowned dancers. Forever Tango "is a musical that defines a culture through stunning choreography and music," says Executive Producer Hugo J. Bandi.

The show can be seen through February 7 in the MGM Grand's Hollywood Theatre.

"Forever Tango" uses music, dance and dramatic vignettes to trace the dance's vivid evolution from its beginnings in turn-of-the-century South America to its acceptance in high society. "The



tango began as an underground dance form in the bordellos in 1880s Buenos Aires," says show creator/director Luis Bravo. "It is now among the most enduring and influential popular dance styles of this century. While it has a repertoire of definite steps, it allows for a certain amount of improvisation as well as tremendous latitude in interpretation. Tango will never be danced the same way twice."

Besides dancing, the show also features an 11-piece string and piano orchestra that is anchored by the bandoneon, an accordion-like instrument imported to Argentina from Germany in 1886. The bandoneon is the mainstay of the tango sound and the show's ensemble features four of only 200 bandoneon players in the world.

Tickets for "Forever Tango: The Eternal Dance" are \$40. Showtimes are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 9 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 and 10:30; and Sunday, February 4 at 3 and 8 p.m. 891-7777.