The Legend of Tango: A Link To The 80s
Readme
v1.02

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1. HELLO YOU!

Thanks for getting this game!

It's an attempt to talk about the conception and early development of
our upcoming game Tango Fiesta in an interesting way - via the medium of videogames.

Nobody reads press releases any more, right?

So why not play one instead?

Here's the brief lowdown:

Tango Fiesta is a real game.
Spilt Milk Studios is a real game developer.
Most of the things that occur in this game are true.
This Playable Press Release was made in less than a fortnight.

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2. INSTALLATION/CONTROLS:

To Install (Windows only, Steams’ a lot simpler! Doesn’t work on Mac OSX):

Unzip the folder (you've already done this I think!)
Double click on Game.exe
Enjoy!

Keyboard Controls:

Cursor Keys - Navigate menus & world
Enter - Action / Interact / Choose
Shift - Run / Speed up text / Speed up battles

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3. GAME INFO:

Tango Fiesta is out on Steam Early Access right now:
http://store.steampowered.com/app/276730/
It's RRP is $15/£12.99
The provisional launch date is 28/08/2015
It will run on PC, Mac (and hopefully Linux soon after launch).

Our twitter is @SpiltMilkStudio
Our website is www.spiltmilkstudios.com
The game's website is www.tangofiesta.co.uk

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4. CAST OF CHARACTERS/REAL PEOPLE:

Andrew John Smith - Himself
Andrew Roper - Himself
Ewan Brock - Himself
Gavin Harrison - Himself
Rupert Loman - Low Man
Robert Purchese - Clert
Chris Avellone - Avellone of X'Obsidian
Ed Stern - Edward the Stern
Keith Stuart - Stuart, Last of the Guardians
James Grant - Sgt. Grant
Andy Payne - General Payne
Stu Morton - Guardsman Morton
Neil McKenna - Guardsman McKenna

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5. CREDITS

MADE BY
Spilt Milk Studios Ltd

DESIGN, CODE, STORY
Andrew J Smith

WEBPAGE CODE
Modern Algebra

SPECIAL THANKS TO
RPG Maker VX Ace
Humble Bundle
Andrew Roper
Gavin Harrison
Ewan Brock
Jon Denton
Rhodri Broadbent
Chris Avellone
Keith Stuart
Ed Stern
Rupert Loman
Nick Marshall
Eurogamer/Gamer Network
Creative Assembly

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6. SPOILERS:

Do not read these unless you want the game spoiled.

It only takes about 10 minutes to play through.

Seriously.

Play it, then come back and learn the TRUTH about some of the weirder things featured in the game.

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- Andrew Smith is not a mercenary, nor is anyone else. Mostly, the martial metaphor stands in for game development. But you knew that because you're smart. I'm just starting out easy, and giving some buffer before the real 'spoilers'.

- Smith's house/Smithy (get it!) is based loosely on the floorplan of the first one Andrew Smith moved to in London. His room had his desk in it, so the wall between his room and the Smithy is a lie, and the storeroom was actually his two flatmates' rooms.

- Andrew Smith really did lose friends over his first big venture (Hard Lines) as Spilt Milk Studios. And he really does regret it to this day.

- Yes, those 'Twittering' handles are our real ones.

- The real EGX Rezzed happened in Birmingham on the weekend of the 22nd and 23rd of June 2013.

- Royal society jam was great fun and did have great biscuits, but did end with some annoying/disappointing wrangling over the work we'd done after the fact. But on the positive side, it was the time we gelled as a team, and the seeds were sown!

- Mark Rein never slapped a dragon. To our knowledge. But he is cool, and we wanted an Epic joke in there.

- Rupert Loman (Lowman) to this day claims he named Tango Fiesta. We're not sure, we were all drunk.

- Clert is based on Robert Purchese of Eurogamer. His character name is derived from his twitter handle, and to the best of our knowledge he was not at a kid's party the morning of the show, nor does he make a habit of dressing up as a clown. He's just so happy and charming and fun to be around, a clown seemed the best sprite for him (out of the options available...)

- The theme was really pulled out of a hat, and the choices in the hat were all made by The Creative Assembly who sponsored the jam.

- The first things we thought when the 80's theme was announced were: "Yay we get to use our 80's jamming playlist!" (we'd jammed together previously, as mentioned above) and "Arnie is cool, and there's not a lot more 80's than that bit in Predator where they shoot the jungle a ton." Tango Fiesta was born!

- You can in fact see the end result of the jam being played live at the event right here (<5 mins long): https://youtu.be/ypykH8YBV0w?t=15m11s

- The full presentation video is here, and shows the judges being introduced as well as the theme, and all of the other entrants (we went on stage first): https://youtu.be/ypykH8YBV0w?t=13m37s

- Gavin Harrison was truly very ill that weekend. He's a trooper but we don't like to let him forget how often he reminded us after the fact! He was actually hospitalised shortly after with the very serious condition known as Acute Pancreatitis. Literally life-threatening, so we make light of it with zombie clones in the game, obviously.

- There really was a person who would get drunk and stroke our (Andrew Smith and Gavin Harrison) faces at multiple games events. Their name is withheld because it's mean to tell. This person did not do any face rubbing at Rezzed that year.

Finally here's us on our return to Rezzed after signing the game, taken early 2014:



(Left to right: Roper, Smith, Harrison, Brock)