



## FOURTH WORLD TOUR GOLD FOR AUSSIES CLANCY AND ARTACHO

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Australia's dynamic duo of Taliqua Clancy and Mariafe Artacho del Solar have won their fourth gold medal on the FIVB World Tour of Beach Volleyball in Portugal at the Espinho Open today. This is their biggest win since combining less than a year ago having won 3 golds and of course the Silver at the Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast in April (losing to world #1 Canada).

Defeating the USA and Brazil on the Finals Day, Mariafe and Taliqua have now won more gold medals on the World Tour than any other combination in Australian Beach Volleyball history and with this 4 Star Tournament win they head to the Grand Slam of World Beach Volleyball next weekend in Gstaad well placed and in the world top 10.

With Olympic qualification commencing in September this Australian combination of indigenous superstar Taliqua Clancy and Peruvian born but Australian bred World Under 23 Champion, Mariafe Artacho del Solar, the team is hitting its stride. Volleyball Australia appointed a new coach, Kiwi born Kirk Pitman just 3 months ago to take over the coaching of the pair within the Beach Volleyroos Program led by Australians Victor Anfiloff and Simon Naismith to prepare the team for Tokyo.