



Soccer WATCH: We Are the Champions

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ISBN	9788897737438
Publisher	Officina Libraria
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding Italy and France
Size	295 mm x 195 mm
Pages	144 Pages
Illustrations	200 color
Price	£19.95

- A truly international selection of the great football players of all times: from Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, UK, Germany, France, Italy, Russia, The Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary, Spain, Austria
- The perfect gift for all football fans: magic moments and great stories that will inspire

Great sports figures are the modern equivalent of heroes. An history of sport is necessarily a story of individuals: tales of redemption and emancipation from modest upbringings, stories of sacrifice and success. Each volume of WATCH, We are the champions, the new series from Officina Libraria, will narrate the history of a sport through 30 engaging biographies of its great champions. And since the publishing house is specialised in high-quality illustrated books, the riveting stories written by Giorgio Martignoni are illustrated by the masterful hand of Roberto Ronchi, in a colourful explosion of energy, icons of those magic moments in sports, from the goal that assigns a Champions League in the last minutes to the climb on the famous Alpe d'Huez, from the three-pointer that decides a collegiate championship to the knockout hook of a boxing match. The biographies of thirty great champions are exciting as a run toward the goal posts, they keep you holding your breath as in those seconds that precede a penalty kick, and in each of them there is a curious aspect, an heroic moment and a touch of poetry. The books starts with the great footballers of the pre-war era, such as Sindelar and Meazza, to finish with today's idols, Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, and those of all the champions that have gifted us with those unforgettable moments, at the stadium or in front of the small screen. Who doesn't remember Pele or Maradona? Who has never heard of George Best or Cruyff? Beckenbauer or Jascin?

Giorgio Martignoni graduated from Scuola del Fumetto (Comics School) in Milan and the Disney Academy as a scriptwriter. He has also attended the Master RAI-Script organised by RAI, the Italy's Television and Radio Broadcasting corporation. He has been writing scripts for Disney since 1995 and has published two books for young adults. He is the author of the format and texts of "Comic Land", the feature on comics of the radio program "Grammelot", Radio 3 RAI. Martignoni not only writes beautifully on sport, but he has also practiced it. As a youngster he had good results in a swimming team, he then played for eight years in an amateur volleyball team. He loves alpine skiing and road cycling, sports he practices when his literary endeavours leave him free time. Roberto Ronchi is an illustrator and cartoonist. He has worked for many years for Disney (Italy, USA and Japan) on comics (Topolino and other magazines) and books and has illustrated books and covers for major publishing houses such as De Agostini, Mondadori, Hachette, Egmont, Hearst, Eaglemoss. In 2014 he illustrated the book Il libro infame by the Italian writer and radio journalist Gianluca Nicoletti.