# UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

®

## MUSEUM

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# 1
# INTRODUCTION

# INTRODUCTION

Since the competition was founded as the European Champions Clubs' Cup over half a century ago, only 22 clubs and 515 players have won it. But, in doing so, they and their opponents have left us an incredibly rich heritage of magic moments. You might not be old enough to remember Alfredo Di Stéfano's Real Madrid, Eusébio's Benfica, Johan Cruyff's Ajax or Franz Beckenbauer's Bayern back in the days when clubs established dynasties by successfully defending the European crown – something no team has yet managed to do since the competition became the UEFA Champions League in 1992.

And exactly what is it that sticks in your mind? Is it a micro-second of breathtaking skill like Zinédine Zidane's sublime volley in the 2002 final? Do you focus on a wider time-span, such as Manchester United's three-minute comeback in Barcelona in 1999? Maybe it's not an image at all, but the sheer drama of a penalty shoot-out. Or perhaps it's an emotion rather than an image. The Museum of Champions offers you memorabilia and images to inspire memories and help you to re-live the special emotions created by the world's top club competition.

## CREDITS

| | |
|---|---|
| Designwerk | Event Branding and Design |
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# Hanot GABRIEL

## 1954

## THE FOUNDER

It may be a statement of the obvious that founder of the 'European Cup' was a man of vision. In latter years 'visionaries' have tended to wear bureaucratic or marketing hats. Not Gabriel Hanot. He was a football man through and through. Born in the northern French city of Arras on 6 November 1889, he played as full-back or winger for US Tourquennoise and AS Française, winning his first cap at 19.

But, after scoring twice during his twelfth international (a 2-2 draw in Belgium) his career was truncated by an accident in the plane he was piloting. After World War II, he partook of a unique footballing cocktail as journalist and national team coach until, after a 5-1 home defeat by Spain in 1949, he penned an unsigned article in L'Equipe demanding his own dismissal as coach. The coach, following the recommendation of the journalist, resigned.

He was 65 and still football editor of L'Equipe when he launched his project for a 'European Cup'. Turning the vision into reality required a team-effort and Hanot was ably backed by the newspaper's editor and publisher Jacques Goddet, aged 50 at the time; by Jacques de Ryswick, a loquacious written-press and radio reporter also aged 50; and by Jacques Ferran, a 34-year-old reporter who was about to start a 30-year stint as football editor at L'Equipe and France Football. Fittingly, L'Equipe's special correspondent in Lisbon for the first-ever European Cup game between Sporting Clube and FK Partizan was Gabriel Hanot, on the spot to watch and record the birth of his baby.

# The first 16

## THE 16 PIONEERS

With England's Football League barring Chelsea FC from competing, Edinburgh-based Hibernian FC were the sole British representatives on a starting grid featuring several names unfamiliar to today's young fans — among them MTK Budapest, who raised the Hungarian flag under the name of Vörös Lobogó, or 1. FC Saarbrücken who, months earlier, had provided ten members of the Saar national team that had played FIFA World Cup qualifiers. Only three of the sixteen pioneers — Real Madrid CF, AC Milan and PSV Eindhoven — have ever lifted the trophy.

The first round of the European Cup produced 71 goals and only five home wins, with another 37 goals coming in the quarter-finals where Real Madrid CF, having beaten FK Partizan 4-0 on Christmas Day, hung on for a 3-0 defeat in ice-bound Belgrade five weeks later. They then beat Gunnar Nordahl's AC Milan to earn a trip to Paris to take on Stade de Reims, who were unbeaten en route to the final. Thanks to Alfredo Di Stéfano, Héctor Rial (2) and Marquitos, Real Madrid came from 2-0 and 3-2 down to win 4-3 and become first champions of Europe.

# The Next 8

## THE 8 FOUNDING MEMBERS

The presence of eight participants explains the eight-pointed Starball which has become one of the competition's trademarks – and the eight names in the first-ever UEFA Champions League created worried frowns in the marketing department. The champions of England, Germany and Spain had been eliminated in the two preliminary rounds. What's more, with the group phase kicking-off in late November, PFC CSKA Moskva, the executioners of defending champions FC Barcelona, were obliged to play their 'home' games in Germany, where they drew once and lost twice. But their group went to the wire, with Olympique de Marseille, Rangers FC and Club Brugge KV fighting for the top spot which gave direct access to the final. The other group was dominated by Fabio Capello's AC Milan, who won all six games, conceding only one goal. Fatally, they conceded one more in the Munich final – the Basile Boli header which made Raymond Goethals' Olympique de Marseille the first champions of a competition that set new benchmarks in European club football.

# 3,779,169

## ULTIMATE FOOTBALL ARENAS

A great game needs a great setting. And Europe's finest teams and best footballers have competed for club football's greatest prize in the continent's most memorable stadiums. These temples of football have often become synonymous with the European Champion Clubs' Cup and UEFA Champions League finals they have staged. It is impossible to think of Hampden Park without picturing the glory of the 1960 final, the most free-scoring in the tournament's history, or the grandeur of Zinédine Zidane's volley as Real Madrid CF won the competition for the ninth time in 2002. The mere mention of Istanbul's Atatürk Olympic Stadium conjures up memories of a blockbuster more thrilling than anything Hollywood has produced, when AC Milan met Liverpool FC. 15 countries and 23 cities have hosted finals since the competition started in 1956, ensuring that a staggering 3,779,169 supporters across Europe have had the chance to watch the game's legends in the flesh.

# 2
# BEST
# CLUBS

# BADGE OF HONOUR

Five great European football clubs – AFC Ajax, FC Bayern München, Liverpool FC, AC Milan, Real Madrid CF – are an elite within the elite. They have won the European Cup 33 times between them and, having won either five times or more – or three years in a row – have been awarded the Badge of Honour. This iconic badge is a simple device – showing a white outline of the trophy on a silver oval – players at these clubs can wear on their left sleeve to show that their club has achieved this remarkable distinction.

In 1966, UEFA decided that Real Madrid CF, having won the trophy for a sixth time, had earned the right to keep it. A new trophy was commissioned but AFC Ajax (winners from 1971 to 1973), FC Bayern München (winners from 1974 to 1976), Liverpool FC (who won their fifth European crown in 2005) and AC Milan (who have won the competition seven times) have all earned the right to keep the trophy.

At the start of the 2000/01 season, a new Badge of Honour was created to commemorate such historic achievements. This badge has now become one of the greatest accolades in European football, a mark that all great clubs aspire to.

# LOS MERENGUES

# REAL MADRID CF

**Real Madrid CF have won more games and scored more goals than any other club in the competition.**

No club has won the European Cup more often or reached as many finals as Real Madrid CF. Any Real Madrid CF side aspiring to greatness must prove its credentials by winning the UEFA Champions League.

As long ago as the mid-1950s, Santiago Bernabéu, Real Madrid CF's great president, realised that dominating this tournament was the key to becoming the world's most famous club. The greatest players to star for Los Merengues have illuminated the history of this tournament from the glory of Alfredo Di Stéfano and Ferenc Puskás to the more recent splendour of Zinédine Zidane and Raúl. The top two all-time goal scorers in the European Cup have played for the club and winger Francisco Gento is the only player to have won this competition six times.

On their way to 12 finals – nine of which they have won – Real Madrid CF have played with a blend of panache, technique and sheer joy that has become a trademark. The club's style and success set the standard their greatest rivals in Europe have striven to match.

# THE REDS

# LIVERPOOL FC



**Liverpool FC have never lost a penalty shoot-out in Europe: defeating AS Roma in 1984, AC Milan in 2005 and Chelsea FC in 2007.**

European football has become part of Liverpool FC's DNA. The club's passion for the UEFA Champions League has inspired many truly historic, atmospheric nights at Anfield. Victory in Istanbul in the 2005 final was a nerve-shredding affair but the self-belief that inspired the Reds remarkable recovery was familiar to anyone who had watched the club win the competition four times in eight years between 1977 and 1984. Coached by Bob Paisley, the only manager to win the tournament three times, the Reds dominated European football with a team including the considerable talents of Kevin Keegan, Graeme Souness, Kenny Dalglish and Ian Rush.

Paisley's triumphs set a glorious precedent and every Liverpool FC manager since has aspired to conquer Europe. By leading the club to victory in 2005, the final in 2007 and two successive semi-finals in 2008 and 2009, coach Rafael Benítez returned Liverpool to the summit of European football.

# DE GODENZONEN

# AFC AJAX

**In 1995, the year that they won the UEFA Champions League, the Dutch national team was almost entirely composed of AFC Ajax players.**

AFC Ajax is historically one of the largest and most storied clubs in European football. Together with Juventus and FC Bayern München, they are one of only three clubs to have one all three major European trophies.

The UEFA Champions League wouldn't be the same without AFC Ajax. This legendary club won three European Cups in a row in the 1970s with a fluid, revolutionary style called 'Total Football' and has discovered some of the tournament's greatest players and coaches. FC Barcelona's first two triumphs in this competition were masterminded by Ajax legends: Johan Cruyff (in 1992) and Frank Rijkaard (in 2006).

AFC Ajax is particularly famous for its renowned youth programme that has produced so many Dutch talents over the years. Since the UEFA Champions League started in 1992/93, Ajax have relied on the quality of youth to compete with Europe's finest. When De Godenzonen won the 1995 final, Patrick Kluivert, still only 18, scored their winning goal.

# DER FCB

# FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN

**FC Bayern München are the only club to have won a domestic championship, domestic cup, European Champion Clubs' Cup, UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, UEFA Cup, UEFA Super Cup and FIFA Club World Cup.**

The UEFA Champions League has been a source of despair and joy to FC Bayern München. The Bavarian giants have never played in a dull final, losing in the dying minutes in 1999 and coming back from behind in the shoot-out to defeat Valencia CF in 2001. The first truly great FC Bayern München team – a stylish, competitive side starring the likes of Sepp Maier, Paul Breitner, Franz Beckenbauer and Gerd Müller – won the competition three times in a row between 1974 and 1976. Germany's most famous club have reached 14 semi-finals – one more than Manchester United FC – but had to wait 25 years to reconquer Europe. In 2001, inspired by Oliver Kahn (who saved three spot kicks in the final shoot-out), the combative instincts of Stefan Effenberg and the artistry of Mehmet Scholl they put the pain of 1999 behind them and reinforced their position as the most successful German club in European competition.

# I ROSSONERI

# AC MILAN



**AC Milan have reached six UEFA Champions League finals and won three of them. No other team has made the final as often since the change of format in 1992/93.**

If European club football was a game of chess, AC Milan would be grandmasters. Few teams have mastered the tactical and technical subtleties of European competition as thoroughly as Milan who have, since 1989, competed in eight European Cup finals (winning five) and one semi-final.

Under a coaching dynasty started by Arrigo Sacchi in the late 1990s, I Rossoneri have consistent lycreated competitive, well-balanced teams that allow such geniuses as Marco van Basten, AndriyShevchenko and Ricardo Kaká to flourish while utilising the craft, guile and vision of Paolo Maldini, Andrea Pirlo and Franco Baresi in defence and midfield. When pitted against the very best, Milan can be inspired: they have beaten Real Madrid CF 5-0 (in the 1988/89 semi-final, Real's heaviest defeat in Europe), FC Barcelona 4-0 (in the 1994 final, a record victory in a UEFA Champions League final) and Manchester United FC 3-0 (in the 2006/07 semi-final second leg).

# 3
# BEST
# FINALS

## The First Final

**Real Madrid CF 4 – Stade de Reims 3**
Parc des Princes, Paris



# A PARIS
# PREMIERE

13.06.1956

**The Ultimate Final**

**Real Madrid CF 7 – Eintracht Frankfurt 3**
Hampden Park, Glasgow



# A RECORD
# 5 VICTORIES

18.05.1960

## The Last 3 Minutes

**Manchester United FC 2 – FC Bayern München 1**
Camp Nou, Barcelona

# 90 + 3

26.05.1999

## The Ultimate Final

**AC Milan 3 – Liverpool FC 3  (2-3 on penalties)**
Atatürk Olimpiyat Stadi, Istanbul



# THE ULTIMATE COMEBACK

**25.05.2005**

# 1962



## A LEGEND IS BORN

**02.05.1962**

**When Eusébio Entered the Limelight**

SL Benfica 5 – Real Madrid CF 3
Olympisch Stadion, Amsterdam

# 1968



## BELIEVE

**29.05.1968**

**The Triumph**

Manchester United FC 4 – SL Benfica 1 (after extra-time)
Wembley, London

# 1993



## A NEW ERA

**26.05.1993**

**The Dawn of the UEFA Champions League**

Olympique de Marseille 1 – AC Milan 0
Olympiastadion, Munich

# 1997



## KALLE-LUJAH

**28.05.1997**

**Riedle solves the Italian riddle**

BV Borussia Dortmund 3 – Juventus 1
Olympiastadion, Munich

# 2008



## MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW

**21.05.2008**

**Theatre of Dreams**

Manchester United FC 1 – Chelsea FC 1 (6-5 on penalties)
Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow

# 2011



## MESMERISING

**28.05.2011**

**A Return to Glory**

FC Barcelona 3 – Manchester United FC 1
Wembley, London

# 2012



## BLUE SKIES

**19.05.2012**

**Drogba's Final Journey to Glory**

FC Bayern München 1 – Chelsea FC 1 (3-4 on penalties)
Fußball Arena München, München

# 4
# BEST PLAYERS

# FRANCISCO
# Gento

**1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1966**

## PACO

Francisco 'Paco' Gento's record of six winners' medals in the European Champion Clubs' Cup still remains unbeaten today. He completed his half-dozen against FK Partizan in 1966, having played in eight of the first eleven finals.

When he played the first, in 1956, the flying left-footer from Santander was 22 – a good six years younger than his illustrious attacking partners Alfredo Di Stéfano and Ferenc Puskás.

# Di Stéfano <span>ALFREDO</span>

## LA SAETA RUBIA

Alfredo Di Stéfano was never one to transmit or receive flowery speeches. The man who emerged as the dominant figure in the early years of continental football was a prototype of the player who preferred to do his talking on the pitch.

Di Stéfano's eloquence as a footballer was pure poetry to those who saw him wearing the famous all-white strip of Real Madrid. He was the classic example of a player who cannot be judged by what he said but can best be judged by what others said about him.

# Puskás FERENC

## THE GALLOPING MAJOR

Only the happiest of accidents allowed the name of Ferenc Puskás to be deeply engraved in the history of European club football. Olympic champion in 1952 and silver-medallist at the 1954 FIFA World Cup, he had hammered in 83 goals in 84 games for Hungary.

But the birth of European club football was rapidly followed by the uprising in Hungary which consigned many top stars to exile – and to be the victims of a two-year ban. Puskás dropped out of sight in Vienna, only to be signed by Real Madrid CF in 1958, when he was on the wrong side of 30 and even further on the wrong side of his 'fighting weight'. The gamble, however, paid off for both parties. He was top scorer four times in the Spanish league, scoring 154 times in 179 games, hit 50 in 40 cup games and, if 110 friendly matches are included, struck an astounding total of 324 goals in 372 games for the Spanish club.

# Eusébio

## A PANTERA NEGRA

Eusébio da Silva Ferreira was among the first African players to make a huge impact in European football. Although Portuguese in his footballing denomination, he has never forgotten his roots in Mozambique and expresses enormous gratitude to Mário Coluna, the compatriot who did so much to help him integrate into Portuguese football when he travelled, on 16 December 1960, from Lorenço Marques to a wintry Lisbon. And it was there, at the Estádio da Luz, that Eusébio earned himself the 'Pantera Negra' Black Panther nickname.

SL Benfica were delighted to have discovered a fast, inventive attacker who, when he had the goal in his sights, had a kick like a mule. At that time, the Lisbon club was a major force in European football and Eusébio made an international name for himself by scoring twice as Benfica came from 2-0 and 3-2 down to beat Real Madrid CF 5-3 in the 1962 final.

# GEORGE Best

## THE FIFTH BEATLE

It was against SL Benfica that George Best revealed the full range of his skill and tricks. Manchester United FC went into the European Champion Clubs' Cup quarter-final tie in Lisbon in 1966 leading by a solitary goal after the 3-2 first-leg win at Old Trafford. United manager Matt Busby planned a cautious approach, at least for the opening 20 minutes, but later famously commented: "George must have listened to my talk with cotton wool in his ears."

Caution was not for Best. He threw it to the wind and scored twice in the first eleven minutes as United stormed to a 3-0 lead within a quarter of an hour. The next day the local papers christened him 'El Beatle'.

Best would play a leading role when Manchester United FC finally won the European Champion Clubs' Cup in 1968. He broke the deadlock and produced a scintillating performance as United defeated Benfica in extra time at Wembley.

Later that year he beat United team-mate Bobby Charlton to the France Football Ballon d'Or award. Blessed with exquisite talent, the Northern Irishman also contributed to two league championship successes at United while his good looks and flamboyant lifestyle earned him pop-star status in the United Kingdom.

# Charlton SIR BOBBY

## 1968

## BOBBY DAZZLER

Bobby Charlton was the ultimate 'Busby Babe', a player blessed with a left foot wielded with, it was fashionable to say, cannon-ball power. But he was much more than a striker. He could glide down the wing, he could lead the attack, and he was at his most effective as a deep lying, play-making centre-forward. As his Manchester United FC's team-mate Pat Crerand said "Bobby was pure poetry."

# JOHAN
# Cruyff

## NUMMER 14

The Total Footballer helped AFC Ajax to take Europe by storm during the first three seasons of the 1970s, prompting his coach, Rinus Michels, to claim that "Cruyff is from another planet".

In 1992, by leading FC Barcelona to victory at Wembley, he became only the third man behind Miguel Muñoz and Giovanni Trapattoni to take the European crown as both player and coach – a feat which was repeated by Carlo Ancelotti in 2003, Frank Rijkaard in 2006 and Josep Guardiola in 2009.

# FRANZ
# Beckenbauer

## DER KAISER

On 3 August 1971, Franz Beckenbauer was playing with FC Bayern München in Vienna for a pre-season friendly against FK Austria Wien to celebrate the Austrian club's 60th anniversary. At the team hotel, he was approached by Austrian photographer Herbert Sündhofer who – with no ulterior motive – wished to take a photo of him. It so happened that Franz was photographed next to a bust of the Austrian Emperor, Kaiser Franz Joseph I 1848-1916. The photo was published in Austria and Germany and one caption read the meeting of two Emperors Kaiser Franz and Kaiser Franz Joseph. A legend was born.

# Maldini PAOLO

## IL CAPITANO

Left-backs don't often become legends but Paolo Maldini did – as a role model of loyalty to a club, as an outstanding performer and as ambassador for the game. Following his father's footsteps into AC Milan, Paolo made his debut at 16 and bowed out a month short of 41. Over 1,000 games separated the two dates and, when he became champion of Europe in 1989, 20 years after Cesare, the Maldinis became one of two fathers and sons to win the title. Paolo, a UEFA Champions League pioneer when it was born in 1992, headed the fastest goal ever scored in a final after 51 seconds of the ill-fated meeting with Liverpool in 2005. When he lifted the trophy for the fifth time – the second as AC Milan captain – in 2007, he became the oldest champion at almost 39. It was a fitting climax to 174 UEFA games and 126 for Italy.

# Raúl

## EL SIETE

Raúl made his UEFA Champions League debut against AFC Ajax in Amsterdam in September 1995. It was Real Madrid's debut in the new format of the competition and Raúl's explosive pace, intelligent running and innate finishing ability have been hallmarks of the club's illustrious contributions since then.

He has twice topped the UEFA Champions League scoring charts. He has been champion of Europe three times. And he has scored in two of the three victorious finals, rolling in the opener against Bayer 04 Leverkusen in Glasgow in 2002 two years after the 70-metre solo run towards the Valencia CF goal at the Stade de France had produced one of the most remarkable goals ever seen in a UEFA Champions League final.

# CLARENCE Seedorf

## 1995 1998 2003 2007

## OPA

The Dutch midfielder made UEFA Champions League history as the only player to have been champion of Europe with three different clubs. Launched into the AFC Ajax first team by Louis van Gaal at 16, he made an immediate impact with his superlative technique, quick feet and an even quicker footballing brain. Having donned the European crown with the Amsterdam club in 1995, he returned to the city as a Real Madrid CF player in 1998 to lift the trophy for a second time at the newly-built ArenA. After two years with FC Internazionale Milano, he crossed the city to join AC Milan in 2002 and, in his first season, completed his hat-trick by winning the 2003 final against Juventus at Old Trafford. Four seasons later he picked up UEFA's Best Midfielder award after lifting the trophy for the fourth time at the 2007 final against Liverpool FC. By the time he bowed out of the UEFA Champions League in the 2011/12 quarter-final against FC Barcelona, he had made 125 appearances in his favourite competition.

# Del Piero

**1996**

## ALE

Alessandro Del Piero joined Juventus in 1993 and remained faithful to Italian football's Old Lady during a 19-year career – even continuing to wear the captain's armband when the famous Turin club was relegated to Serie B. Scoring goals regularly for almost two decades against Italian defences required talent – and Del Piero had it. When he finally left in 2012, he had set club records of 705 appearances and 290 goals for Juventus and had forged a reputation as one of the game's deadliest strikers of a dead ball, with his free-kicks regularly among the candidates for UEFA Champions League accolades in the set-play category. He played in various attacking roles, winning the UEFA Champions League in the first of his four finals in 1996, operating in the hole behind Gianluca Vialli and Fabrizio Ravanelli and played a similar role behind Luca Toni and Vincenzo Iaquinta when he came on as sub in the 2006 FIFA World Cup final and converted his penalty in the shoot-out victory over France.

# Casillas IKER

**2000 2002**

## SAN IKER

With trophies ranging from the European Under-16 title to a FIFA World Cup winner's medal and two UEFA European Championships, Real Madrid CF's No.1 is in the select band of players who have won every major competition with club and national team. Casillas has played more UEFA Champions League games than any other goalkeeper, picking up winner's medals in 2000 and 2002. His reflexes and shot-stopping abilities have won him a collection of individual awards and his leadership qualities made him the ideal choice to captain Real and to wear the armband for the Spanish national team, where he has made more appearances than any other player.

# Scholes PAUL
# Giggs RYAN

**1999 2008**

## THE GINGER PRINCE

Paul Scholes is the archetypal 'team player'. The ginger-haired midfielder has been loyal to Manchester United FC since the days when he was winning the FA Youth Cup in England alongside David Beckham and Ryan Giggs. He has always preferred to keep a low media profile and let his football do the talking. And his football has been based on selfless hard work, intelligent passing and explosive shooting power.

It was his solitary long-range goal that beat FC Barcelona in the 2007/08 semi-final and allowed him to lift the UEFA Champions League trophy in Moscow, sweetening the bitter aftertaste of having missed United's 1999 triumph through suspension. Scholes has now passed the landmarks of 700 games and 150 goals for United, with well over 100 appearances in the UEFA Champions League – which could have been more had he not 'retired' in 2011, only to be persuaded to return seven months later.

## THE WELSH WIZARD

Clichés about 'living legends' are not wasted on Ryan Giggs, one of the most decorated players in the British game. The Welshman made his debut as a flying left-winger in March 1991 and, 20 years later, appeared in a deeper midfield role to beat Sir Bobby Charlton's record of 758 appearances for Manchester United FC when he came on as sub in the 2008 UEFA Champions League final. His penalty in the shoot-out turned out to be the winner that gave United their third European crown and he went on to reach 1,000 competitive appearances for the club and to become the oldest player ever to score in the UEFA Champions League.

# DAVID Beckham

## BECKS

Not many footballers inspire full-length feature films. Bend it like Beckham was a tribute to the charisma and exceptional abilities of a player who wore the colours of clubs which had, jointly, been champions of Europe on 19 occasions. It was at Manchester United FC that he developed from boy to man, as a footballer and a human being, while progressing from victory in the FA Youth Cup in 1992 to the epic triumph in the 1999 UEFA Champions League final. Although unprecedented glitter has been attached to it, his career has been underpinned by a profound love for the game and a strong training ethic which allowed him to hone his crossing, long-range shooting and set plays.

His moves to Real Madrid CF and Paris Saint-Germain FC, with two loan spells at AC Milan allowed him to surpass 100 UEFA Champions League appearances and to confirm the magnetism of a player who successfully blended glamour with a lot of hard work on the training pitch.

# Shevchenko

**2003**

## SHEVA

Andriy Shevchenko joined AC Milan from FC Dynamo Kyiv in 1999 and his prolific exploits in Italy earned him the France Football Ballon d'Or in 2004. His ability to score goals was derived from exceptional fitness, clinical finishing and intelligent off-the-ball movement. When he left Italy for Chelsea FC in 2006, his haul of 173 goals had made him Milan's second-highest marksman and he had also converted the winning penalty during the shoot-out that decided the 2003 UEFA Champions League final against Juventus. Returning to Dynamo in 2009, one of Ukraine's legends rounded off a career that featured 67 goals in 143 games in UEFA competitions.

# STEVEN
# Gerrard

## 2005

## STEVIE G

Steven Gerrard has been an inspirational force as captain, goalscorer and talismanic presence for Liverpool FC. The archetypal 'complete midfielder' possesses a rare blend of tenacity, technique and an extraordinary ability to hit long passes and long-range shots with power and precision. Gerrard led by example and gave his team-mates confidence and belief with his tackling, passing and shooting as the club won the UEFA Champions League in 2005 with that unforgettable, improbable comeback from 3-0 down against AC Milan in Istanbul. It was his header, early in the second half, which turned the tide but it was his inspirational role throughout the season which earned him the UEFA Club Footballer of the Year.

Gerrard also scored in another of the 'craziest' European finals in recent history, when Liverpool beat Deportivo Alavés 5-4 in Dortmund to take the UEFA Cup in 2001. But his career has been about consistency rather than isolated peaks. The Liverpool captain is the club's highest scorer in UEFA competitions and has passed the milestone of 100 appearances for his country — a quarter of them as captain.

# Ronaldinho

## RONALDINHO GAÚCHO

If he's wearing the FC Barcelona shirt, it takes a special player to earn a standing ovation from the Real Madrid CF fans at the Estadio Santiago Bernabéu. Ronaldinho has been special enough to do just that. France Football Ballon d'Or, FIFA World Player, and UEFA Club Footballer of the Year in 2006, his collection of individual awards is not only a mark of exceptional quality but also an ode to the joy of football.

At Paris Saint-Germain FC, at FC Barcelona, at AC Milan or as a FIFA World Cup winner with Brazil, Ronaldinho has played the game with a trademark toothy smile and has spread smiles among the fans with his extraordinary repertoire of skills ranging from passes with his back to free-kicks over or round defensive walls – or even under them, as displayed in a UEFA Champions League game against Werder Bremen. But his trickery is productive. As well as the 2006 UEFA Champions League win in Paris, his teams have won titles at levels ranging from the Under-17s to the FIFA World Cup.

# Xavi
# Iniesta ANDRÉS

## EL PROFE

A product of FC Barcelona's famous youth system, Xavi Hernández has become the ultimate pass master in an astounding sequence of successes for club and country. Xavi is a profoundly modest genius with immaculate timing, superb technique, a deep understanding of the game and a unique ability to dance his way out of trouble and, somehow, to deliver inspired passes from tight situations. Apart from two EUROs and a FIFA World Cup, Barça's diminutive playmaker has won every conceivable club title; has smashed appearance records; and has become a perennial candidate for the game's top individual awards.

## EL CEREBRO

He's more than happy for his team-mates to hog the limelight, but the sheer quality of Andrés Iniesta's football pushes him towards centre-stage. The FC Barcelona midfielder is one of a rare breed who, season after season, can still find unique solutions to one-on-one situations and bring the fans to their feet. His creative passing carries a sting, as he ghosts into the opponents' area to score crucial goals – including the extra-time strike which won Spain the FIFA World Cup in 2010. Iniesta, UEFA's Player of the Tournament when Spain won the European Championship two years later, will also go into the record books as one of the few top footballer to own a vineyard while still offering the fans some vintage football.

# Samuel Eto'o

## SAMMY

One of the best all-around forwards in the world, with an astonishing strike rate, Samuel Eto'o won the first of well over 100 caps for Cameroon at 15; has been gold-medallist at African Cup of Nations and Olympic finals; and became the first player to win the African Player of the Year award four times. But he claims his greatest satisfaction was becoming one of only four players to have won the UEFA Champions League in consecutive seasons with two different teams. In Rome in 2009, he scored FC Barcelona's first goal in the final against Manchester United FC as the Catalans clinched their third European crown and then showed his insatiable appetite for success by dropping deep and contributing to defensive play when FC Internazionale Milano beat FC Bayern München in Madrid a year later. His exciting, volatile attacking skills have made him a serial goalscorer – and a specialist in hitting the crucial first goal which opens up the opposition.

# RICARDO
# Kaká

## KAKÁ

A brilliant striker or playmaker, Ricardo Kaká can win games with shots from distance, an inspired pass or by running at defences from central midfield. The Brazilian scooped up all the individual awards in the 2006/07 season, when he was top scorer in the UEFA Champions League with ten goals and was a key performer in AC Milan's run to the title, rounding off a great campaign by providing both assists as the rossoneri defeated Liverpool FC 2-0 in the Athens final.

His game is not just about what he does. It's also about the way he does it. His movements on and off the ball have a special economy and elegance. He makes his exceptional ball skills look effortless and, on the pitch, he expresses himself with the humility and belief which are the hallmarks of his personality. Having joined AC Milan in 2003 and been signed by Real Madrid CF in 2009, Kaká's professionalism has earned him role-model status within the game and his blend of Brazilian fantasy and tactical awareness have fascinated fans all around the globe.

# CRISTIANO Ronaldo

## 2008

## ABELHINHA

Vicious, swerving free-kicks, tap-ins after high-speed runs behind defenders, bullet headers, power drives from improbable distances… Cristiano Ronaldo finds all sorts of routes to the net. The Portuguese striker's immense repertoire has made him one of the world's greatest and prompted Real Madrid CF to pay Manchester United FC a world record fee for him in the summer of 2009.

When Ronaldo joined United from Sporting Clube de Portugal in 2003, pace, one-on-one dribbling skills and stepovers were his most obvious attributes. But, as an ambitious and relentless self-improver, he added extra dimensions to his game under Sir Alex Ferguson and won the France Football Ballon d'Or, FIFA World Player and UEFA Club Footballer and of the Year in 2008 after scoring 42 goals in all competitions, eight of them in the UEFA Champions League, including the goal in the victorious final against Chelsea FC.

Ronaldo not only scores, but scores spectacularly. Season after season, when UEFA's technical observers meet to select the best goals of the UEFA Champions League, he supplies candidates in both the open-play and set-play categories. Under José Mourinho at Real Madrid, he has operated across the width of the attack and has hammered in goal after goal from any position and his flair for the spectacular has made him as popular among 'merengue' fans as club legends like Zinédine Zidane, Luís Figo or even Alfredo Di Stéfano.

# LIONEL
# Messi

## LA PULGA

Once in a generation, an extra-special player comes along. Lionel Messi seems to have stepped out of a computer game and on to the pitch. His skills have the fans rubbing their eyes and asking "how did he do that?" And FC Barcelona's modest pocket-sized genius is not just a scoring machine. He clocks up as many assists as he does goals. Even Argentina's other left-footed legend, Diego Maradona, is in awe: "He feels the ball, that's what makes him different from the rest. I have found my heir."

Messi loves the UEFA Champions League. The fans gave him the first of many standing ovations on his tournament debut against Udinese Calcio on 27 September 2005. Inheriting Ronaldinho's No. 10 jersey in 2008/09 seemed to inspire him to even greater heights; to score crucial goals against Manchester United FC as Barça won the 2009 and 2011 finals; to become a serial top scorer in the world's greatest club competition; and to pick up award after award in the polls that pay homage to the most dazzling performers on planet football. And, as if to demonstrate that greatness can be measured in numbers, he smashed Gerd Müller's 40-year-old record of 85 goals in a calendar year by hitting the net 91 times in 2012. Will we see anything like him again?

# Milito DIEGO

## 2010

## EL PRÍNCIPE

Arriving from Italian Serie A club Genoa CFC as a replacement for the departing Zlatan Ibrahimović, Diego Milito had big boots to fill at FC Internazionale Milano. And fill them he did. While his reputation as a marksman may have been understated, José Mourinho knew the type of player he was bringing to San Siro.

It took the rest of Europe a little longer to wake up to the talents of Milito but, when they did, it was too late as the Argentinian was firing goals against them with regularity and aplomb. Chelsea FC were a high profile victim in the Round of 16, with Milito's opener at the Stadio Giuseppe Meazza setting Inter on their way to victory over Carlo Ancelotti's men, but FC Bayern München proved the best scalp of all.

The biggest names shine on the biggest stage and Milito proved his star pedigree in the UEFA Champions League final in Madrid, grabbing both goals in a 2-0 victory that secured Inter their third European crown and their first in 45 years.

# ZINÉDINE
# Zidane

## ZIZOU

One of the hallmarks of truly great players is that they are often known by their nickname. The technical brilliance of the left-footed volley by 'Zizou' that gave Real Madrid CF their 2-1 win against Bayer 04 Leverkusen in the 2002 final encapsulated the flair and originality of a player who also reached finals with Juventus and helped FC Girondins de Bordeaux to reach the UEFA Cup final in 1996. His goal at Hampden Park was arguably the best ever seen at a final.

# THE ULTIMATE GOAL

## 15.05.2002

> **"**
>
> **That volley, of course, was a great moment for me. To score like that in the Champions League, think that only happens once in your life. It's one of my greatest memories."**
>
> **"**

# 5
# ROAD
# TO
# WEMBLEY

# Road to Wembley

## FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN

**GROUP STAGE**                                    **F**

FC Bayern München
Valencia CF
FC BATE Borisov
LOSC Lille

**ROUND OF 16**                                   **3-3**

**Bayern win on away goals**

**Arsenal FC 1-3 FC Bayern München**
Arsenal Stadium, London

**FC Bayern München 0-2 Arsenal FC**
Fußball Arena München, Munich

**QUARTER-FINALS**                                **4-0**

**FC Bayern München 2-0 Juventus**
Fußball Arena München, Munich

**Juventus 0-2 FC Bayern München**
Juventus Stadium, Turin

**SEMI-FINALS**                                   **7-0**

**FC Bayern München 4-0 FC Barcelona**
Fußball Arena München, Munich

**FC Barcelona 0-3  FC Bayern München**
Camp Nou, Barcelona

**FINAL**

FINAL
WEMBLEY 2013

## BORUSSIA DORTMUND

**GROUP STAGE**                                    **D**

Borussia Dortmund
Real Madrid CF
AFC Ajax
Manchester City FC

**ROUND OF 16**                                   **5-2**

**FC Shakhtar Donetsk 2-2 Borussia Dortmund**
Donbass Arena, Donetsk

**Borussia Dortmund 3-0 FC Shakhtar Donetsk**
BVB Stadion Dortmund, Dortmund

**QUARTER-FINALS**                                **5-2**

**Málaga CF 0-3 Borussia Dortmund**
La Rosaleda, Málaga

**Borussia Dortmund 3-2 Málaga CF**
BVB Stadion Dortmund, Dortmund

**SEMI-FINALS**                                   **4-3**

**Borussia Dortmund 4-1 Real Madrid CF**
BVB Stadion Dortmund, Dortmund

**Real Madrid CF  2-0  Borussia Dortmund**
Estadio Santiago Bernabéu, Madrid

**FINAL**

FINAL
WEMBLEY 2013

# FINAL



# WEMBLEY

25.05.2013