Content guide for 1938 World Cup



1938 World Cup is the third in a series of visual art portraits of the quadrennial world championship tournament for the game of soccer (association football). The 1938 tournament was held in France against the backdrop of ongoing and looming conflicts in Europe and Asia leading up to the second world war. The work tells in pictures, diagrams, and words, the story of this third iteration of the world cup, and pays tribute to the host nation and cities, to legendary players, the ball of the tournament, and more. The artwork is currently digital only, but will be mixed-media on canvas and measures 61cm x 61cm (24" x 24").

World map highlighting the 15 finalists countries participating in the 1938 World Cup.

Contours of the **country of France**, the host of the 1938 World Cup.

A short round of qualifying games lead to a 16-team knockout tournament structure similar to the 1934 World Cup. It was the first world cup for which the hosts and the title holders qualified automatically. In protest of the decision to hold the second consecutive world cup in Europe, neither Argentina nor Uruguay participated. Spain and Japan could not participate due to the Spanish civil war and the Sino-Japanese war. Austria gualified but had to withdraw due to the annexation by Germany.

Crest of the 1938 World Cup Champions (Italy)

The pattern of the **ALLEN** OFFICIEL ball. The ALLEN was the ball made and provided by France for the 1938 World Cup. It was similar to the Federal 102 used in Italy 4 years prior, also hand sewn from 13 leather panels and with laces. However, the edges of the panels used in the Allen were more rounded, making the ball itself more spherical.

Stades Olympique de Colombes was the stadium used for the 1938 World Cup final. The stadium was build for the 1924 Olympic Games and held 45,000 spectators.

All **games and results** from the first round to the final of the 1938 World Cup + names of goal scorers and stadia, number of spectators for each game, and the teams and playing formations for the final game.

The official **FIFA poster** produced for the 1938 World Cup tournament. The poster was designed by French artist Henri Desmé, and shows a player resting his foot on a ball and the ball resting on a globe exactly where France is located.

Maps of war: Maps illustrating the 3 conflicts and acts of war that had a direct influence on the 1938 World Cup. Top: The Sino-Japanese war meant that Japan could not participate. Middle: The Spanish civil war caused that nation not to take part. Bottom: The annexation of Austria by Germany forced that country to withdraw despite qualifying.

Location and names of the **9 host cities** in France.

The Czechoslovakian goalkeeper **František Plánička** was retrospectively chosen as the best goalkeeper of the 1938 World Cup (now called the "Golden Glove" Award).

List of the **15 finalist countries** in order of placement in the tournament

Leônida Da Silva ("The Black Diamond"), a Brazilian forward, won the Golden Boot in the 1938 World Cup. He was a small and fast and also known as "the rubber man" due to his agility. He scored 21 goals in 19 games for Brazil, and 7 in the 1938 World Cup. He was retrospectively chosen as the best player of the tournament (Golden Ball award). He played most of his professional career in Flamingo and Sâo Paulo.

The 2-3-5 formation was the most popular / used formation of the teams playing in the 1930 World Cup

Historical notes and statistics about the 1938 World Cup tournament and the world at the time. **The Jules Rimet trophy** — the World Cup trophy from 1930—1970. A 30cm tall 4 kg gold-plated sterling silver statue bearing the name of FIFA's 3rd president, and made by french sculptor Abel Lafleur in the image of the Greek goddess of victory (Nike).