



Inter 100 years of emotions - a photographic exhibition

A photographic exhibition entitled 'Inter 100 years of emotions' will be on display at the Italian Cultural Institute in London from 5-16 June - the first of a series of events planned in major cities worldwide to showcase the century-long history of F.C. Internazionale in its Centenary year.

Featuring a host of stunning photographs from F.C. Internazionale's official Centenary almanac, the exhibition traces the long path Inter has taken through its first century - from the signing of the founding act in 1908 to the recent triumphs that have seen the club return to the forefront of Italian football.

A press conference will take place on Tuesday 3 June at 6 pm, followed by a reception.

The exhibition, staged under the aegis of the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, is curated by Oliviero Toscani. The installation is by Paolo Buroni.

F.C. Internazionale

Football Club Internazionale Milano was born on 9 March 1908 from an act of rebellion, to open the pitches of Milan to foreigners. One hundred years on, F.C. Internazionale - for everyone Inter - is a wonderful story of men and football, victories and style, passion and pride, memories and contemporary realities that are relived in this volume dedicated to the only Italian club that always been in Serie A, and recognised in all four corners of the globe for its triumphs and champions, but most of all, for its behaviours, which are still linked to that initial deed of incorporation: rebellious, never banal, but always faithful to the rules of sport.

From the first Scudetto, which came two years, a month and fifteen days after the club's foundation, on 24 April 1910 (with president Carlo De Medici and player-coach Virgilio Fossati, the first champion, the first Inter player to wear an Italy shirt, the first hero - he died on the front in the Great War) to the sixteenth league title 2006/07. From the brief Ambrosiana era (a

name taken from St. Ambrose, the patron saint and bishop of Milan) to the Centenary shirt with the coat of arms of Milan. From the legendary Giuseppe Meazza (nicknamed 'Balilla', an artist on and off the field, a prolific scorer, a true ace, a legend) to Zlatan Ibrahimovic, the genius of our times. From the footballing sermons of Peppino Prisco, the fan of all fans, lawyer, vice president and ex-alpine corps soldier who famously said: "There are two teams in Milan - Inter and Inter Primavera," to the unique style of the Moratti family that for everyone means the Great Inter with its 'Presidentissimo' Angelo, and the modern-day Inter that has undergone reorganization and returned to winning ways under his son Massimo, who took over in February 1995.

Many stories within one story. Champions, but also common people, like the anonymous fans who in 100 years of history have built their own beautiful Inter and kept it jealously in their hearts. A love passed down from father to son, a love that becomes international in the most literal sense of the word. Polls cannot quantify a passion, or explain the reason why Inter is the most-loved club in China, or why Inter becomes a magic word through the Inter Campus projects, opening doors for needy children in 17 countries worldwide.

It is the strength of history. And each history has its epicentre, its eternal flame. For Inter, that eternal flame is the Great Inter team of the 1960s. There have been many important teams before (the back-to-back Scudetto-winning side in 1952/53 and 1953/54) and after (the comeback in 1970/71, the dominating team in 1979/80, the record-breaking team in 1988/89), and many unforgettable champions (Lorenzi and Skoglund, Nyers and Angelillo, Ghezzi and Wilkes, Boninsegna and Altobelli, Beccalossi and Oriali, Bergomi-Ferri-Zenga and Matthaeus-Brehme). But the team built by Angelo Moratti, Helenio Herrera and Italo Allodi is a poem, a work of art that was born on Saturday 28 May 1955 when oil magnate Moratti, born in 1909, married to Erminia Cremonesi, and father to six children, became the 15th president of Inter after buying the club from Carlo Rinaldo Masseroni. Herrera, more of a football gypsy than an Argentine, arrived in Milan from Barcelona in 1960. He earned a lot and talked a lot ("we will win everything, and against everyone"), bringing with him one of the greats. Ballon d'Or winner Luis Suarez joined a team with a granite-like defence composed of Armando Picchi, Tarcisio Burgnich and Aristide Guarneri, with Giacinto Facchetti who attacked and defended down the left, with the romantically creative Mario Corso, famed for his free kicks, with Alessandro Mazzola and Jair who combined speed and technical flair in attack. On 28 April 1963, in Turin, Juventus lost 1-0 to Inter. Mazzola, son of the great Valentino, scored the goal. The championship was theirs and the legend was just beginning, and not only in Italy - twice Inter was to win the European championship and at the same time they were twice world champions.

Against everything and everyone, as Helenio Herrera used to say, the modern history of F.C. Internazionale proves it again. The club's three

consecutive Serie A titles in 2005/06, 2006/07 and 2007/08 can be read as a new act of rebellion against clichés, against detractors of all kinds. In 2006/07 the Nerazzurri dominated the Italian championship, set new records, and showed on the pitch that the only secret of sport is the strength of technique combined with a strong squad and character. It is the Scudetto that Massimo Moratti, the team and all the fans dedicated to Giacinto Facchetti, a champion first and president later, the true spirit of Inter: honesty.