

## LUCA CAIOLI – BESTSELLING BOOKS

### **MESSI** MORE THAN A SUPERSTAR

*Icon Books, 280 pages*

*UPDATED EDITION released on September 2017*

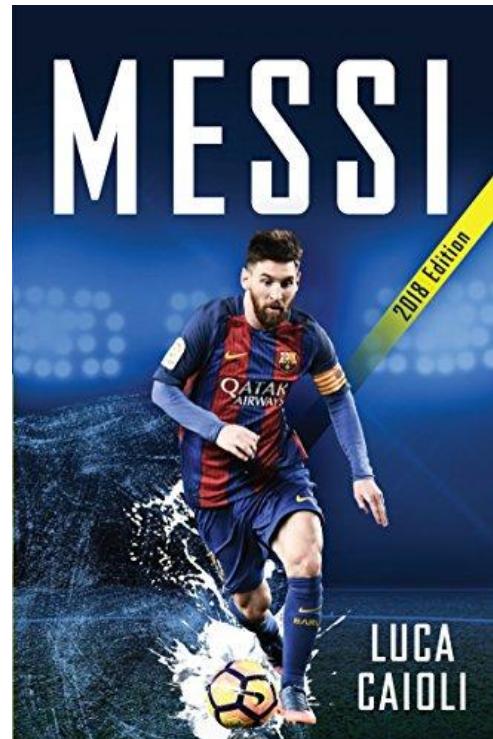
**Text available in English, Spanish and other languages**

Lionel Messi is pure talent; he was born to play football. He's always showed a degree of maturity rarely seen on the soccer pitch. Already famous, but still the shy boy who describes his Maradona moment with disarming simplicity: "I saw the gap and I went for it." A young man who lives on both sides of the Atlantic, between Rosario and Barcelona, from the light blue and white Argentina national team colours to the maroon and blue of Barça. His was a happy childhood, giving way to teenage years marked by daily hormone injections.

Author Luca Caioli draws on exceptional testimonies: Messi's parents, Celia and Jorge, his brother Rodrigo and his uncles and aunts; his coaches at Grandoli and Newell's Old Boys; Charly Rexach, Alex García, Frank Rijkaard, Gianluca Zambrotta from Barcelona; Hugo Tocalli, Pancho Ferrero, el Coco Basile, Roberto Perfumo from Argentina. And to conclude, Leo Messi himself sizes up his life so far.

**RIGHTS SOLD TO 35 LANGUAGES:** English (Icon Books), Spanish (Grup 62), Spanish-Argentina (Planeta), Catalan (Columna), Japanese (Toho), Korean (Joongang Life), French (Rocher), Czech (Timy Partners), Slovak (Timy P.), German (Werkstatt), Dutch (Thomas Rap), Polish (SQN), Italian (Dalai), Persian (Kelke Mashate), Chinese (Shanghai 99), Bulgarian (MBooks), Swedish (Sportförlaget I Europa), Hungarian (Gabo), Hebrew (Yedioth Books), Indonesian (Ikhlas Media), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm), Finnish (Minerva), Greek (Papadopoulos), Slovene (Ucila), Vietnamese (Alpha Books), Arabic (Obeikan), Romanian (Preda), Russian (Centrepolygraph), Brazilian (L&PM), Serbian (Novolistampa), Turkish (Marti), Montenegrin (Obodsko Slovo), Thai (Amarin), Hindi and Marathi (Rajpal) and Macedonian (Ars Lamina).

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Over 400.000 copies  
sold worldwide

'Messi's biography is not only interesting; it also reflects the use of professional football with his great talents'  
**Main-Echo (Germany)**

## LUCA CAIOLI

### **RONALDO** THE OBSESSION FOR PERFECTION

*Icon Books, 2012, 288 pp.*

*UPDATED EDITION released on September 2017*

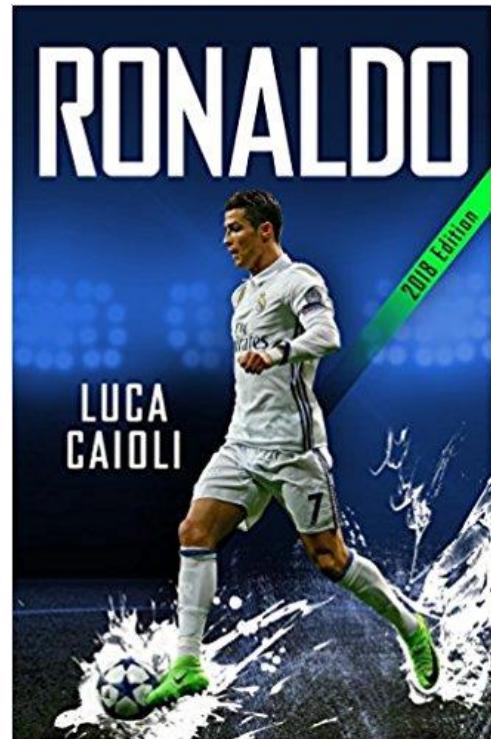
**Text available in English, Italian and in Spanish**

When a young Portuguese player with sublime abilities arrived at Manchester United in 2003, Alex Ferguson put the no. 7 shirt – once worn by Best, Cantona and Beckham – on his back without hesitation. The expectation was clear, and Cristiano Ronaldo didn't disappoint.

Ronaldo won the FIFA World Footballer of the Year in 2008, the first Premier League player ever to do so. Since his record-breaking £80m move to Real Madrid, his goal-scoring flair has continued and made his on-going rivalry with Barcelona's Lionel Messi even more intense.

Luca Caioli tells the inside story of this global superstar both on and off the pitch, unveiling the life of one of modern football's great players as never before.

**Rights sold to over 30 languages:** Spanish (Roca), French (Rocher), Czech & Slovak (Timy Partners), Danish and Swedish (Turbulenz), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm), Polish (SQN), Dutch (Thomas Rap), German (Werkstatt), Korean (Grijoa), Portuguese (Presença), Japanese (Jitsugyo-No Nihon), Vietnamese (Alpha Books), Hebrew (Yedioth Books), Romanian (Preda), Hungarian (Gabo), Slovene (Ucila), Italian (Castelvecchi), Serbian (Novolistampa), Indonesian (Zaytuna), Georgian (Autograph), Brazilian (Qualitymark), Finnish (Minerva), Chinese (Changjiang), Macedonian (Ars Lamina), Russian (Eksmo), Bulgarian (Locus), Turkish (Marti), Montenegrin (Obodsko Slovo) and Hindi and Marathi (Rajpal).



240.000 copies sold  
worldwide

Bestselling non-fiction  
book for weeks in  
several countries

## LUCA CAIOLI

### **NEYMAR** THE MAKING OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST NUMBER 10

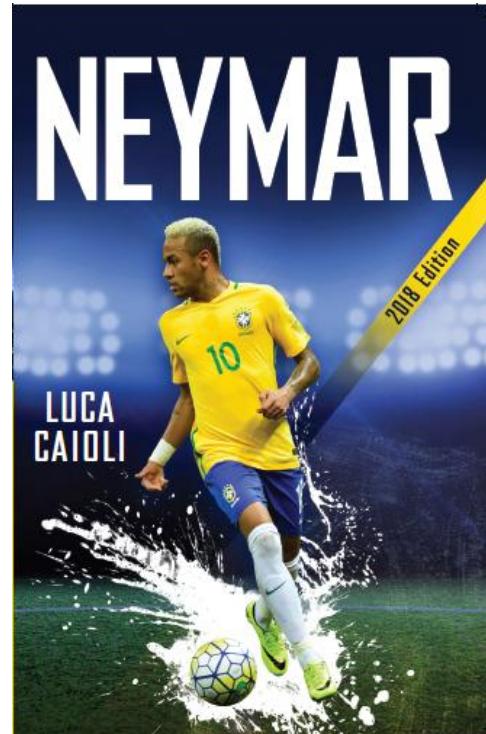
*Icon Books, 2014, 240 pp*

*UPDATED EDITION released on September 2017*

**Text available in English, Italian and in Spanish**

He turned 24 on February 5, 2016 and Times Magazine has already named him 'The Next Pele' on its cover. Neymar da Silva Santos Junior is the new global football superstar. He is a *garoto* (teen for the Brazilian) polite and gracious that thanks to his mastery at dribbling and shooting and his ability to fulfil the most daring mischiefs, makes children and adults dream. It is a bird that knows to fly over the grass. A phenomenon of this game as it has not been seen in time and an impressive media phenomenon. Sponsorships come to him like flies to the honey. His earnings: more than 20 million Euro a year, following France Football. With Santos, the team where O Rei Pelé played almost his whole life, he's reached three national Championships, one Brazilian Cup, a Libertadores Cup and has been elected twice as the best player of South America. Wearing the 10 of the *canarinha*, a heavy weight shirt for Brazil, he doesn't seem to feel the responsibility. With Barcelona, that signed him for 57 million Euro, he'll be able to grow training alongside Leo Messi, becoming one of the most lethal partnerships in football's History. "I adore Ney", was read in a banner waved by a girl the day of the presentation of the Brazilian icon at the Camp Nou. She's not the only one. All who love football are crazy about Neymar Junior.

This biography reconstructs the life and career of this world football last icon from his birth in Mogi da Cruzes, São Paulo. Follow his path in Brazil and after that his worldwide explosion. A guided tour by the hands of his friends, his family, his coaches, his teammates, his advisors. Voices and testimonies of people, journalists and fans put together by the author to finally draw a 360 degree portrait of a guy who loves the ball, able to leave the world jaw-dropped with it on his feet.



100.000 copies sold  
worldwide

Readers love it  
4.5 / 5 (Goodreads)  
4.3 / 5 (Amazon)

**RIGHTS SOLD TO 20 LANGUAGES:** Spanish (*Planeta*), Catalonian (*Columna*), Czech (*Timy Partners*), Slovak (*Timy P*), Dutch (*Thomas Rap*), German (*Werkstatt*), Polish (*SQN*), Hebrew (*Yedioth*), Italian (*Castelvecchi*), Georgian (*Autograph*), Chinese (*Beijing Wisdom and Culture*), Slovene (*Ucila*), Brazilian (*L&PM*), Korean (*Grijoa*), Serbian (*Novolistampa*), Japanese (*Jitsugyo-no-nihon*), Turkish (*Marti*), Estonian (*Helios*), Hungarian (*Gabo*) and Finnish (*Minerva*).

## LUCA CAIOLI

### **GRIEZMANN THE MAKING OF FRANCE'S MINI MAESTRO**

Luca Caioli & Cyril Collot  
*Icon Books, September 2017, 240 pages*

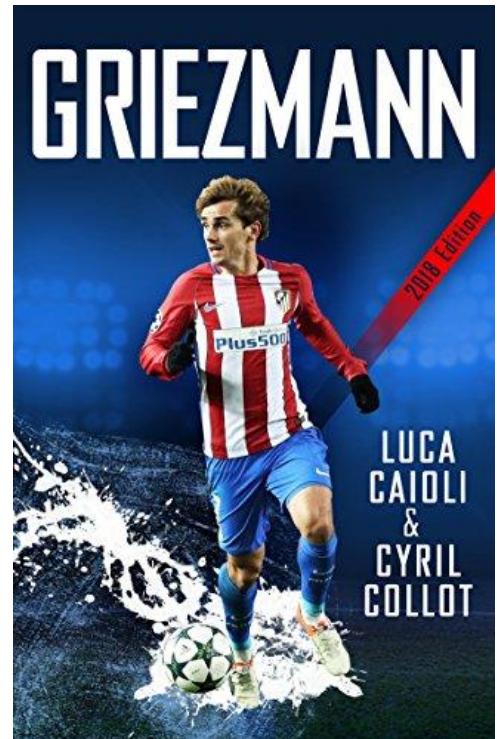
Best striker? Antoine Griezmann... Top Player? Grizou! Favorite in the heart of the French? Grizzi, of course... Surely the Euro 2016 will remain an unforgettable moment in the career of No. 7 of Atletico Madrid. Despite the defeat against Portugal, the big summer festival of European football has enabled him to take off and become one of the top 5 best footballers on the planet.

But unlike Messi, Ronaldo or even Zidane's, the talent of Griezmann has not arisen suddenly. His career is a model of perseverance and an example for all children who have dreams of being a football player. To becoming eventually the key player of Deschamps' national selection, Antoine was even forced into exile.

This is his full story, told by Luca Caioli and Cyril Collot in this insightful book, which offers a nice trip from Mâcon, his hometown, to Madrid, the Spanish capital, where he is delighting Colchoneros, obviously through the Basque Country and Real Sociedad who discovered him and led him to the highest level.

*The 7 lives of Grizzi* is also an opportunity to enter into the intimacy of this player with an incredible strength of character and delve into the history of his Franco-Portuguese family who has devoted his life to football and sacrificed so much to his success.

The harvest is huge today. Antoine Griezmann is everywhere: on TV and the Internet where fans watch continuously his best goals; in schoolyards and playgrounds where kids imitate his celebrations; in the cover of the magazines where he shows his angel face and his last haircut. Aged 25, he is mature enough but still has dreams – lifting the Champions League with his team and giving Les Bleus a World Cup in 2018 Russia; and thus join his illustrious elders Kopa, Platini, Papin and Zidane, winners of the Golden Ball.



The 7 lives of Grizzi - a nice trip from Mâcon to Madrid via the Basque Country to know everything of Antoine Griezmann

**RIGHTS SOLD TO: French (Hachette), Hungarian (Gabo), Slovene (Ucila), Russian (Eksmo) and Danish (Klim).**

LUCA CAIOLI

## **LUIS SUÁREZ THE REMARKABLE STORY BEHIND FOOTBALL'S MOST EXPLOSIVE TALENT**

*Icon Books, August 2014, 208 pages*

*UPDATE 2016 available*

**Text available in English, Italian and in Spanish**

Who dares to confront the new *enfant terrible* of world football?

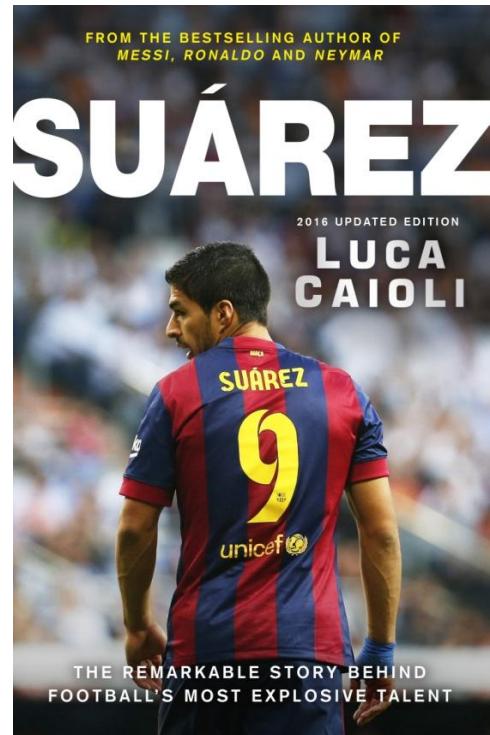
The same player who greeted his supporters with obscene gestures and insulted Patrick Evra in 2011, the same who bit a rival in 2013, is now the idol of a side as legendary as short of recent successes, after two decades and a half without winning a Premier League.

Now, with the title at hand, no one in Liverpool can be other than crazy for Luis Alberto Suárez Díaz — 27 years, Uruguayan, the volcano that came across the world to turn upside down the oldest league in the world.

Top scorer of the country that gave birth to Diego Forlán and Enzo Francescoli, and MVP of the Copa America in 2011, taken from the home of his great enemy Argentina; maximum foreign goal scorer in a season in the Dutch league; only foreigner who has scored more than 100 goals for Ajax Amsterdam, a feat previously achieved only by Cruyff, Van Basten and Bergkamp; top scorer in a single season with Liverpool, above the unique Robbie Fowler; and one of the main figures to watch in the upcoming World Cup Brazil 2014.

Luca Caioli has traveled to Salto, *Luchito's* hometown, and has dug deep for the origins of genius; to Montevideo, where he grew up in football; to Amsterdam, to be able to understand why, unlike many other *latino* players, his career did not break when we made the jump across the ocean; to Liverpool, where he definitely changed the blue of their homeland for the red worn by the legends of the Red Devils; and finally to Barcelona, to witness his transfer to one of the most iconic teams in modern times.

**Rights already sold: Dutch (Thomas Rap), Uruguay (Planeta Uruguay), Spanish (Ara), Turkish (Marti), Polish (Amber), Hungarian (Gabo), Japanese (Aki Shobo), and Slovene (Ucila).**



15.000 copies sold in Uruguay in 6 months

The most up-to-date bio of the 2016 Golden Shoe

## LUCA CAIOLI

### **PAUL POGBA** FLAT OUT

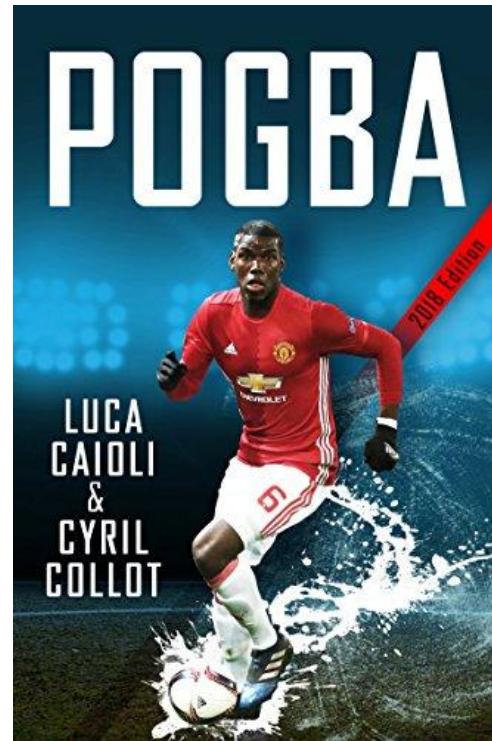
Luca Caioli & Cyril Collot  
*Icon Books, September 2017, 240 pages*

Les Bleus, the Red Devils, the Bianconeri... and what's next? With Paul Pogba, we never know. He is unpredictable, both in his personal life and in the pitch. Unpredictable as those flamboyant hair cuts that create such a stir on social media; unpredictable as his sudden shots that remember that he is something else than a tireless midfielder. At 23, he is one of the greatest prospects of world football. With his height, 6.33 ft, and his incredible potential, there is no doubt that we are looking at the star of the future, the children's idol and the new reference.

The career of this French-Guinean shows an incredibly strong character. He has lived thousands of lives. Born in Paris and formed in Le Havre's academy, he did not hesitate to go to England to join Manchester United when he was just 14. No fear. Three seasons, seven matches as a professional player, and another move –to Italy, to Juventus. Pogba is always looking onward, never looking back. In Turin, he has become the new idol of delle Alpi stadium, after having played more than 150 matches with Juventus and having scored goals as decisive as beautiful. Where is his limit? Probably, it does not exist. The biggest football clubs in the world have their eyes on him but he's made a decision – try to put Man U back to its glorious path.

Pogba, flat out is the story of an announced success. A story of a footballing family –his two older brothers, Florentin and Mathias, are professional players–; the one of a blessed naughty boy who has victory flowing through his veins: U20 world champion and best player of the tournament, triple champion of Italy, winner of the Community Shield and 15th ranked in the Golden Ball 2015; the one of a sacred footballer who dreams of winning everything with his country and conquering the best leagues. But this book is also the story of a boy who grew up in style and decided to enjoy life to the fullest despite the difficulties.

**Rights already sold:** Dutch (Voetbal), French (Hachette), Danish (Klim) and Vietnamese (Lim Books).



The essential book to get to know the past and the astounding future of this unpredictable and prodigious player

## LUCA CAIOLI

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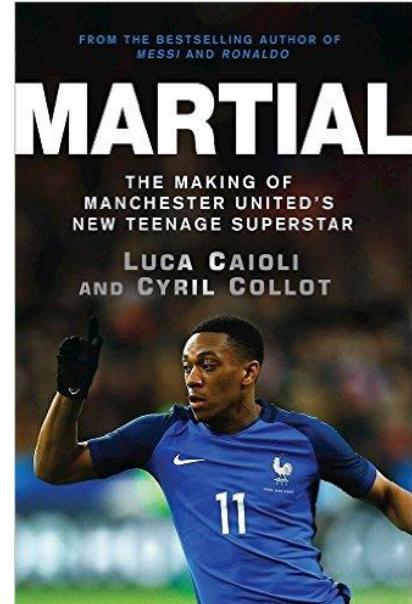
### **MARTIAL** THE MAKING OF MANCHESTER UTD'S NEW TEENAGE SUPERSTAR

Luca Caioli & Cyril Collot

**Icon Books, December 2016, 240 pp.**

A record transfer from AS Monaco, 58 million pounds. Since his first appearance with Manchester United, the French striker of 19 years delights in Premier League.

Go ask to his former teammates. Those who grew up in his first Parisian club CO Les Ulis, which had hosted before some Thierry Henry. Those of Olympique Lyonnais training center where all already saw in this shy teenager the new Karim Benzema. Those of AS Monaco, like Berbatov and James Rodriguez, who were impressed by his power and his precocity in his first two years as a professional. No one is surprised today to see him at 19 at the forefront of the Red Devils. All already see as the star of tomorrow.



### **ZINÉDINE ZIDANE**

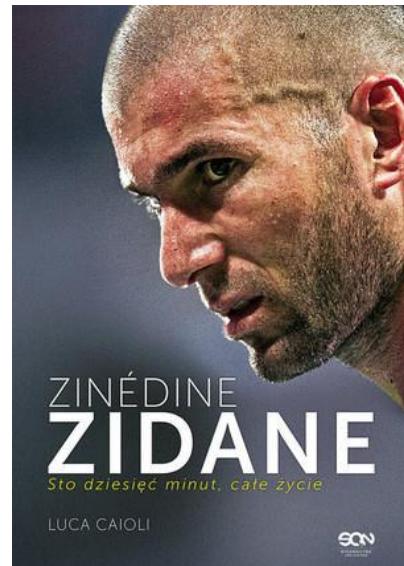
**Limina (Italy), 2006, 170 pp.**

**FULLY UPDATED EDITION AVAILABLE in Italian**

An enthralling epic in the best tradition of the great French writers, told in 110 minutes. This is the story of a champion who gets people talking: Vicente Del Bosque, Jorge Valdano, Marcello Lippi, Philippe Parreno, Lilian Thuram, Jaques Seguela, Jack Lang, Pierre Giacometti, Frédéric Hermel. Coaches, football players, sociologists, politicians, advertising men, celebrities and journalists are interviewed for this 360-degree perspective of France's former number ten.

The updated version of the book offers a depth insight to Zinedine Zidane after professional football. His first stints as a coach and his arrival to the young teams of Real Madrid, where he completed his formation, are also there.

**Rights sold: French (*L'Equipe*), Japanese (*Goma Books*), Polish (SQN), Finnish (Minerva)**



LUCA CAIOLI

*WHO IS THE BEST? – 3 players at a glance*

**Messi Ronaldo Neymar Jr**

3 WORLD'S GREATEST PLAYERS HEAD TO HEAD

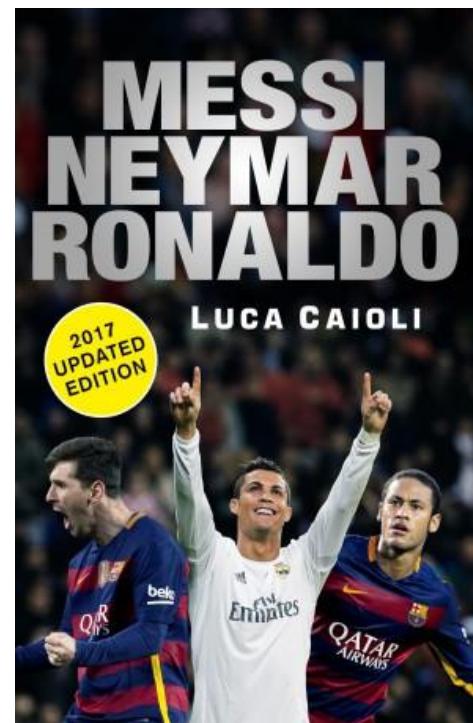
**Icon Books, 176 pp. – English release: April 2014**  
**Updated edition – OCTOBER 2016**

Sport is fuelled by rivalries between athletes, teams and countries, as well as by comparisons between different periods in each of their Histories. Memory is a key element of the game and pitting one person against another is a favourite amusement that has always divided world media opinion. Boxers Ali and Foreman, F1 drivers Prost and Senna, Italian cyclists Gino Bartali and Fausto Coppi, tennis stars Borg and McEnroe, basketball players Magic Johnson and Larry Bird, athletes Carl Lewis and Ben Johnson...

But in football it is hard to find a player considered to be a 'great' who has also been overshadowed by a contemporary. Pelé, Johan Cruyff, Diego Armando Maradona and Alfredo Di Stéfano were never overlapped in their age. These days are over. Now, at the same time, there is a personal duel between three mega-stars: Leo Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo, Neymar Junior. They are the absolute icons of the footballing world. No doubt. But who is the best? It's the same old question we heard about Maradona or Pelé. A question asked thousands of times in the newspapers, on the radio, on TV and on blogs, and everyone from coaches, footballers, pundits and plain old fans have been swept up in the debate.

With the help of and opinions of coaches as Vicente del Bosque, Felipe Scolari, Alejandro Sabella o Paulo Bento among many others, the purpose is to try to provide the reader with all the information needed for him to decide who really is the best.

**Rights sold: Spanish (Random House), Brazilian (Qualitymark Editora), Hungarian (Gabo), Japanese (President Sha), Czech & Slovak (Timy Partners)**



40.000 copies sold in English

## LUCA CAIOLI

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### **MESSI vs. RONALDO THE GREATEST RIVALRY**

*Luca Caioli*

Icon Books (English), December 2015, 240 pp.  
UPDATED EDITION to be released DECEMBER 2017

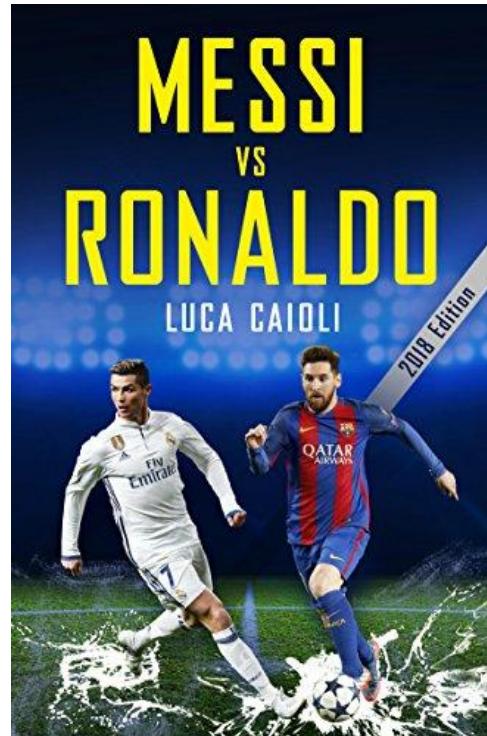
It's a rivalry like no other.

Lionel Messi: hero of Barcelona; nimble, elusive, magical.  
Cristiano Ronaldo: Real Madrid's talisman; pacy, powerful,  
deadly

Since 2009 the undisputed two best players of their generation have battled it out in La Liga and the Champions League, setting new records, dominating the FIFA Ballon d'Or and reaching new heights season after season as their clubs have carved up the top honours in the game.

Luca Caioli explores the many stories – the goals, the personalities, the club and international backgrounds and much more – behind football's greatest rivalry.

*Rights sold: Spanish (Stella Maris), Finnish (Minerva), Hungarian (Gabo), Russian (Eksmo) and Danish (Klim)*



Over 15.000 copies  
sold in English

All you need to know  
about the two players  
that are dominating  
the superb current  
generation in one book  
– the perfect gift for  
football lovers

## LUCA CAIOLI

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**Luca Caioli** (Milan, 1958) is the author of several novels and biographies that have been translated into forty languages and sold nearly a million copies. Throughout a career of over thirty years as a journalist, he has covered the main sports events for the most prominent media. He currently lives in Madrid.