Soccer, show and brotherhood in the Interreligious Match for Peace

The date of September 1st presented today: on the field there will be an outstanding selection of champions for an international event, inspired by Pope Francis

VATICAN CITY, August 25th, 2014 – Today it has been officially presented the Interreligious Match for Peace, which will be played on Monday, September 1st, 2014 at 8.45 p.m. at the Stadio Olimpico in Rome. The exhibition involves a wide selection of the worldwide best soccer players of today and past years, representing different cultures and religions: Buddhist, Christian (Catholic, Protestant, Evangelic), Jewish, Hindu, Muslim and Shinto. This is an unique occasion to demonstrate, how sport, great soccer in particular, can spread a message of brotherhood and sharing, which unites all the peoples in the name of Peace. The wonderful champions on the field will give life to an exhibition, which will symbolically unite the whole world, under the heading of the authentic sportive spirit, at the same time, dedicating a moment to reflect on the importance of the Peace in the world. Indeed, the Stadio Olimpico will be live connected to televisions, web, radios and all the media of the five continents.

All the proceedings of the event – personally inspired by Pope Francis and organized by Scholas Occurrentes and Fondazione PUPI – will go the project “Un’Alternativa di Vita”, which will provide the children of Buenos Aires with a concrete, structured and continuous support and will promote the development of the Net of the Schools for the Meeting.

THE PROTAGONISTS

The new coach of the Argentina National Football Team Gerardo “Tata” Martino and the manager of the Arsenal Arsene Wenger have the task of creating the two teams, choosing from the selection of more then 50 players of today and the recent past: Andrea Pirlo, Andrea Ranocchia, Spanish Mikel Arteta and Andrés Palop Cervera, Andrey Shevchenko, the Argentinian former player and current coach Antonio Mohamed, Brazilian Marcos Antonio Senna Da Silva, Chilean Arturo Vidal, Carlos Valderrama, Israeli Yossi Benayoun, Dudu Aouate and Tomer Hemed. Damiano Tommasi, David Trezeguet, captain of Ethiopia football team Degu Debebe Gebreyes, Diego Lugano, Colombian Fredy Guarín, the coach of Atlético Madrid Diego Simeone, Icelandic Emil Hallfriðsson, Argentinian Esteban Cambiaso, Fernando Tissone, Ezequiel Schelotto, Mauro Icardi, Ezequiel Lavezzi, the goalkeeper Juan Pablo Carrizo, Juan Iturbe, Ricky Alvarez, Lionel Messi, Javier Mascherano, Maxi Rodríguez, Cristian Ledesma. There will also be: Fernando Muslera, the new coach of Milan Filippo Inzaghi, Yuto Nagatomo, Gabriel Heinze, Jose Chamot, Luca Toni, Lucas Podolski, the new world champion Mesut Ozil, Nicola Legrottaglie, Radja Nainggolan, Roberto Baggio, Ronaldinho, Samuel Eto’o, Fernando Muslera, Stefano Mauri, Sulley Muntari e Belozoglu Emre, Ivan Zamorano e Ivan Córdoba.

The teams will have the name of the promoter entities of the event, PUPI and SCHOLAS, and will be guided by two exceptional champions: Javier Zanetti and Gianluigi Buffon, both captains of their national selections.
During halftime, the stadium will cheer on the performance of Argentine teenage idol, singer and actress Tini Stoessel – popular protagonist of the television series "Violet" – and the Italian singer Filippo Neviani (Nek) who will perform four songs. Included in the lineup are – among others – the Italian version of "En Mi Mundo" and the performance of "Imagine" by John Lennon sung by the Argentine singer, and a song from Nek’s latest album: "Hey Dio" and the big hit "Lascia che io sia".

The event is sponsored by FIFA, CONI, FIGC, Lega Serie A Capitale, CSI (Centro Sportivo Italiano), Segretariato Sociale RAI, Connect4Climate, FAO, which decided to take the field alongside the football stars with the slogan “Pace per vincere la fame” ("Peace to fight hunger") and will be broadcast live on TV Rai Uno and on the radio on Radio Uno. During the event, Radio Italia will provide music entertainment.

Fondazione P.U.P.I. Onlus and Scholas Occurrentes are supported by the valuable contribution of selected high international profile partners that are: FIAT and Pirelli, as a top jersey partners, Fundación Grupo London Supply Argentina e Boscolo Hotels as golden partners and 3M and Unicredit as silver partners.

The event will be organized by Master Group Sport, the Italian leader in sports marketing and major events organization; Star Biz, specialized in the management of sports celebrities and relationship marketing; and SportMass, the Argentinean leader in sporting events organization. Leo Burnett, TVN Media Group and Baldeschi Film will provide valuable support and cooperation.

ABOUT US

Scholas Occurrentes is, a public educational entity promoted by Pope Francis. It uses technology, art and sport to promote social integration and the meeting of cultures and is based in the Vatican’s Pontifical Academy of Sciences. Fondazione P.U.P.I. Onlus, created by Paula and Javier Zanetti, for over than ten years has been aiming at achieving a new ethic of citizenship for a fairer and more sustainable society. Fondazione PUPI’s mission is to generate an intervention system that promotes the development of the most vulnerable sectors of society and the sustainable development of children, teenagers and young adults both male and female, their families and communities of origin.

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