

Kylian Mbappé

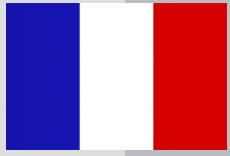


Kylian Mbappé is a French professional footballer known for his speed, technical skill, and goal-scoring ability. He plays as a forward for Real Madrid and the French National team. He rose to fame as a teenager, playing a key role in helping France win the 2018 FIFA World Cup, where he became the youngest French player to score in a World Cup and only the 2nd teenager ever to score in a World Cup final (after Pelé). His performances have earned him awards and recognition as one of the best players in the world.

Fun facts:

- Mbappé's parents are from Cameroon and Algeria meaning he could have represented France, Cameroon or Algeria at an international level.
- He was AS Monaco's youngest-ever player, making his senior debut at 16 years and 347 days.
- He has won Ligue 1 Player of the Year three times in a row.
- M'bappé is the youngest hat-trick scorer in a World Cup final.





Sophie Marceau

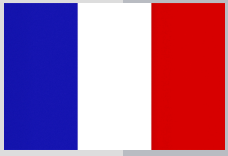


Sophie Marceau is a French actress, director and writer who became famous in the 1980s as a teen star. She gained widespread recognition for her role as the rebellious teenager Vic in the film *La Boum* (1980) and its sequel *La Boum 2* (1982). Sophie's performances have made her an icon of French cinema. She later expanded her career internationally, starring in films like *Braveheart* (1995) and the James Bond movie 'The World Is Not Enough' (1999). Marceau is celebrated for her acting talent and enduring presence in both French and global cinema.

Fun facts:

- Photos taken of her during modelling as a teen were sent to a casting director, making her acting debut at the age of 14 with *La Boum*.
- Marceau is fluent in French, English, Italian and Spanish.
- She released an album called "Aimer" in 2002.
- Marceau was named an Officer of the Arts and Letters by France in 2003.
- She works closely with Arc-en-Ciel, an organisation that helps sick children.





Omar Sy

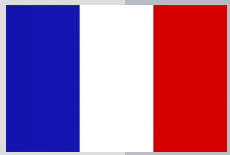


Omar Sy is a French actor and comedian, best known in France for his sketches with Fred Testot on the *Service après-vente des émissions* television show on Canal+ (2005-2012). He gained widespread fame for his role in the 2011 film 'The Intouchables' in which his performance earned him critical acclaim and the César Award for Best Actor, making him the first Black Actor to win this prestigious French film award. Sy has since become a major French figure in cinema and also gained international recognition, starring in films like 'Jurassic World' (2015) and the Netflix series 'Lupin' (2021).

Fun facts:

- Sy started his career doing skits on a local radio station with comedic partner Fred Testot.
- Omar is of Fulani origin.
- He released the song *Bleu, Blanc, Rouge* with Fred Testot in 2010.
- In addition to his live-action films, comedies and series, Sy does a lot of voice-over acting for cartoons as well as video games. He is the voice of a character named Zip in the French version of the video game 'Tomb Raider Legend'.





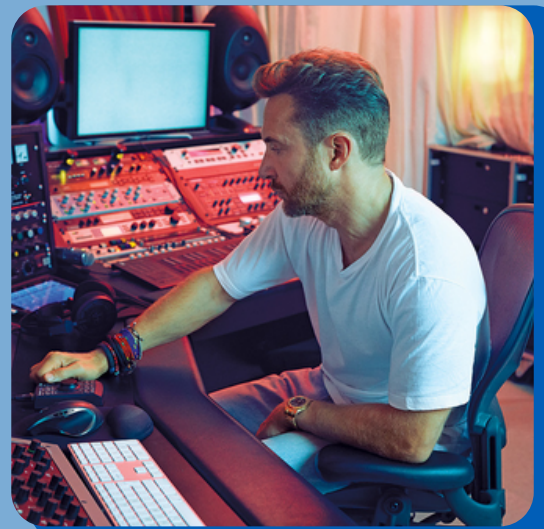
David Guetta

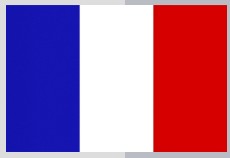


David Guetta is a French DJ, music producer, and songwriter, widely regarded as one of the pioneers of electronic dance music (EDM). He gained global fame in the late 2000s and early 2010s for his chart-topping hits and collaborations with major pop and hip-hop artists like Sia, Rihanna and Nicki Minaj. Guetta is known for blending house music with mainstream pop, creating a new sound that has made him a key figure in the EDM movement. His singles like "When Love Takes Over," "Titanium," and "Without You" have made him one of the most successful and influential DJs in the world.

Fun facts:

- Guetta was initially inspired by disco and funk music.
- He started organising parties for his music in his basement when he was 15, charging £1 to get in.
- Guetta has his own record label, 'Jack Back Records'.
- He had a residency at some of Las Vegas's biggest nightclubs.
- Guetta had to cancel a world tour due to losing the USB drive he'd saved his musical set onto!





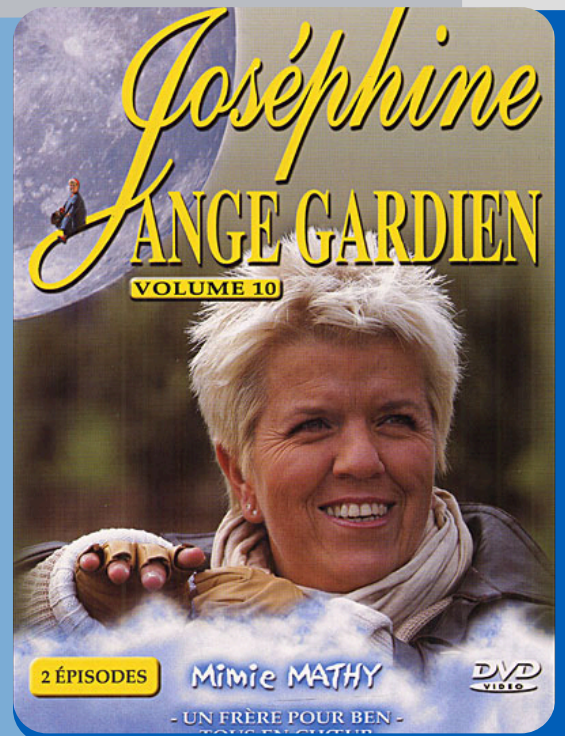
Michèle “Mimie” Mathy



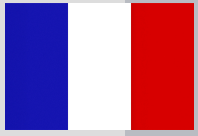
Mimie Mathy is a French actress and comedian best known for her role as Joséphine Delamarre in the long-running TV series 'Joséphine, Ange Gardien'. The show, which began in 1997, features Mathy as a guardian angel who helps people with their personal problems, and it has made her a beloved figure in French television. In addition to her iconic TV role, she has also appeared in various films, theatre productions, and other television shows. Mathy's charm and humour, and her ability to connect with audiences has contributed to her widespread popularity and enduring success in the entertainment industry.

Fun facts:

- Mathy was selected as the 5th most popular French celebrity in the Le Journal du Dimanche in 2007.
- Since 1994, Mathy has performed at least 15 times in the annual Les Enfoirés (The Tossers) charity concert for Restaurants du Cœur (Restaurants of the Heart).
- Mathy received the title of Knight (Chevalier) of the French Order of Merit in 2013 and was made a Knight of the Legion of Honour in 2015.



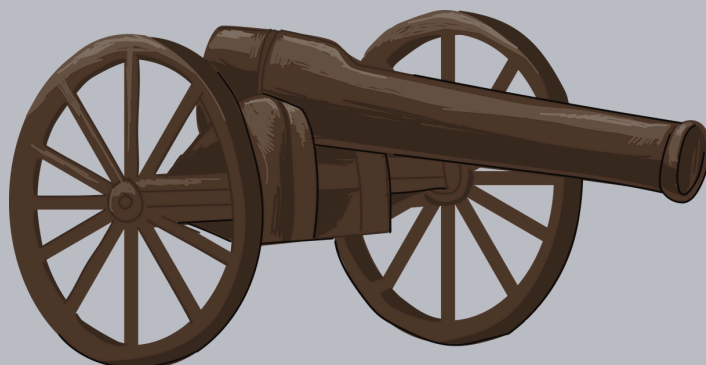
Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821)

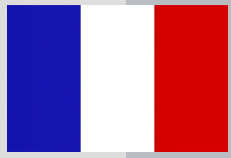


Napoleon was a French military officer and statesman who rose to prominence during the French Revolution and led a series of successful campaigns across Europe during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars from 1796 and 1815. He was the leader of the French Republic as First Consul from 1799 to 1804, then of the French Empire as Emperor of the French from 1804 to 1814, and briefly again in 1815. Napoleon is considered one of the greatest military commanders in history and Napoleonic tactics are still studied at military schools worldwide.

Fun facts:

- During the height of his powers, Napoleon developed the habit of dressing up as a lower-class bourgeoisie.
- Napoleon was terrified of cats although he was reported to have adopted one during his final months on Saint Helena.
- He discovered the Rosetta Stone which is a granite slab carved in three scripts: hieroglyphic Egyptian, demotic Egyptian and Ancient Greek. It played a vital part in deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs and has long been considered a hugely important artefact.





Joan of Arc (1412-1431)

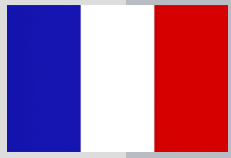


Joan of Arc, also known as “The Maid of Orléans,” was a French peasant girl who became a national heroine and a saint. She is famous for her role during the Hundred Years’ War, where she claimed to have received divine guidance to lead the French army to victory against the English. At just 17 years old, Joan led French forces in lifting the siege of Orléans in 1429, a turning point in the war. She also played a crucial role in the eventual crowning of Charles VII as king. However, she was captured by the English and tried for heresy, burned at the stake in 1431 at the age of 19. Joan of Arc was canonised as a saint in 1920 and remains an enduring symbol of French unity and courage.

Fun facts:

- Joan’s real name was Jehanne d’Arc, Jehanne Tara, Jehanne Romée or possibly Jehanne de Vouthon but she didn’t go by any of these.
- Doctors and scholars since have “diagnosed” Joan with disorders from epilepsy to schizophrenia due to her hearing voices and experiencing visions from God.
- While commander of the army, Joan didn’t participate in any active combat.





Marie Curie (1867-1934)

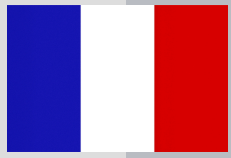


Marie Curie was a Polish-born physicist and chemist who became one of the most famous scientists in history for her groundbreaking research on radioactivity. She was the first woman to be awarded the Nobel Prize and the first to win the award more than once in different scientific fields - Physics (1903) and Chemistry (1911). Her efforts didn't stop at research, she also worked alongside the government to implement the use of portable x-ray machines on wounded soldiers on the battlefields of the First World War. Her work not only made significant contributions to science but also paved the way for future generations of women in research.

Fun facts:

- Marie managed all her research without a 'fancy lab'. She and her husband conducted their work in a lab that was described as 'a cross between a stable and a potato shed'.
- Curie was the first female professor at Sorbonne University. After her husband's death, she replaced his seat at the university.
- Three years later, she was the first woman in France to earn a doctorate.





Édith Piaf (1915-1963)

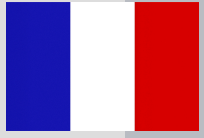


Édith Piaf was a legendary French singer and songwriter, renowned for her powerful voice and emotive performances. She became famous for her iconic songs like "La Vie en Rose," "Non, Je Ne Regrette Rien," and "Hymne à l'Amour," which have become timeless classics. Born in 1915 in Paris, Piaf rose from a difficult childhood to become one of France's most loved and influential performers. Her music, often reflecting themes of love, loss, and hardship, resonated deeply with audiences. Piaf's unique voice and ability to convey deep emotion made her an international star and an enduring symbol of French culture.

Fun facts:

- She was given the nickname "La Môme Piaf," which translates to "The Little Sparrow".
- She also appeared in many films throughout her career including "Étoile Sans Lumière" and "Les Amants de Montparnasse."
- Piaf's songs have been covered by numerous renowned artists like Frank Sinatra to Andrea Bocelli.
- She received several prestigious awards including the French Legion of Honour.





Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980)



Jean-Paul Sartre was a French philosopher, playwright, novelist, and political activist, renowned for his role in developing existentialism and phenomenology. Sartre's philosophy work, particularly his 1943 book 'Being and Nothingness', explored themes of freedom, responsibility, and the nature of existence, arguing that individuals are condemned to be free and must create their own meaning in an indifferent universe. Sartre's involvement in political activism, particularly Marxism and support for various social causes, further cemented his place as a major intellectual figure of the 20th century.

Fun facts:

- Jean-Paul was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature but turned it down. He refused to associate himself and his work with an institution.
- He was a WWII prisoner of war. He served as a meteorologist in the French military but was then captured by German forces. While held captive, he was able to write his first play, 'Barionà, fils du tonnerre'.
- He was an avid chess player and was known to spend hours playing the game.

