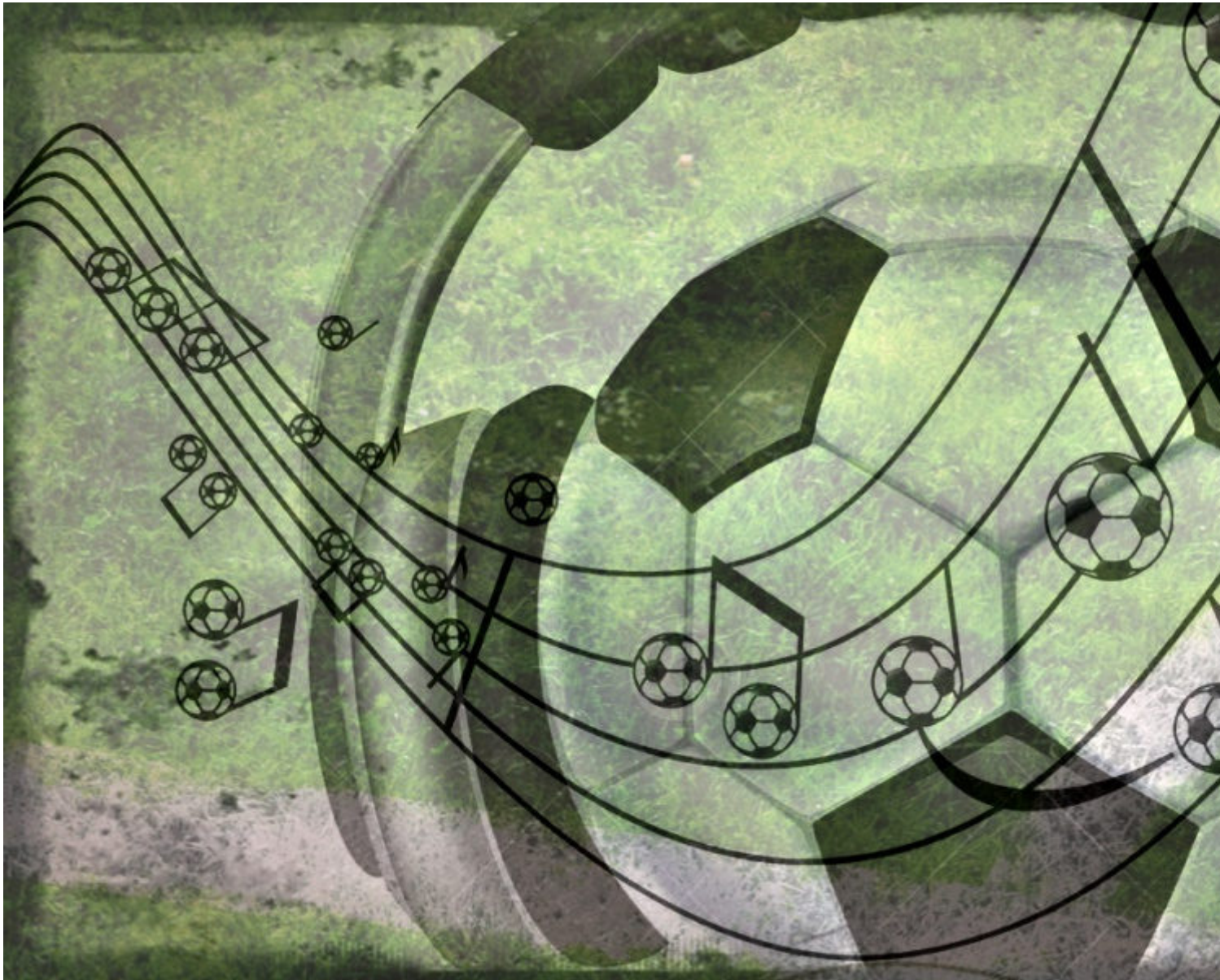




Weekend Read: The music of the World Cup

Description



With **World Cup** fever reaching its global crescendo this Sunday, there's no better time to read up on some vital stats; not about the players, though!

Instead, we're talking about the **singalong crowd chants**, the **unofficial anthems**, the **best and worst World Cup songs**, and links between **sports psychology**, **upbeat pop music** and victorious football teams.

Some of the world's best writers have delved into the link between music and the the so-called "beautiful game," and some of our favourites articles are below.

Happy weekend reading and may the best team win!

- **BBC Culture** [World Cup 2018: The extraordinary power of the football song](#) by Arwa Haider
- **BBC Music** [11 of the most bizarre world football songs](#) by Jeremy Allen
- **Billboard** [The 10 Best World Cup Songs Ever: The Definitive List From 1962 to Today](#) by Leila Cobo
- **Bloomberg** [A Football Song to Conquer the World](#) By Justin Fox
- **CBC** [How a White Stripes song became the biggest soccer anthem of all time](#) by Jennifer Van Evra
- **The Conversation** [A psychological theory to explain how music helps footballers prepare for the pitch](#) by Costas Karageorghis, Jonathan Bird and Marcelo Bigliassi
- **FIFA** [#FIFASTadiumDJ competition results in most engaged Tweet about the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia to date \(FIFA\)](#)
- **The Guardian** [Why Atomic Kitten and Earth, Wind & Fire became England's World Cup chants](#) by Dave Simpson
- **The Independent** [Why New Order's football song World in Motion was a game-changer](#) by Nick Hasted
- **New York Times** [Waltz for a Soccer Game? This Composer Sets the World Cup to Music](#) by Giulia Pines
- **New York Times** [Why the World Cup Needs Music](#) by Musa Okwonga
- **South China Morning Post** [Exo beat BTS for most requested World Cup semi-final music Fifa Twitter poll makes South Korea world champions](#) by Dong Sun-hwa