

Good Evening, Eurovision!

DA SANREMO ALL'EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

**LEZIONE 3
UNA STORIA UNICA**

**MATTEO PANIZZA
DOTT. IN COMUNICAZIONE
UNITRE BIANZÈ
A.A. 2021/2022**



Lezione 2

RIASSUNTO

RETI NAZIONALI
(Rai, BBC, ORF...)

EBU

 *Selezioni Nazionali*

(Sanremo, Melodifestival,
XFactor, The Voice...)

EURO♥VISION
SONG CONTEST

2 SEMIFINALI
1 FINALE

CITTÀ OSPITANTE -
ARENA - PALCO -
LOGO E SLOGAN -
SOLDI



EURO♥vision

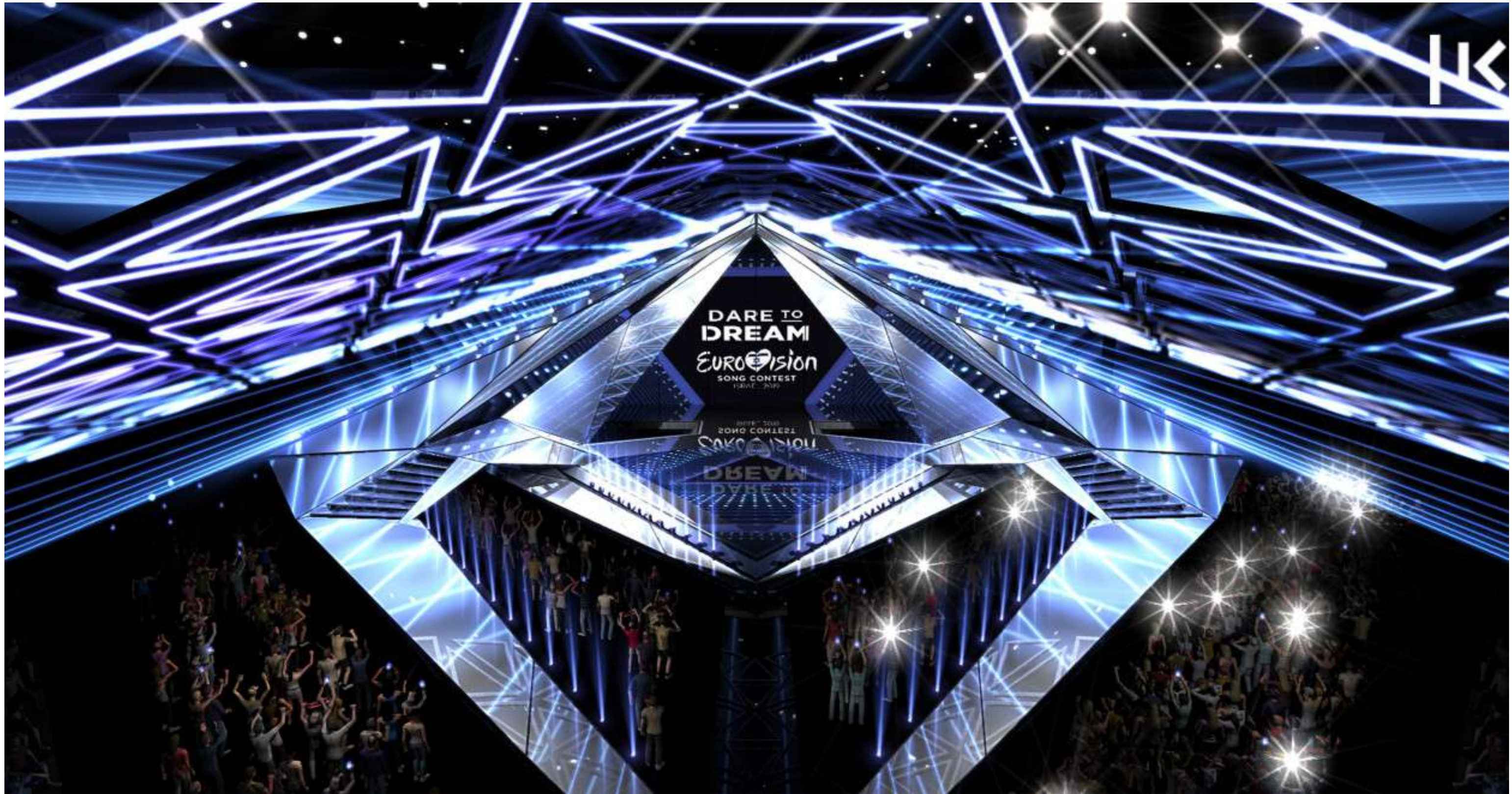
SONG CONTEST

L'Eurovision Song Contest nasce nel 1956, su ispirazione del Festival di Sanremo.

È il concorso canoro più longevo della storia e il più seguito a livello europeo e mondiale.

Le nazioni europee si sfidano, e il vincitore ha diritto ad ospitare l'edizione successiva.

Molto è cambiato dalle prime edizioni ad oggi.



Anni '50: le prime edizioni

Grand Prix Eurovision de la Chanson Européenne 1956

Final

Thursday, 24 May, 1956, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Teatro Kursaal, Lugano,
Switzerland

Host Broadcaster

SRG SSR

Presented by

Lohengrin Filipello

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Rolf Liebermann

Multicamera Director

Franco Marazzi

The first ever Eurovision Song Contest took place in Lugano, Switzerland, at the Teatro Kursaal, on 24th of May 1956.

The first ever contest

Inspired by the Italian Sanremo Festival, the idea to organise a pan-European musical competition was born at a meeting of the European Broadcasting Union in Monaco in 1955. It was decided that the first ever Eurovision Song Contest would be hosted the following year in the Swiss resort of Lugano. The 1956 Eurovision Song Contest was primarily a radio show, although some cameras were taping the contest for the few Europeans who had a television set at that time.

Lohengrin Filipello hosted the programme, which lasted 1 hour and 40 minutes. The seven participating countries each submitted two entries. The songs of the contest were not to exceed three and a half minutes, and the performers were accompanied by an orchestra of 24 musicians, led by Fernando Paggi.

Switzerland wins!

The winning song, as announced by the head of the jury, was *Refrain*, performed by Lys Assia from Switzerland (recent photo). Lys Assia is the only Swiss contestant to have ever won the Eurovision Song Contest, as Switzerland's other winner, Céline Dion, is French-Canadian.

Facts & figures

- The broadcasters from Austria, Denmark and the United Kingdom missed the deadline for participating in the first ever Eurovision Song Contest and only appeared one year later. Only solo artists were allowed to enter the contest. Groups were initially banned - a rule which would only be abolished in the 1970s;
- All participating countries sent two jury members to Lugano in order to vote secretly on the songs. The jury members from Luxembourg could not make it to Lugano, so the EBU allowed Swiss nationals to vote on their behalf. The juries were allowed to vote for whatever country they wished to, including their own;
- The scores of the voting have never been made public, leaving room for lots of speculation. Attempts to reconstruct the voting by interviewing jury members over the past five decades did not lead to any reliable outcome.

* *Grand * Prix **
* *Eurovision **
* *de la * Chanson **
* *Européenne * 1957 **

Final

Sunday, 03 March, 1957, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Großer Sendesaal des
Hessischen Rundfunks,
Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Host Broadcaster

ARD

Presented by

Anaïd Iplicjian

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Rolf Liebermann

Multicamera Director

—

The 1957 Eurovision Song Contest was held in Frankfurt am Main, Germany after Switzerland declined to host the contest for a second time.

The first gimmicks appear

The 1957 Eurovision Song Contest was hosted by the Hessischer Rundfunk on behalf of Deutsches Fernsehen ARD. Austria, Denmark and the United Kingdom entered the contest for the first time, joining the other seven participating countries from the previous year. Despite the fact that an increasing number of Europeans had access to television, the contest was still mainly a radio programme at this time.

In a change to the contest the year before, duos were allowed into the competition. Danish duo Birthe Wilke and Gustav Winckler shocked the audience with their passionate on-screen kiss, the longest in the history of the contest. Germany's entry, performed by Margot Hielscher featured a telephone during the performance, the first gimmick to appear at the Eurovision Song Contest.

The Netherlands wins

For the first time the Netherlands won the contest with the song *Net Als Toen*, performed by Corry Brokken who also represented her country in Lugano the year before. Corry went on to present the contest in 1976 and delivered the Dutch votes at the 1997 contest. She passed away in 2016 at the age of 83.

Facts & figures

- The participating countries were represented by one song each, but the duration of the songs varied. The UK entry lasted for only 1:52 minutes, whereas the Italian lasted for 5:09 minutes.

Even though the rules suggested that a song should not exceed three minutes, the Italian entry was not disqualified despite heavy protests. The incident led to the restriction of each song to last a maximum of three minutes.

- Unlike the previous year, national juries could not vote for their own song, a rule that still applies today.



Final

Wednesday, 12 March, 1958,
20:00 CET

Venue & Location

AVRO Studios, Hilversum,
Netherlands

Host Broadcaster

NOS

Presented by

Hannie Lips

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

—

Multicamera Director

—

The Netherlands had the honour of hosting the third Eurovision Song Contest. The 1958 contest took place at the television studios in Hilversum, the 'media capital' of the Netherlands. For the occasion, the venue was decorated with thousands of tulips.

Familiar faces

The Dutch entry *Net Als Toen* by Corry Brokken had brought the first victory to the Netherlands in Frankfurt am Main the previous year and Dutch TV was the proud host in 1958. It was the first time that the winning country from the previous year had hosted the contest.

Despite ending third, the Italian entry *Nel Blu Dipinto Di Blu*, better known under the title *Volare*, performed by Domenico Modugno, became a worldwide hit and to date. It is one of the most successful songs in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest. Domenico even managed to reach the No.1 spot in the US-American Billboard Charts with his song and was also awarded three Grammys.

About the winner

Sweden entered the contest for the first time with one of their biggest stars, Alice Babs, but it was not enough to stop France from winning the trophy with the song *Dors, Mon Amour*, performed by André Claveau.



GRAND PRIX
EUROVISION
1 9 5 9
DE LA CHANSON
EUROPÉENNE

Final

Wednesday, 11 March, 1959,
20:00 CET

Venue & Location

Palais des Festivals, Cannes,
France

Host Broadcaster

RTF

Presented by

Jacqueline Joubert

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

—

Multicamera Director

—

The glamorous Mediterranean resort of Cannes, France hosted the 4th Eurovision Song Contest in March 1959.

73 minutes live from Cannes

The Eurovision Song Contest of 1959 welcomed the small principality of Monaco. Moreover, the United Kingdom re-entered the contest after one year of absence, and Luxembourg decided not to participate. A new rule was introduced to this fourth Eurovision Song Contest; musical experts were no longer allowed in the national juries, but other than that, the same voting system as in 1957 and 1958 was used.

About the winner

The Netherlands won the contest for the second time with the song *Een Beetje* performed by Teddy Scholten. The lyrics of the song were written by Willy van Hemert, who also wrote the winning song of 1957. Domenico Modugno returned again for Italy, this time finishing in 6th place.

Facts & figures

- For the first and the last time in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest, the top three songs were reprised at the end of the show.

Anni '60

Eurovision Song Contest Grand Prix 1960

Final

Tuesday, 29 March, 1960, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Royal Festival Hall, London,
United Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Catherine (Katie) Boyle

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

—

Multicamera Director

Innes Lloyd

London was the host city of the fifth Eurovision Song Contest despite a Dutch victory in Cannes in 1959.

London calling

The capital of the United Kingdom, London, provided the setting for the fifth Eurovision Song Contest. This was despite the fact that the Netherlands actually won the Eurovision Song Contest in Cannes the year before with *Een Beetje*, performed by Teddy Scholten. Following the victory the Dutch national broadcaster did not want to host the contest again so the honour went to the UK which had finished second the year before.

About the winner

The winning song *Tom Pillibi*, performed by Jacqueline Boyer, provided France with a second victory in the Eurovision Song Contest.

GRAND PRIX EUROVISION 1961 DE LA CHANSON EUROPEENNE

Final
Saturday, 18 March, 1961, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location
Palais des Festivals, Cannes,
France

Host Broadcaster
RTF

Presented by
Jacqueline Joubert

Executive Producer

Executive Supervisor

Multicamera Director
Marcelle Cravanne

The Eurovision Song Contest 1961 returned to Cannes for the second time in two years. The number of participants began to rise as the Eurovision Song Contest became increasingly popular.

Saturday slot

Just like in 1959, the Palais des Festivals was the venue of this year's contest. The presenter of the show was Jacqueline Joubert, who already did this task in 1959. The stage used for the show was much bigger than in previous years, and it was magnificently decorated with flowers.

The number of participants of this year's song contest rose to 16 as Spain, Yugoslavia and Finland all made their respective debuts. For the first time, the contest took place on a Saturday night which would come to be the contest's home.

About the winner

Luxembourg had its first of 5 victories in 1961 with the song *Nous Les Amoureux* performed by Jean-Claude Pascal. Critics called the song a lullaby, but Jean-Claude Pascal was awarded 31 points in total, with the UK entry finishing second for the third year running.



GRAND PRIX EUROVISION DE LA CHANSON EUROPEENNE 1962

Final

Sunday, 18 March, 1962, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Grand Auditorium de RTL, Villa
Louvigny, Luxembourg,
Luxembourg

Host Broadcaster

RTL

Presented by

Mireille Delannoy

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

—

Multicamera Director

Jos Pauly, René Steichen

The 1962 Eurovision Song Contest was held in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the first time. France scored another victory with *Un premier amour* performed by Isabelle Aubret.

Lights on, lights off

After the victory in Cannes in 1961, Luxembourg was the host of the seventh Eurovision Song Contest. The stage was decorated with twinkling stars, but unfortunately they could not be seen for parts of the evening because there were some problems with the lights in the big auditorium of the Villa Louvigny.

The number of participants of this year's contest remained stable at 16 with no new countries entering. However, there was a change in the voting system: the national juries - which still consisted of 10 people - had to attribute 3, 2 and 1 points to their three favourite songs.

About the winner

France managed to win the Eurovision Song Contest for the third time with a dramatic performance by Isabelle Aubret who won by a landslide: Aubret collected 26 points altogether, outclassing Monaco's entry *Dis Rien* by 13 points!

Final

Saturday, 23 March, 1963, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

BBC Television Centre, London,
United Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Catherine (Katie) Boyle

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

—

Multicamera Director

Yvonne Littlewood

The 8th Eurovision Song Contest took place in London, despite a French victory in the preceding year. Denmark's first victory would become controversial topic.

Controversy strikes

The honour of hosting this year's song contest was handed over by the French to the United Kingdom. The main reason was that France did not want to host the song contest so soon after hosting it twice in Cannes in 1959 and 1961.

Big international stars took part in this year's competition, like Esther Ofarim for Switzerland, Nana Mouskouri for Luxembourg and Francoise Hardy for Monaco.

Host Broadcaster BBC tried a different approach for the presentation of the Eurovision Song Contest. All songs were performed in one studio, but the audience was located in another. Each song had its own unique staging, and the change of set was done very quickly. As a result of this, rumours began that the performances were pre-recorded which later turned out to be untrue.

The Norwegian head of jury was still busy adding up the individual votes of the 20 jury members when called in by the presenter Katie Boyle. Struck by panic, the Norwegian jury secretary gave an intermediate result, reading the points very quickly and in the wrong order. In accordance with the rules, Mrs. Boyle told the TV audience that she would come back to the Norwegian jury after all the other countries had voted. When the final result came in from the Norwegian jury, they were decisively different from the intermediate ones and gave the victory to Norway's Nordic neighbour Denmark in a close race with Switzerland.



About the winner

Dansevisé performed by Grethe and Jørgen Ingmann gave Denmark its first victory in the Eurovision Song Contest.

Facts & figures

Dansevisé became the first winning Eurovision Song Contest entry to be performed by a duo and also the first Scandinavian winner.



Grand Prix Eurovision 1964

Final

Saturday, 21 March, 1964, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Tivolis Koncertsal, Copenhagen,
Denmark

Host Broadcaster

DR

Presented by

Lotte Waeber

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Miroslav Vilcek

Multicamera Director

Poul Leth Sørensen

The 1964 Eurovision Song Contest took place in Copenhagen, Denmark. Italy scored its first victory with a song performed by 16-year-old Gigliola Cinquetti who had already won the Italian San Remo Festival with her entry *Non Ho l'Età*.

Protest on stage

The 1964 Eurovision Song Contest took place in the famous Tivoli Concert Hall in Copenhagen. The event became highly politicised with demands that right-wing dictatorships in Spain and Portugal should be excluded from the contest. There was even some trouble during the contest as just before the Belgian entry, a man entered the stage holding a banner saying "Boycott Franco and Salazar". He was quickly removed from the stage.

As in the three previous contests, 16 countries participated in the competition. Portugal made its debut whilst Sweden chose not to enter. Germany, Portugal and Switzerland each scored zero points for the first time. In the case of Portugal, it was the first time in the history of the contest that a newcomer did not receive any points at all.

About the winner

Italy celebrated its first victory with the song *Non Ho l'Età*, performed by 16-year-old Gigliola Cinquetti. Gigliola would also take part in 1974 and would become the host of Eurovision Song Contest of 1991, together with Toto Cutugno.

Facts & figures

As with the first ever contest in 1956, there is no known recording of the show. This is said to be as a result of a fire at the studios of Danish broadcaster DR in the 1970s and the fact that none of the other broadcasters recorded the entire show. A short recording of the winning reprise survives as does the audio recording of the contest.





GRAN PREMIO
EUROVISIONE
DELLA CANZONE

Final

Saturday, 20 March, 1965, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Sala di Concerto della RAI,
Naples, Italy

Host Broadcaster



Presented by

Renata Mauro

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Miroslav Vilcek

Multicamera Director

Romolo Siena

The 1965 Eurovision Song Contest took place in Naples and saw Luxembourg win again. The winning entry, performed by France Gall, *Poupée De Cire, Poupée De Son*, is a milestone moment in the history of the show since it is the first time that a pop song won the Eurovision Song Contest.

Sweden returns, Ireland debuts

Italy and its national broadcaster RAI hosted this year's contest for the first time. 18 countries took part, at that point, the number of participants ever. After a year of absence, Sweden returned to the competition and Ireland debuted. Belgium, Germany, Finland and Spain all scored nul points while Luxembourg won for the second time with the highly controversial *Poupée De Cire, Poupée De Son* sung by teenager France Gall. The song went on to become a massive hit in almost all European countries and had a major impact on the type of songs entered into the contest in the following years.

Swedish participant Ingvar Wixell performed his song -originally called *Annorstädes Vals* - in English instead of Swedish while all the other participants sang in their native languages. This incident led to a rule change meaning that all participants would have to perform their songs in their respective national languages.

Facts & figures

- For the first time, the Eurovision Song Contest was broadcast not only by the European Broadcasting Union, but also by Intervision, its Eastern European counterpart.



1966

Final

Saturday, 05 March, 1966, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Grand Auditorium de RTL, Villa
Louvigny, Luxembourg,
Luxembourg

Host Broadcaster

CLT

Presented by

Josiane Shen

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

—

Once again, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg had the honour of staging Europe's most important musical contest and for the first time, a song in German managed to win the trophy.

New rules introduced

The capital city of Luxembourg was the home of the 11th Eurovision Song Contest. The rules for the contest were changed and national juries could include music experts again. The major change was that a rule was introduced stipulating that songs had to be performed in one of the official languages of the participating country.

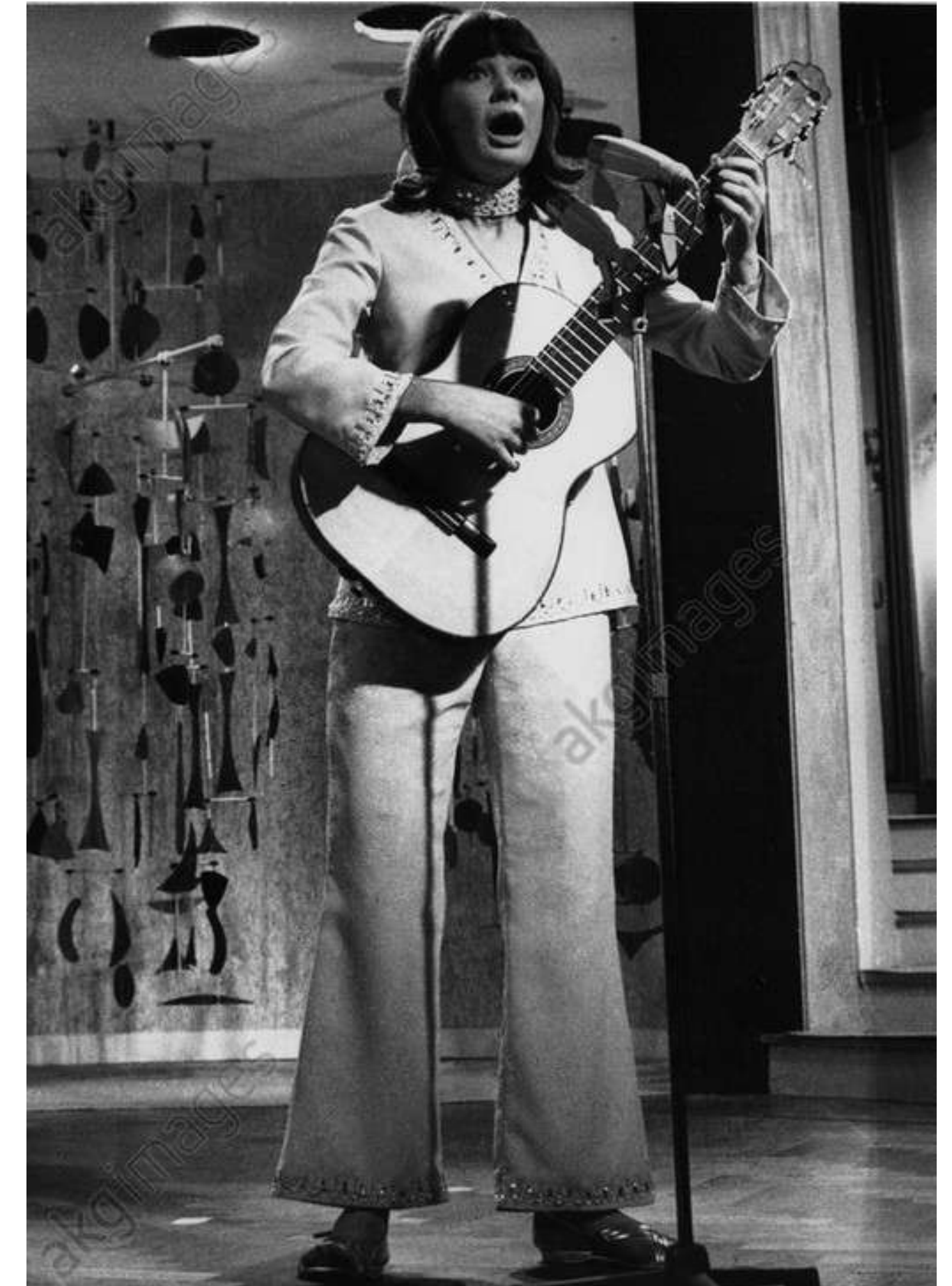
During the dress rehearsal, the Italian participant Domenico Modugno was not satisfied with the orchestra and left the stage in anger. It was uncertain if he was going to perform during the live show, but he sang his song *Dio Come Ti Amo* after all. The song later became a huge success in South America for Gigliola Cinquetti, the winner of the 1964 Eurovision Song Contest.

Austria wins

The Austrian participant Udo Jürgens participated in the Eurovision Song Contest for the third consecutive time and finally, he managed to score the first ever victory for his native country with the song *Merci Cherie*. Udo later became one of the most-loved artists in the German-speaking countries.

Facts & figures

- Future song contest hosts Lill Lindfors and Åse Kleveland took part in this contest as singers, finishing 2nd and 3rd respectively. In her performance, Åse ignored tradition and was the first woman not to wear a dress in the Eurovision Song Contest;
- Dutch representative Milly Scott became the first black singer to take part in the contest.



grand
prix
de la
chanson
1967

Final

Saturday, 08 April, 1967, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Großer Festsaal der Wiener
Hofburg, Vienna, Austria

Host Broadcaster

ORF

Presented by

Erika Vaal

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

Herbert Fuchs

After Udo Jürgens' victory in 1966, Vienna, Austria's capital, was chosen to host the Eurovision Song Contest in 1967.

Mirrors

The 1967 Eurovision Song Contest took place at the Großer Festsaal der Wiener Hofburg in Vienna. The number of participants went down from 18 to 17 because Denmark chose to withdraw from the contest and would not come back to the contest until 1978. The contest had a very glamorous setting: the stage included three revolving mirrors and a staircase entrance in the middle. The juries had undergone a change as well, as half of the jurors in every national jury had to be less than 30 years old.

During the voting the presenter of the show, Erika Vaal, declare the United Kingdom winner of the song contest before the last jury's votes were cast. However, the confusion about the voting would not make any difference: the United Kingdom clearly won the Eurovision Song Contest for the first time, nine years after participating for the first time. The winning entrant Sandy Shaw performed her song, *Puppet on a String*, barefoot.

About the winner

The winning song *Puppet On A String* won with the largest margin ever witnessed in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest at that time. The song gathered more than twice as many votes as the runner-up, Ireland. But not only the juries were charmed by Sandie Shaw's song, it became a huge success all over Europe and is nowadays remembered as a Eurovision Song Contest classic.



Final

Saturday, 06 April, 1968, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Royal Albert Hall, London,
United Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Catherine (Katie) Boyle

Executive Producer

Tom Sloan

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

Stewart Morris

The thirteenth Eurovision Song Contest which took place in the Royal Albert Hall in London was the first Eurovision Song Contest to be broadcast in colour. The bookmakers were sure of another British victory since Cliff Richard - who had dominated the European charts for several years already - decided to represent his native country.

Congratulations... with your second place!

France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom broadcast the 1968 contest in colour despite the fact that very few TV-viewers at home owned a colour TV set.

However, colour was here to stay and all song contests since then have been broadcast primarily in colour. Some countries hired foreign singers to sing for them: Germany was represented by Norwegian Wenche Myhre and Austria's entry was performed by Karel Gott from Prague.

About the winner

The 1968 Eurovision Song Contest turned out to have a nailbiting finish when the United Kingdom entry and big favourite *Congratulations* by Cliff Richard was beaten by just one point by Spain's Massiel. Originally Massiel's song *La La La* was supposed to be sung by Spanish singer Joan Manuel Serrat who wanted perform the song in Catalan. At the request of Spanish officials, Juan Manuel was replaced by Massiel who sang the same song in Spanish.



Final

Saturday, 29 March, 1969, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Teatro Real, Madrid, Spain

Host Broadcaster

rtve

Presented by

Laurita Valenzuela

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

Ramon Diaz

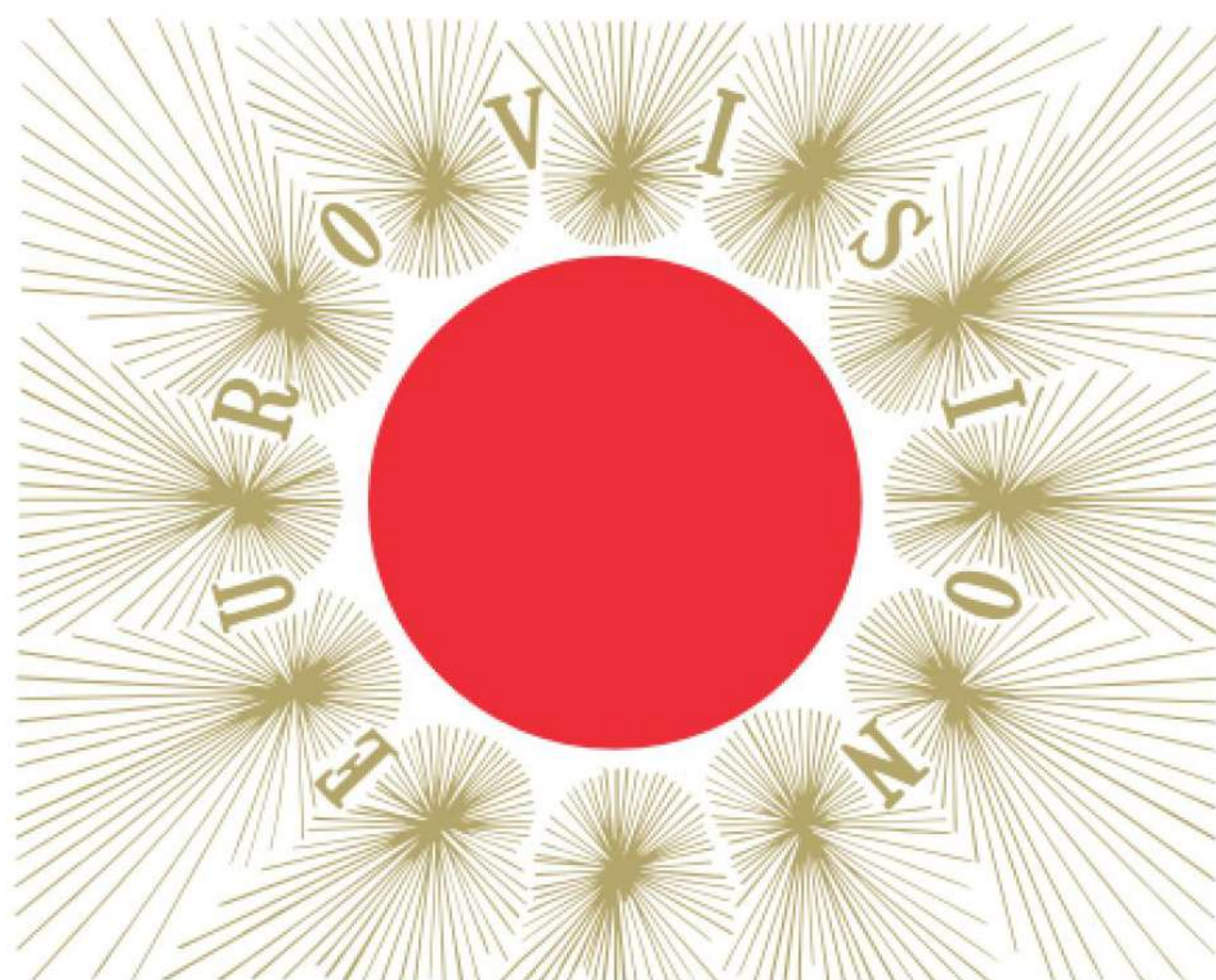
The Spanish capital of Madrid hosted the 1969 Eurovision Song Contest after Massiel won the trophy in London the year before. Austria decided to stay home so the number of participants went down to 16 as no new countries entered.

Tie for first place

For the first time in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest, the outcome of the voting resulted in a tie for first place. Four countries gained 18 points each: France, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom. Since there was no solution for this situation, all four countries were declared winners. Luckily, there were four medals available to the four winning singers - the four medals were originally intended for the winning singer and three winning songwriters.

About the winners

The four winners differed a lot from one another: France had a haunting ballad performed by Frida Boccara, the Netherlands sent in Lenny Kuhr with a guitar, Spain and Salomé performed the energetic *Vivo Cantando* whereas the star from the United Kingdom, Lulu, the uptempo *Boom Bang a Bang*. However, having four winners caused a lot of criticism from the media and several TV-stations re-considered participating in the following Eurovision Song Contest.



Anni 70



Final

Saturday, 21 March, 1970, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

RAI Congrescentrum,
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Host Broadcaster

NOS

Presented by

Willy Dobbe

Executive Producer

Warner van Kampen

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

Theo Ordeman

The Netherlands hosted the Eurovision Song Contest once again in 1970. The contest took place in the capital, Amsterdam, however only 12 delegations made the trip to the Dutch capital due to what was referred to as "the voting scandal" of the year before.

Where to go?

There were plenty of host countries to choose from as a result of the four-way tie in 1969; the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, France and Spain. Eventually, Amsterdam was chosen to host the fifteenth Eurovision Song Contest by the drawing of lots. For the second year in a row, the number of participants went down.

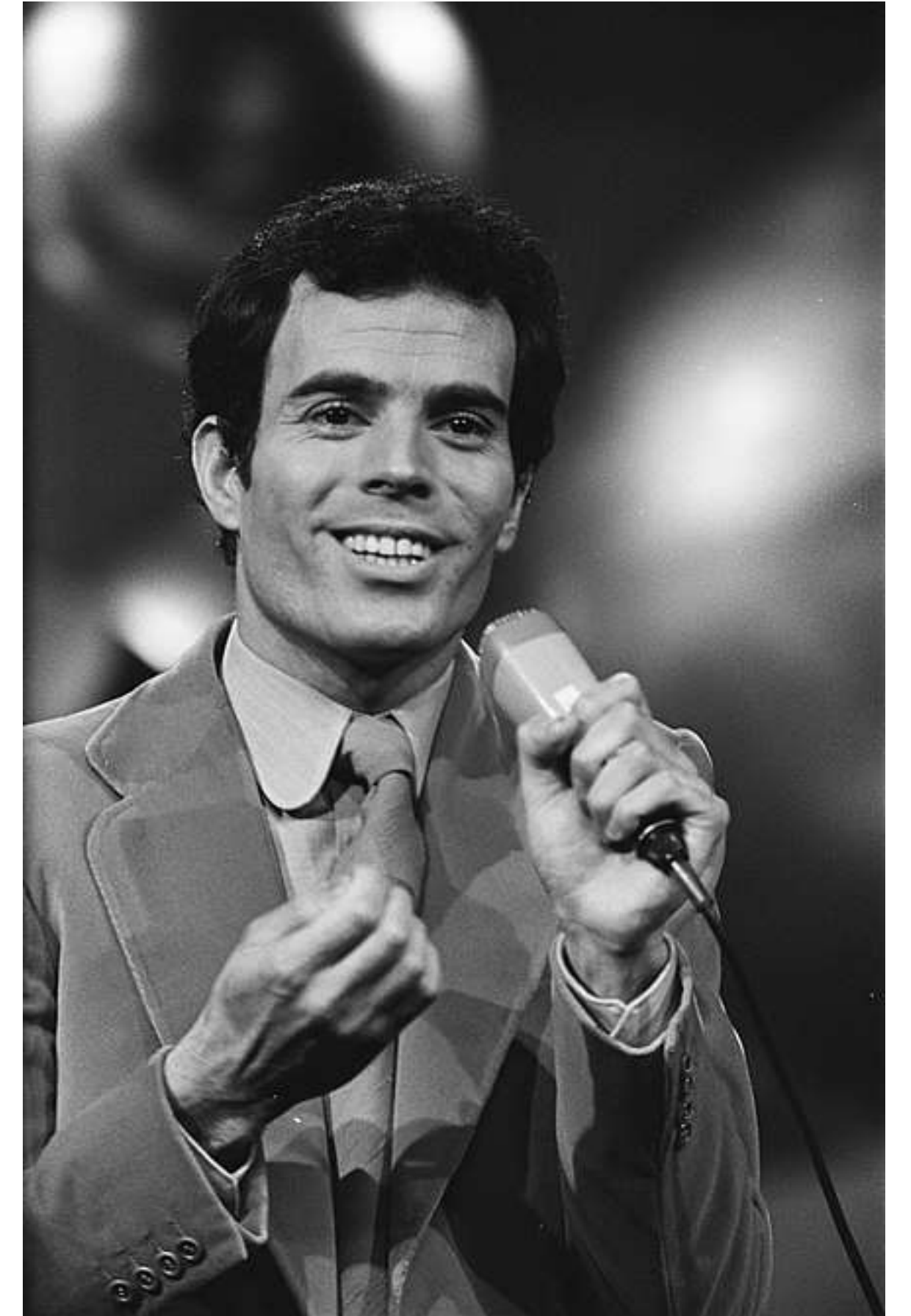
Finland, Norway, Sweden and Portugal were all dissatisfied about the voting in the 1969 contest when 4 countries were declared winners and withdrew from the contest. To ensure that a similar incident did not happen again a tie rule was created. The rule stated that if two or more songs gained the same number of points, each song had to be performed once more. After these performances, the juries (with the exception of the countries that had tied) had to select their favourite song. This had to be done by the showing of hands. If entries still were to tie, both of them would share the first position.

Irish eyes were smiling

Ireland had its first victory in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest with Dana's *All Kinds Of Everything*. The teenager went on to score a major international hit with her entry.

Facts & figures

- Brazil, the Soviet Union, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Chile broadcast the contest live by satellite;
- Of the singers who competed on the stage this year a number were already established performers. Notably, the United Kingdom sent Mary Hopkin while David Alexandre Winter represented Luxembourg;
- The contest also featured an appearance of the then unknown Julio Iglesias, singing for Spain.





EUROVISION SONG CONTEST DUBLIN 71

Final

Saturday, 03 April, 1971, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, Ireland

Host Broadcaster

RTE

Presented by

Bernadette Ní Ghallchoir

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

—

After Dana's victory in 1970, the Eurovision Song Contest moved to the Emerald Isle, Ireland, and the number of participants rose again.

Groups allowed for the first time

For the first time in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest, Ireland hosted the event at the Gaiety Theatre in Dublin. Compared to 1970, the number of participants rose to 18 as Finland, Norway, Sweden and Portugal all returned to the contest after a year of absence. Malta also made its debut. The contest was broadcast in 29 countries.

The rule of performing either as single or duet was abolished: now groups of up to six people were allowed to perform.

In this year's Eurovision Song Contest, a new voting system was created: two jury members - one of them had to be younger than 25 - had to award between 1 and 5 points to each song. This created some problems because some juries gave fewer points than others. For example, Luxembourg awarded 43 points altogether compared to France's 107! In theory this meant that jury members could vote tactically, awarding few points and hoping to gain many.

About the winner

The small principality of Monaco won for the first time in 1971 with the song *Un Banc, Un Abre, Une Rue* by French-born Séverine, who then went on to have a successful career, especially in Germany.

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST 1972

Final

Saturday, 25 March, 1972, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Usher Hall, Edinburgh, United
Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Moira Shearer

Executive Producer

Bill Cotton

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

Terry Hughes

Host Broadcaster BBC arranged the 1972 Eurovision Song Contest outside London for the first time. The honour of hosting went to the Scottish capital Edinburgh after Monaco, which won the year before, was unable to provide a suitable venue. The contest resulted in two big hits all over the continent: *Après Toi* by winner Vicky Leandros and *Beg, Steal Or Borrow* by The New Seekers who ended up in second place.

Eurovision travels to Scotland

The BBC stepped in to host the Eurovision Song Contest in 1972 and chose a venue outside of London for the first time. The contest was broadcast live to Asia for the first time with viewers in Japan, Taiwan, The Philippines, Hong Kong and Thailand, all able to watch the show. It also was the first year that a video wall was used to present song titles and artists.

About the winner

Luxembourg won the song contest for the third time with the entry *Après Toi* performed by Vicky Leandros. The writer of the winning song, Yves Desca, also wrote the winning song of 1971 by Séverine. It was the first time in the history of the Song Contest that the same songwriter won twice in a row and for two different countries.

Concours Eurovision de la chanson 1973

Final

Saturday, 07 April, 1973, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Nouveau Théâtre, Luxembourg,
Luxembourg

Host Broadcaster

CLT

Presented by

Helga Guitton

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

—

After hosting the Eurovision Song Contest in 1962 and 1966, it was Luxembourg's third occasion to show the best of Europe's music to millions of viewers. The big favourite to win was yet again Cliff Richard representing the United Kingdom, but the host nation Luxembourg took the trophy.

Israel joins the family

For the third time in the 18-year-old history of the Eurovision Song Contest, Luxembourg had the honour of hosting the event with 17 nations present. After ending up in last position two years in a row, Malta decided to withdraw from the contest. Austria decided not to participate either. Instead, a new country joined the song contest, Israel. It was the first non-European country to enter the contest. Israel was allowed to do so because the country was already a member of the European Broadcasting Union. With the Israelis participating, the security control was unusually tight and special security measures were put in place for the Israeli delegation.

Another important rule change for the 1973 Eurovision Song Contest was that the participants could choose the language in which they wanted to sing their songs. This rule remained in place until 1976 before being re-introduced in 1999.



Final

Saturday, 06 April, 1974, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

The Dome, Brighton, United
Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Catherine (Katie) Boyle

Executive Producer

Bill Cotton

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

Michael Hurll

For the second time in three years the United Kingdom staged the Eurovision Song Contest without having won the contest in the preceding year. Due to the fact that the broadcaster in Luxembourg, RTL, did not wish to host the event again for financial reasons, the BBC embraced the possibility once more. The 1974 Eurovision Song Contest was held at The Dome, in the seaside resort of Brighton.

Winners become legends

1974 saw the first participation of Greece who sent their national star Marinella. France was to enter the song contest with the entry *La Vie A Vingt-cinq Ans* by Dani, but the French singer never got the chance to perform though as the French president, Georges Pompidou, died in the week of the contest and France withdrew.

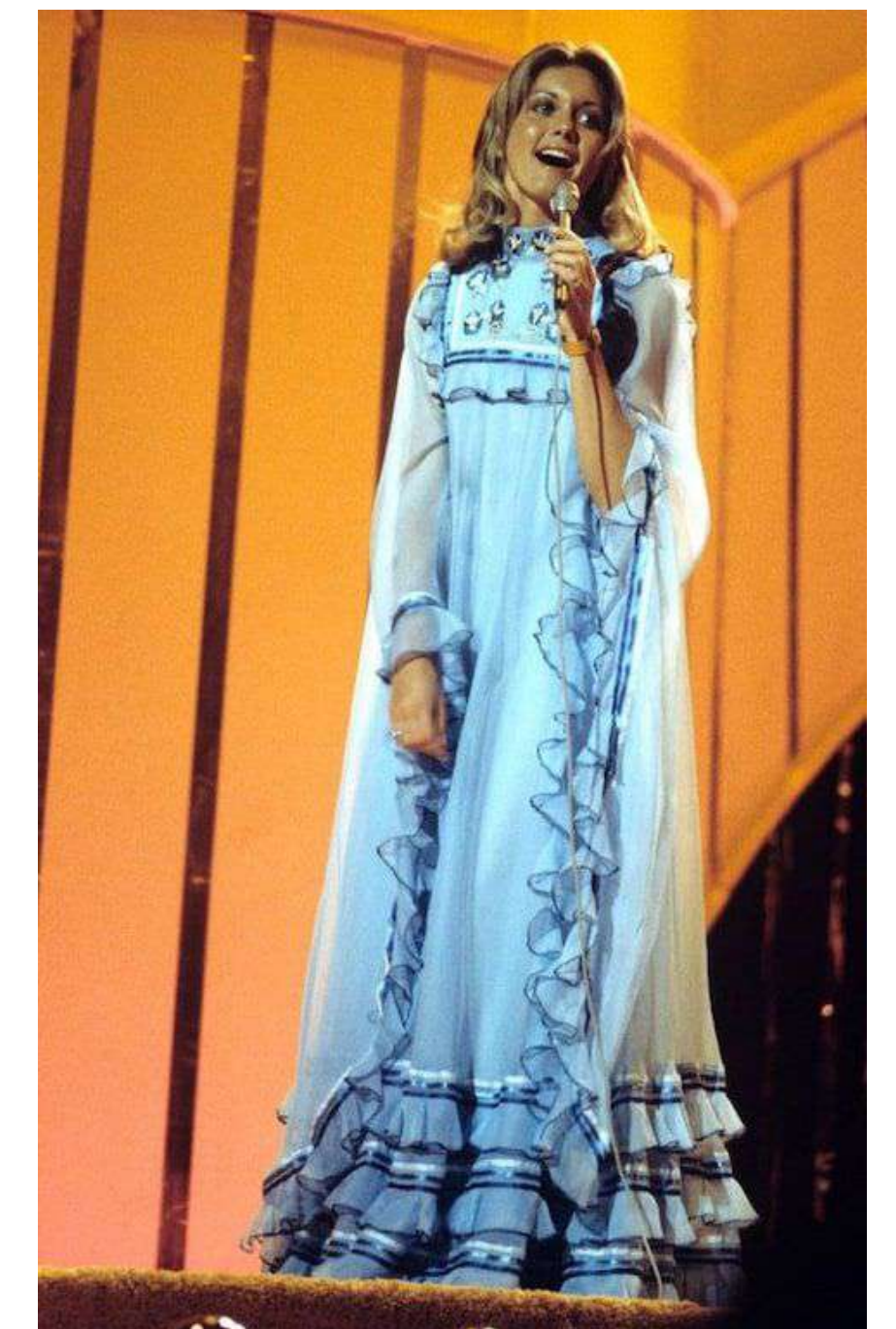
The voting system changed once more: 10 jury members in every country each awarded one point to their favourite song. For the first time, a draw of lots was used to decide the order in which countries would give the results of their juries. However, it was the last time this method was used to cast the votes - from 1975 onwards, a new voting system would be implemented where the order of the jury votes followed the order of performance.

About the winner

Sweden won the song contest for the first time with the entry *Waterloo*, performed by ABBA. The song became a huge international hit and was the starting point of their legendary international career. Over 30 years after it won, *Waterloo* was even voted the best Eurovision Song Contest song ever at the 50-year anniversary show *Congratulations*, in Copenhagen in autumn 2005. ABBA had actually tried to enter the 1973 Eurovision Song Contest with the song *Ring Ring*, which later became a hit for them in many European countries - but they only reached the third place in the Swedish national selection. For their 1974 entry, the group hesitated a while before choosing *Waterloo* as they thought their other option *Hasta Mañana* would be a more suitable song for the contest. However, *Hasta Mañana* was only really sung by only one of the girls, Agnetha Fältskog, and ABBA wanted a song where all four members could give their vocals to.

Facts & figures

- Some years before she starred in the American movie *Grease*, the Australian pop singer Olivia Newton-John sang *Long Live Love*, representing the United Kingdom. Olivia Newton-John actually wanted to sing a different song, but *Long Live Love* was chosen by a public postal vote.
- The winner from 1964, Gigliola Cinquetti, returned to the contest and finished second with her song, *Si*.
- Katie Boyle presented the contest for the fourth and final time. She holds the record for hosting the Eurovision Song Contest the most times.





EUROVISION
SONG CONTEST
SVERIGES RADIO
MARCH 22 1975
STOCKHOLM

Final

**Saturday, 22 March, 1975, 20:00
CET**

Venue & Location

**St. Eriks Mässan Alvsjö,
Stockholm, Sweden**

Host Broadcaster

SR

Presented by

Karin Falck

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

—

The Eurovision Song Contest moved northwards for its 20th anniversary. The 1975 Eurovision Song Contest was held in Stockholm, Sweden on 22nd March.

Stockholm calling!

In 1975 another voting system was implemented. Juries in every country would give 1 - 12 points to their 10 favourite songs, starting with 12 points to their top favourite, then 10 to the second favourite, 8 to their third favourite, 7 to their fourth favourite and ending with 1 point for their tenth favourite. This formula is still in place today. A

record of 19 participating countries took part in the 1975 Eurovision Song Contest. After its debut in the preceding year, Greece withdrew from the contest. On the other hand, Turkey sent its first entry to the song contest and France and Malta returned.

Ellen Nikolaysen from Norway performed for the third consecutive year on the Eurovision Song Contest stage which was only preceded in the 1950s by Lys Assia and Corry Brokken and in the 1960s by Udo Jürgens. More recently, San Marino's Valentina Monetta took to the stage in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Portugal's entry was a highly political one. Singer Duarte Mendes dedicated his song to the country's peaceful revolution the previous year. 1975 saw a disappointing result for the German entry *Ein Lied Kann Eine Brücke Sein*, which was performed by Joy Fleming. The song ended up 17th with just 15 points altogether, but nowadays it is a big favourite among fans.



Final

Saturday, 03 April, 1976, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Nederlands Congresgebouw,
The Hague, Netherlands

Host Broadcaster

NOS

Presented by

Corry Brokken

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Clifford Brown

Multicamera Director

—

For the third time in the history of the Eurovision Song Contest, the Netherlands organised the musical highlight of the year. After having hosted the event in Hilversum and Amsterdam, The Hague was chosen as host city for the 1976 event.

Sweden withdraws!

After being host of the 1975 Eurovision Song Contest, Sweden withdrew from the contest as Swedish TV thought that the contest had become too commercial. They were also afraid of winning again and having to host the expensive show so soon. Turkey and Malta withdrew as well, but Greece and Austria returned. 18 countries participated in the 1976 song contest altogether. Former Dutch Eurovision Song Contest winner Corry Brokken hosted the contest.

The orchestra rules changed this year. For the first time, instrumental playback was allowed if certain passages in the music could not be reproduced by the live orchestra. Most of the countries decided to sing in English hoping that they might earn a better placing with this. The Yugoslav entry was sung by Ambassadors and it marked the last Yugoslav entry for five years - the country would only come back in 1981.

1977 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

Final

Saturday, 07 May, 1977, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Wembley Conference Centre,
London, United Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Angela Rippon

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

—

The Eurovision Song Contest 1977 was the first contest which was troubled by a strike and was only organised five weeks after the planned date.

Technicians on strike!

This 1977 Eurovision Song Contest took place at the Wembley Conference Centre in London. The event was postponed for five weeks because of the fact that the cameramen and technicians were on strike. The song contest was supposed to take place on the 2nd of April, but it did not take place until 7th May. 18 countries took part this year. Sweden returned, and Yugoslavia withdrew from the contest. Tunisia was supposed to participate as well, performing in 4th position, but the country later withdrew its entry.

The rule of performing in one's national language was brought back to the song contest although Germany and Belgium were allowed to perform in English because their entries had already been chosen before the rules changed. The German group Silver Convention had been hugely popular all over the world in the mid 70s with songs like *Fly Robin Fly* and *Get Up And Boogie*. There were high hopes that their 1977 entry *Telegram*, would score the first victory for Germany, however the song only ended up in 8th position. Anita Skorgan sang her first entry *Casanova* for Norway this year. She would return in 1979 and also try several more times to represent her home country, but always lost out in the Norwegian national heats. Austria gave a innovative performance of *Boom Boom Boomerang* by the group Schmetterlinge. The song was performed with the artists wearing masks on the back of their heads.



Final

Saturday, 22 April, 1978, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Palais des Congrès, Paris,
France

Host Broadcaster

TF1

Presented by

Denise Fabre & Léon Zitrone

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

—

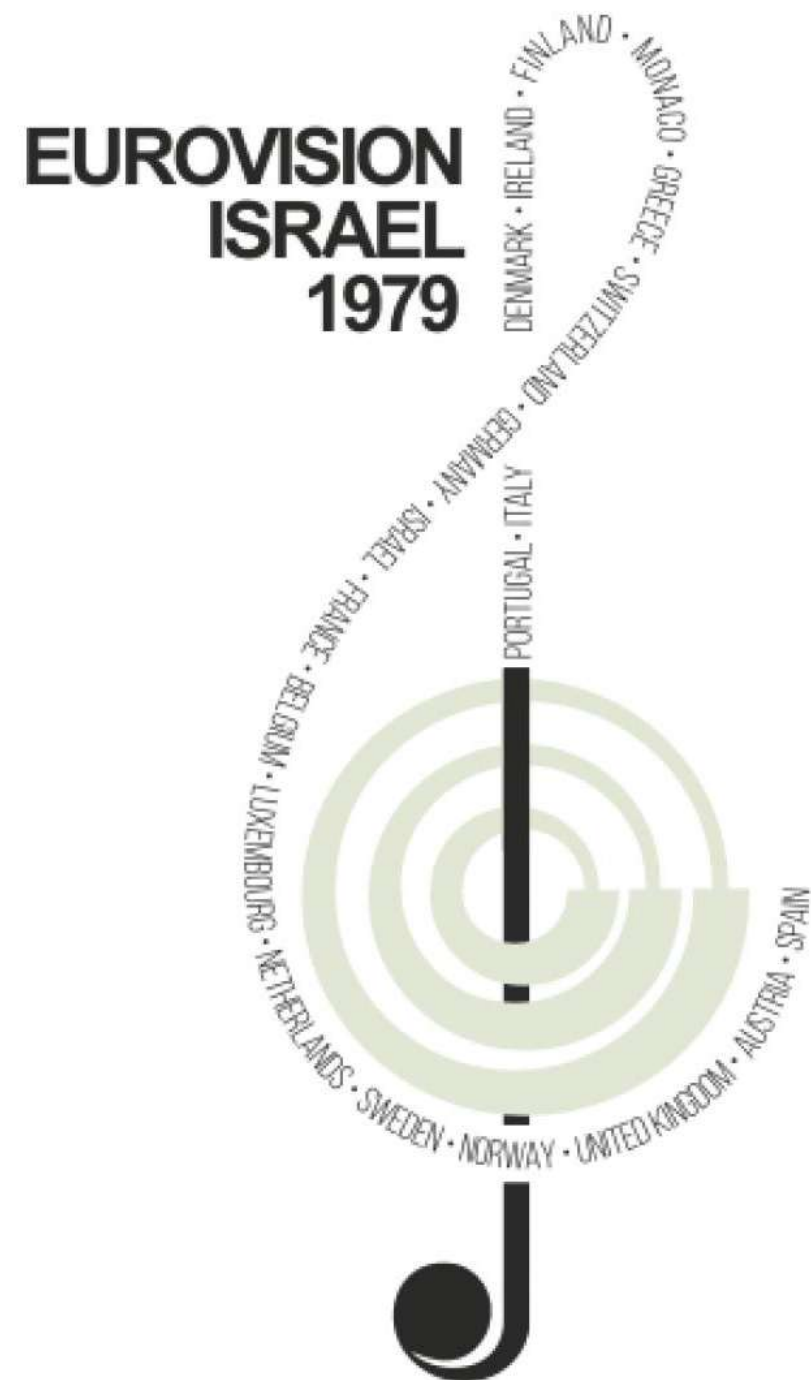
After having won in London in 1977, French Television organised the 1978 Eurovision Song Contest in Paris on 22nd April.

Live in Dubai!

For the third time in Eurovision Song Contest history, the event was held in France. After having hosted the two previous contests in Cannes, French Television decided to host it in the capital Paris. A record 20 countries participated in 1978. Denmark returned to the contest after an 11 year absence. Turkey also participated, and no country withdrew from the previous year. For the first time, the show was presented by two people; Denise Fabre and Léon Zitrone. It was the first time contest was broadcast live in Dubai.

About the winner

Israel won the song contest for the first time with the song *A-Ba-Ni-Bi* by Izhar Cohen & The Alphabeta. The country received five consecutive sets of 12 points. Israel's Head of Delegation, Rivka Michaeli, admitted though that they hadn't been satisfied with Cohen's song. Michaeli said it was only because all the other entries were "so absolutely awful" that Cohen had won the national heats. When it was obvious that Israel would win, the broadcasting company of Jordan stopped the live broadcast claiming they had technical difficulties. A day later they presented the song from Belgium - which came second - as the winning song.



Final

Saturday, 31 March, 1979, 20:00
CET

Venue & Location

Binyanei Ha'ouama Centre,
Jerusalem, Israel

Host Broadcaster

IBA

Presented by

Yardena Arazi & Daniel Peer

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

—

The 24th Eurovision Song Contest was held outside the geographical area of Europe for the first time. Jerusalem played the proud host of the annual event in 1979.

Familiar faces

Jerusalem was this year's host city that welcomed 19 different delegations. Turkey withdrew from the contest because it took place in Israel and many Arab countries put pressure on Turkey not to go to Jerusalem.

There were lots of familiar faces in 1979. Peter, Sue & Marc returned for Switzerland after representing the country in 1976. Anne-Marie David, the 1973 winner for Luxembourg, represented France, and Anita Skorgan sang again for Norway.

The German entry, performed by band *Dschinghis Khan* also went on to become a hit in several European countries, despite being heavily criticised in Germany itself. The Swiss contestants Peter, Sue & Marc had difficulties getting into the country and had to explain to customs exactly why they needed so many watering cans, hoses, bin bags and bottle openers which were needed for their unique performance on the Jerusalem stage.

The Belgian singer Micha Marah was very unhappy with her song *Hey Nana* as this was selected against her will in the Belgian pre-selection. She refused to record the song and it remains one of the few songs in Eurovision Song Contest that does not have a studio-version. Monaco decided to withdraw from the contest after their singer Laurent Vaguener only reached 16th place. The principality would only return again 25 years later, in 2004.

Anni '80



Final

Saturday, 19 April, 1980, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Nederlands Congresgebouw,
The Hague, Netherlands

Host Broadcaster

NOS

Presented by

Marlous Fluitsma

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

—

Israeli TV declined the opportunity to host the 1980 Song Contest again after Israel won in Jerusalem in 1979. After much discussion, it was decided that the contest would be arranged by Dutch TV NOS in The Hague.

Do we have any volunteers?

The Hague was once again the host city for the song contest after both Israel and the United Kingdom declined to stage the contest after Israel declined the opportunity to host the show twice in succession. As a result of these delays, the 1980 contest was hastily arranged and Dutch TV NOS had to re-use most of the stage from 1976, the last time they hosted the contest. NOS picked 19th April as the date for the song contest, but as this was the Holocaust Memorial Day in Israel, the defending champion decided not to participate which marked the only time when the winner of one Eurovision Song Contest did not participate in the next.

Merhaba Morocco

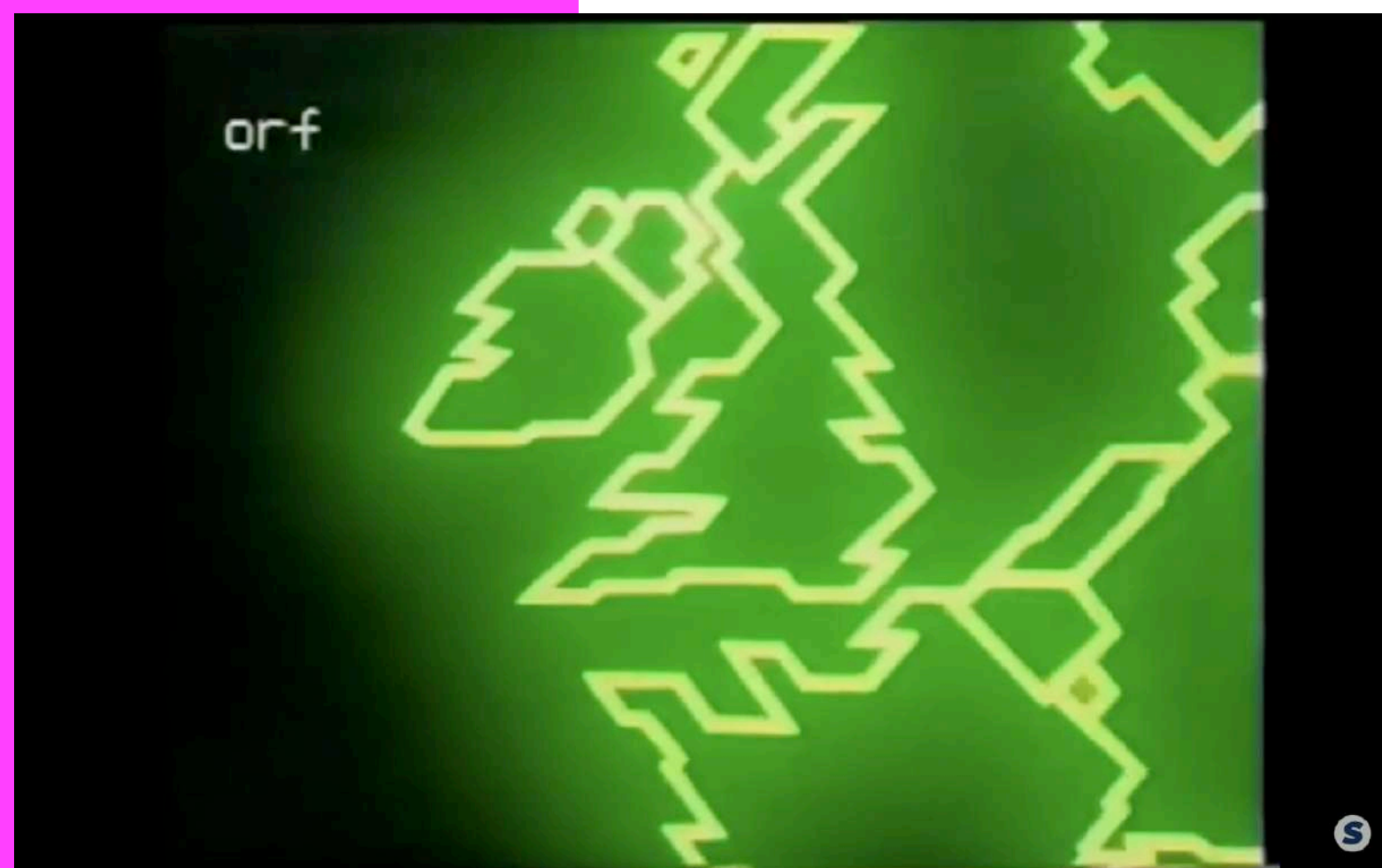
For the first time in the history of the song contest, an African country - Morocco - participated with Samira, a star in the Arabic world. When her entry *Bitakat Hob* ended up at 18th position with just 7 points altogether, Moroccan TV decided that the country should not participate in the contest again. Turkey returned to the contest after one year's absence and Monaco stayed home which meant that the total amount of participating countries amounted to 19 - just as in 1979. Each country brought along a presenter of its own choice to introduce the song in their native language.

What's another year

Johnny Logan, who would later be called "*Mr. Eurovision*", secured Ireland's second victory. The Australian-born singer who only became an Irish citizen after he sang for Ireland in the 1980 contest, would later return and win the contest again in 1987. His 1980 victory brought him a number one hit in the UK and numerous television appearances across Europe. *What's another year* was awarded the maximum 12 points by seven countries, ending up with 143 points in total.



1981 EUROVISION SONG CONTEST



Final

Saturday, 04 April, 1981, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Simmons court Pavillion, Royal
Dublin Society, Dublin, Ireland

Host Broadcaster

RTE

Presented by

Doireann Ní Bhríain

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Ian McGarry

Ireland's capital Dublin hosted the 1981 Eurovision Song Contest after Johnny Logan won the contest in the preceding year with What's Another Year. Bucks Fizz won the 1981 contest for the United Kingdom with the song Making Your Mind Up.

For the second time, the Eurovision champion winner, Ireland, was the host for the event which took place in Dublin. In 1981, the total amount of participating countries was 20 once again equalling the record set three years earlier in Paris. Morocco withdrew after their first participation, and Italy decided to stay at home as well because the interest in the country had diminished. Yugoslavia returned to the contest after five years of absence, so did Israel after the country had missed out on one contest. Finally, Cyprus made its Eurovision debut. It was also the first year Egypt's television viewers could follow the contest live on television.

The opening sequence of the 1981 Eurovision Song Contest showed 'old Ireland' blending into 'modern Ireland'. The sequence ended with a map of Europe on a globe which span round to reveal the Eurovision logo.

About the winner

The United Kingdom's entry, *Making Your Mind Up*, by the group Bucks Fizz won the 1981 contest after a close race with Germany's entry, *Johnny Blue*, performed by Lena Valaitis. Bucks Fizz was formed especially for the Eurovision Song Contest and created one of the most memorable moments in Eurovision history when the two guys in the group ripped off the skirts of the two girls, revealing a shorter skirt underneath. Bucks Fizz continued their career all over



Final

Saturday, 24 April, 1982, 21:00 CEST

Venue & Location

Harrogate Conference Centre,
Harrogate, United Kingdom

Host Broadcaster

BBC

Presented by

Jan Leeming

Executive Producer

Michael Hurl

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Michael Hurl

The BBC surprised everyone when they decided that the 1982 Eurovision Song Contest would be held in the northern city of Harrogate.

Where is Harrogate?

Harrogate, the host city of the 1982 Eurovision Song Contest, was largely unknown to international viewers, something that was not lost on the BBC. The opening sequence of the show included the question "Where is Harrogate" in the languages of the participating countries.

France withdrew from the contest only to return a year later with a different broadcaster. Greece also withdrew from the contest, leaving 18 countries in the competition. Greece was supposed to enter the contest with the song *Sarantapente Kopelies* performed by Themis Adamantidis but the Greek Minister of Culture Melina Mercouri decided to withdraw the song just two weeks before the contest as was unhappy with it.

Germany wins for the first time

Germany finally scored its first win in the history of the song contest with its 27th entry. *Ein Bißchen Frieden* performed by Nicole, beat the runner-up by 61 points. At the reprise, Nicole sang the song in four languages: German, English, French and Dutch. In Germany over 13 million people watched Nicole's victory on television and her winning song became a hit all over Europe.

Facts and figures

- Finland's entrant, Kojo, also sang about peace. His song - a protest against nuclear bombs - did not do as well as Germany's, however and received no points at all.



Final

Saturday, 23 April, 1983, 21:00 CEST

Venue & Location

Rudi-Sedlmayer-Halle, Munich, Germany

Host Broadcaster

ARD

Presented by

Marlene Charell

Executive Producer

Christian Hayer & Gunther Lebram

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Rainer Bertram

After trying to win for many years, German broadcaster ARD finally hosted the 1983 Eurovision Song Contest in Munich.

In 1983 the Eurovision Song Contest was held in Germany for the first time since 1957. The host for the evening was Marlene Charell who presented the show in three languages, German, French and English. Due to the trilingual presentation, the contest lasted more than 3 hours for the first time ever. The total number of participants rose to 20 again as Italy, France and Greece returned.

This year marked the first performance of Sweden's Carola Häggkvist who reached third place and went on to win the contest in 1991 and represented her country again in 2006, coming fifth. Her song *Främling* became very popular in Sweden, perhaps even more than her winning song from 1991. For France's Guy Bonnet, it was the second time he represented his country. After coming 4th in 1970, he ended up 6th in 1983. For Italian superstar Riccardo Fogli, the 1983 contest ended with disappointment; after winning the prestigious San Remo festival the year before, he only ended up 11th with his song *Per Lucia*.

About the winner

Luxembourg won the 1983 contest with the dramatic presentation of *Si La Vie Est Cadeau* by French singer Corinne Hermès. 1983 is the last time Luxembourg won the Eurovision Song Contest. Unlike the previous winner, *Si La Vie Est Cadeau* did not set the European charts alight.



29e Concours Eurovision de la Chanson

Final

Saturday, 05 May, 1984, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Théâtre Municipal, Luxembourg,
Luxembourg

Host Broadcaster

RTL

Presented by

Desirée Nosbusch

Executive Producer

Ray Van Cant

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

René Steichen

Luxembourg hosted the contest for the 4th last time after Corinne Hermès' victory the year before.

After having held the contest last in 1973, Luxembourg played the host for the 1984 Eurovision Song Contest. The total number of participants was 19, one country less than in the preceding year as Greece decided not to enter a song. The contest also clashed with Israel's Remembrance Day, so the country wasn't present in Luxembourg either. Ireland returned to the contest though, finishing second. The Irish song was written by former Eurovision winner, Johnny Logan, under his real name Sean Sherrard. The song *Terminal 3* was performed by Linda Martin, who later returned to win the Eurovision Song Contest in 1992.

Sweden strikes gold

Sweden unexpectedly won the contest with the song *Diggi-Loo Diggi-Ley* performed by three brothers called Herrey's. The Swedish brothers performed first on the night and won over the juries with their catchy tune, energetic dance routine and their golden boots. The song became a hit in many countries, but is still ridiculed today due to its nonsensical title. The Italian entry *I Treni Di Tozeur* by Alice and Franco Battiato also became a smash hit in Europe despite the fact that it only came fifth on the night.

Facts and figures

- The host country, Luxembourg, initially had problems finding a suitable venue. RTL decided to hold the contest in the tiny Théâtre Municipal and as a consequence, only VIPs, press and members of each country's delegation were allowed in.
- The presenter of the show, Desirée Nosbusch, was only 19 years old when she presented the contest
- Booing from the audience can be heard after the UK entry had been performed. There are different theories as to why this happened. One explanation is that it was revenge for the actions of some English football fans who had rioted in Luxembourg prior to the contest. Another possible reason was the use of off-stage backing singers which gave the impression that the performers on-stage were miming their vocals.

Final

Saturday, 04 May, 1985, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Scandinavium, Gothenburg,
Sweden

Host Broadcaster

svt

Presented by

Lill Lindfors

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

—

Swedish national broadcaster SVT decided to stage the 1985 Eurovision Song Contest in Gothenburg's Scandinavium, the biggest venue to have hosted the show to date.

The city of Gothenburg was chosen by the Swedish broadcaster to be host city to the 1985 Eurovision Song Contest. This year, the Netherlands chose to withdraw from the contest because it collided with the country's national Remembrance Day. Yugoslavia also decided to stay home because of a national holiday. Israel and Greece returned to the contest so the number of participants was 19 again, just as in the previous year.

The set in Gothenburg's Scandinavium was very modern and bigger than any venue before. Parts of the set would later be re-used for the Swedish national final, Melodifestivalen, in 1987.

Victory for Norway

Norway surprised everyone with their victory this year. The entry *La Det Swinge* by the duo Bobbysocks, won after a close race with the German entry, *Für Alle* by the group Wind. Bobbysocks consisted of the singers Elisabeth Andreasson and Hanne Krogh. Elisabeth had already taken part in the Eurovision Song Contest in 1982 for Sweden where she was one half of the group Chips. Hanne Krogh had represented Norway already in 1971, but only came 17th with her song *Lycken Er*.



EUROVISION

Song 86 Contest

BERGEN · NORWAY

Final

Saturday, 03 May, 1986, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Grieghallen, Bergen, Norway

Host Broadcaster

NRK

Presented by

Åse Kleveland

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

John Andreassen

The Norwegian city of Bergen had the honour of hosting the 1986 Eurovision Song Contest which saw Belgium score its first and to date, only victory with Sandra Kim's J'Aime La Vie

For the first time, Norway had the honour of hosting the 31st Eurovision Song Contest. Just like in Munich three years earlier, 20 countries participated in the contest. The Netherlands and Yugoslavia returned, Italy and Greece withdrew from the contest and Iceland made its debut. Iceland had wanted to participate for some years but the small Atlantic island nation had to wait until a satellite connection to Iceland could be established. The 1986 Eurovision Song Contest also marked a historic landmark as the 500th Eurovision song was performed in Bergen - Luxembourg's entry *L'Amour De Ma Vie* by Canadian-born Sherisse Laurence.

The presenter of the 1986 Eurovision Song Contest, Åse Kleveland, had already participated as a singer for her home country in 1966 where she was placed 3rd. She had also presented the Norwegian national final in 1980.

Youngest winner ever

The winner of the song contest was the 13-year-old Sandra Kim, who sang *J'Aime La Vie*. She actually had told the producers of the show that she was 15 year old. It was the first win for Belgium, and it meant that all countries that had participated in the very first contest in 1956 had now won at least once.



Final

Saturday, 09 May, 1987, 21:00 CEST

Venue & Location

Palais de Centenaire, Brussels, Belgium

Host Broadcaster

rtbf

Presented by

Viktor Laszlo

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Jacques Bourton

The 1987 Eurovision Song Contest was held in Brussels, Belgium. Viktor Laszlo was the host of the 32nd edition of the competition which was won by Ireland.

Belgium had the honour of hosting the 1987 Eurovision Song Contest for the first time in the country's history. The highest number of participants ever, 22, entered the contest in 1987. Greece and Italy returned to the contest after a year of absence. The 1986 contest was won by a Walloon entry, but in 1987 the Flemish broadcaster, BRT, was responsible for the Belgian entry. BRT also wanted to co-organise the contest, but the Walloon broadcaster, RTBF decided to organise the event on its own. The presenter of the 3-hour-show was the successful Belgian artist Viktor Laszlo who opened the contest presenting her latest song *Breathless*.

Johnny Logan makes history

The winner of the 1987 contest was *Hold Me Now* performed and written by Johnny Logan, who had already won in 1980 with *What's Another Year* and had written the second-placed song in 1984 *Terminal 3* performed in Luxembourg by Linda Martin. Johnny is the only singer to date to win the contest twice as a singer.

Facts and figures

- Germany came second this year with the song *Lass die Sonne in dein Herz* by the group Wind. For the group, it was the second silver ranking after being the runner up in 1985. The song still ranks as one of the best-known Eurovision hits in Denmark.
- Italy sent two internationally-known stars to Eurovision this year; Tozzi & Raf. Raf had written the worldwide hit *Self Control* three years earlier which was both a hit for him and for the cover-version by Laura Branigan.



Final

Saturday, 30 April, 1988, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Simmons Court Pavillion of the
Royal Dublin Society, Dublin,
Ireland

Host Broadcaster

RTE

Presented by

Pat Kenny & Michelle Rocca

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Declan Lowney

The 1988 Eurovision Song Contest is best remembered for one of the most thrilling voting moments in the history of the competition and for launching a legend; Céline Dion.

Modernising Eurovision

The 1988 Eurovision Song Contest was hosted in Dublin for the third time, 21 countries competed for the trophy. Host broadcaster RTE introduced a modern set, at that point the largest in the history of the contest. Two giant video walls and a computerised scoreboard were also unveiled. At the time, it was a ground breaking production and set the standard for future editions of the contest.

Denmark was represented by the group Hot Eyes who performed in the contest for the third time. Lead singer Kirsten was heavily pregnant at the time and gave birth just three weeks after the contest.

And finally... France!

The 1988 Eurovision Song Contest is best remembered for one of the most exciting voting sequences in the history of the contest. Switzerland's entry *Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi* performed by Céline Dion beat the runner-up, the United Kingdom's Scott Fitzgerald by just a single point. Before the last vote, the UK entry was leading with 136 points to Switzerland's 131. Yugoslavia, the last country to vote, gave six points to Switzerland whilst failing to award any points to the UK entry. Yugoslavia's 12 points went to France after one of the tensest moments ever seen in the Eurovision Song Contest.

For Céline Dion, winning the 1988 Eurovision Song Contest was a turning point in her international career. Whilst she was known in Canada and France before 1988, the Eurovision Song Contest gave her the elevate her career to new heights. Shortly after she won the Eurovision Song Contest she began work on her debut English language album, *Unison*.

Facts and figures

- The 1988 Eurovision Song Contest also saw another star of the future take to the stage; Lara Fabian who represented Luxembourg. The Belgian-born singer went on to forge a hugely successful career and in 2000 she reached number one on the Billboard charts in the United States with *I Will Love Again*.
- Cyprus decided to withdraw as their entry was not in-line with the rules of the contest - it had previously been published.
- The venue of the 1988 contest was the same as in 1981, but this time RTÉ managed to create a very special stage that created the illusion of depth, making the stage appear bigger than it actually was.
- For the first time ever a computerised scoreboard was used instead of the mechanical ones used in previous contests.



E U R O V I S I O N



S U I S S E
CHANSO N 89 LAUSANNE

Final

Saturday, 06 May, 1989, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Palais de Beaulieu, Lausanne,
Switzerland

Host Broadcaster

SRG SSR

Presented by

Jacques Deschenaux and Lolita
Morena

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Alain Bloch

Following Céline Dion's victory the preceding year in Dublin, Switzerland staged the Eurovision Song Contest in Lausanne. 22 countries participated in the 1989 Eurovision Song Contest.

Switzerland hosted the very first Eurovision Song Contest in 1956 but did not host again until 1989. Céline Dion opened the show with a shortened reprise of her winning song from 1988, *Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi* and also performed her new English language single, *Where Does My Heart Beat Now*. The song would go on to be her first major hit in the United States.

True to form, Italy sent its biggest stars to Eurovision. This year it was the turn of Fausto Leali and Anna Oxa who had won the festival of San Remo some weeks prior to the Eurovision Song Contest.

Germany and Austria's entries were both written by German pop titan, Dieter Bohlen. Bohlen became famous in Germany in the 1980's as one half of the duo Modern Talking. Since then, he has gone on to have a successful career as one of the country's most successful pop producers and also became a judge in the German version of *Pop Idol*.

The Swiss entry *Viver Senza Tei* by the group Furbaz was the first entry ever to be sung in Romansch, one of the four official languages of Switzerland.

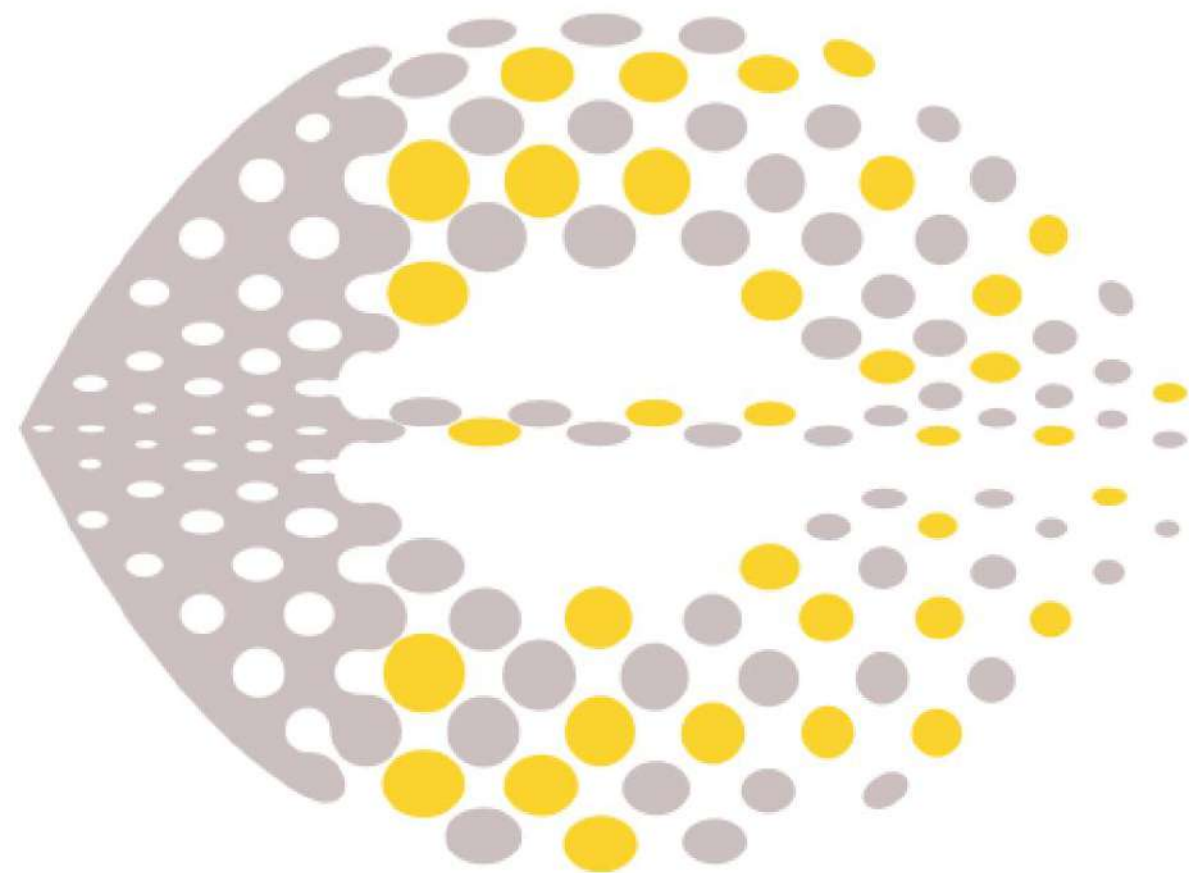
Yugoslavia wins - just in time

Yugoslavia's win in 1989 came as a surprise to many. *Rock Me* by the group Riva was performed last on the night and in a year of many ballads the uptempo track stood out. Yugoslavia won the Eurovision Song Contest just in time. By 1989 cracks were beginning to appear in the country and Yugoslavia disintegrated into war in the following years.

Facts and figures

- The French participant, Nathalie Pâque, was just 11 years old and Israel's singer, Gili Netanel, was just one year older which led to a change of rules. Performers had to be 16 years old in the year of the contest.
- The tie-break rule was also adapted; the country with the most 12 points would be declared the winner. If a tie remained then the country with the most 10 points would be declared the winner.

Anni '90



EUROVISION SongContest'90 ZAGREB/YU

Final

Saturday, 05 May, 1990, 21:00
CEST

Venue & Location

Koncertna Dvorana Vatroslav
Lisinski, Zagreb, Yugoslavia

Host Broadcaster

JRT

Presented by

Olivar Mlakar and Helga
Vlahovic

Executive Producer

—

Executive Supervisor

Frank Naef

Multicamera Director

Nenad Puhovski

The 1990 Eurovision Song Contest was held in Zagreb following Yugoslavia's win the previous year. As communism fell in Europe, many of the songs reflected the wider political context.

22 countries participated in the 1990 Eurovision Song Contest, the same line up as in 1989. Many of the songs reflected the wider political developments that were taking place in Europe.

The Spanish performance was beset by technical problems. First the backing track failed to play, then it started too early. The delegation's conductor completely lost control and the Spanish duo, Azúcar Moreno, left the stage. The second attempt was successful and the duo ended up in fifth place.

Eurovision veteran, Serge Gainsbourg, wrote the French entry *White And Black Blues* performed by Joelle Ursull which finished in second place along with Ireland's song *Somewhere in Europe*.

United for Italy

The well-known Italian singer Toto Cutugno won this year's song contest with the song *Insieme: 1992* which was about a united Europe.

Facts and figures

- The postcards featured travelogues of each of the participating countries to mark the European Year of Tourism 1990
- The UK sent its youngest ever representative, Emma Booth, who was fifteen at the time of the contest. She was allowed to compete however since she turned 16 in the year of that particular competition.
- At the end of the voting Toto Cutugno splashed water on his face and hair which caused his hair dye to run. He covered this up with a jacket that he wore for the winning reprise.