

Contents

Acknowledgements vii

- 1 Orange Soldiers 1
- 2 A Sunday Before the War 15
- 3 A Friendly Salute: International Football in the 1930s 25
- 4 The Warm Back of Eddy Hamel 48
- 5 The Lost Memories of Meijer Stad 57
- 6 Sparta: A Football Club in Wartime 67
- 7 Boom: The Rise of Football in the Occupied Netherlands 90
- 8 Strange Lies: Ajax, World War II and P. G. Wodehouse 102
- 9 Captain of France, Collaborator in Gorcum: Football and the Annals of Resistance 120
- 10 The Netherlands Was Better Than the Rest 134
- 11 Soldier Heroes: British and German Football in the War (and Long After) 144
- 12 Of Bunkers and Cigars: The Holocaust and the Making of the Great Ajax 178
- 13 The Most Popular Team in Israel 193
- 14 Football Songs of the Netherlands 208
- 15 Disneytown and the Secret Monuments 220

Afterword 233

Sources 247

Index 253