

# Rolex Shanghai Masters

Saturday, 7 October 2023

Shanghai, China

## Stefanos Tsitsipas

Mixed Zone



S. TSITSIPAS/R. Hijikata

6-4, 6-2

**Q. Congratulations. That seemed like the perfect start for you.**

STEFANOS TSITSIPAS: Yes, it was good. As all matches in the beginning of a tournament, it takes some time to get the pace and rhythm of how things flow. I was kind of there when I had to be, and after that, it was quite smooth. I was very confident and very sure of what I was doing and what I was following and it worked out pretty well. It fell into, like, there were a few phases during the match where my concentration was there, and I was just very ready and very aware and anticipating well.

**Q. How good is it to come back to a city where you've had such great results? You had some strong wins from the start and semifinal in 2019 was an amazing run for you.**

STEFANOS TSITSIPAS: Yes, it was. I mean, I had a few in a row at the time, deep runs in different tournaments, and I was being very consistent in my runs. Not winning all of them, but showing some good tennis and determination on the court. So I definitely have good memories from that time. I enjoyed how I was trying to adapt and push my game to its limits.

Later, a few weeks later, my triumph and the win at the Nitto Finals came, which kind of showed how consistent and how disciplined I was to get that job going every single week and how I was patiently waiting for my chance.

**Q. Speaking of patience, you mentioned on court that you like the Chinese people because they're patient and hardworking. Are those qualities that also apply to your game?**

STEFANOS TSITSIPAS: Well, look, I feel like cultures like this, especially from Asia, and I haven't been to a lot of Asian countries, unfortunately. I have been to Japan and China. What I've seen with these cultures is they're very

disciplined, very patient, very hardworking, they put their head down and they work. It shows how tough these people are and how they try and perfect their work through their commitment that they show to their work. I mean, it's all about that. They're very good at that. It also shows in things that they have achieved with development and infrastructure and many other aspects of life.

**Q. Your next match will be against either Humbert or van de Zandschulp. Any thoughts on looking ahead?**

STEFANOS TSITSIPAS: Yes. Well, let's see how that match goes, and I will try and work on my game accordingly.

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