

Massimo Sciacca was born in Bologna in 1965. Since 1984, he has been involved in photography, with a particular focus on documentary photography. In 1991, he joined the photo-journalistic agency Lucky Star. He has covered various events for numerous Italian and foreign publications, including Epoca, L'Europeo, Stern, and Der Spiegel. He documented the early days of the war in the former Yugoslavia and the first free elections in Albania. During the same period, he became interested in the lives of squatters in Bologna's social centers. "B42K (Primadelduemila)" is the result of a project that spanned over ten years. In 1993, he traveled to Bosnia-Herzegovina for the first time and returned over the next three years to create "Rock Under the Siege," a reportage on the lives of young musicians during the siege of Sarajevo. In 1995, he documented the Croat-Muslim conflict in Mostar and the Turkish army's occupation of Iraqi Kurdistan. In 1997, he returned to Albania to photograph the popular uprising following the collapse of the "financial pyramids." An image from this reportage won a World Press Photo Award. In 1998, he joined the staff of the Contrasto agency. He covered the student unrest and uprising in Indonesia and produced a reportage on the division of Cyprus. In 1999, he was in Kosovo and Serbia to document the war between Serbs and Albanians, and then in East Timor to photograph the conflict in the region. That same year, he received the Fuji Italy Award for photojournalism and the Linea d'Ombra award.

In 2000, he moved to Hong Kong for an extended period during which he photographed the societal changes in the former British colony following its reunification with China and produced reportages for the South China Morning Post and various European newspapers and magazines, including Ventiquattro, Liberation, Stern, Donna, L'Espresso, and Marie Claire Italia. The following year, he traveled to Iran to photograph the Quranic schools in the holy city of Qom. From there, he went to western Afghanistan, where he witnessed the liberation of Herat from the Taliban by Afghan mujahideen. In the spring of 2002, he photographed the anti-terrorism training of the Philippine army in the Mindanao archipelago, beginning a two-year extensive reportage, "The Paper Tiger," on the living conditions in the poor communities of the Philippines. During the same period, he filmed "Dopo l'Assedio" ("After the Siege") with Roberta Ferrari, a short film about the lives of Sarajevo's inhabitants ten years after the war ended.

In the following years, he produced editorial reportages in various locations, including Polynesia, Australia, Argentina, and Chile. Since 2008, he has been part of the Prospekt Photographers agency staff. In 2009, he produced the multimedia web documentary "The Iron Curtain Diaries," a photo and video reportage on the twentieth anniversary of the fall of the Iron Curtain. In the same year, he directed the medium-length film "La Vita Blindata," the story of Pino Masciari, one of Italy's first justice witnesses.

From 2010 to 2012, he created "Obamerica" for Corriere della Sera, a web doc series on Obama's America. Since 2013, he has produced several photographic and video reportages in Nigeria: "In Our Ghetto," a work on female empowerment in the ghettos of Port Harcourt, and "Delta's Twilight," a project on daily life in the Niger Delta. In 2019, he photographed the popular uprising in Chile and created "Marichiweu," a work on the Mapuche communities fighting for their land.

He lives and works in Bologna.

