

**Magistrate Roberto Scarpinato with his escort on the roofs of the Court. (Il magistrato Roberto Scarpinato con la sua scorta sui tetti del Tribunale.)
Palermo, 1998.**

Five men stand in a rough group facing us. They are on the flat, tiled roof of a building, with clouds and a mountain ridge behind them, in bright sunlight.

Scarpinato is in the centre of the group. He's in his forties, with curly hair framing his face and falling to collar length, and wearing a neatly trimmed, greying beard and moustache. His face is creased in a frown, the bright light casting deep shadows under his eyes. He wears a dark suit and a tie with a small, chequered print. One hand is in his trouser pocket, and he holds a cigarette in the other hand.

The four members of Scarpinato's escort all hold pistols ready, resting by their hips, or held in front of them with both hands. They are informally dressed, in polo shirts and jeans, but are muscular and have an alert stance, feet squarely apart, scanning the horizon. In the distance, some ten metres behind them on the roof, there is another man, a guard in uniform.

Five years earlier, Scarpinato had begun the prosecution of Italy's ex-prime minister Giulio Andreotti for collusion with the Mafia. One of Battaglia's photos was used as part of the evidence. Although the court recognised that Andreotti had committed the "offence of participation in the criminal association" of the Mafia before 1980, he was acquitted in 1999 because of the statute of limitations. The case was one of a series of corruption cases in Italy aiming to purge the political influence of the Mafia.