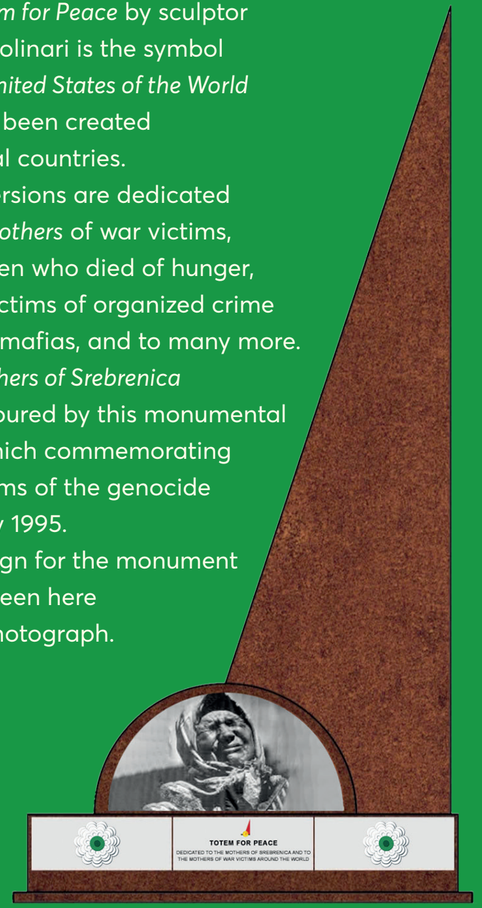
Michele Capasso was born on 14 June 1954. He worked as a photographer (1967-1972), gallery owner (1972-1978), painter (from 1972), and architect-engineer (from 1978).
In 1987, after meeting Gustavo Adolfo Rol in Turin, he began humanitarian initiatives in favour of Bosnia and Herzegovina and other populations affected by wars and conflict. He suspended his professional work to dedicate his energy – through the *United States of the World* and the *Fondazione Mediterraneo* – to concrete acts of solidarity and assistance, particularly for the city of Sarajevo, which he first visited in 1964 and has often returned to since.
Michele Capasso has devoted more than forty years of his life – and continues to do so – to fostering dialogue and peaceful coexistence among peoples. He transformed Gustavo Adolfo Rol's vision into a tangible political and institutional project: the creation of a *United States of the World*.
Originating in the *Greater Mediterranean* area, the initiative gradually to include more than 180 countries and 16,000 civil society organizations and institutions. It culminated on 18 November 2022 with the adoption of the *Constitution of the United States of the World*, a charter of 45 articles setting out the rights and duties of the planet's inhabitants to protect the Earth and preserve Peace.
Expert in international politics, Michele Capasso is Secretary-General of the *United States of the World* and President of the *Fondazione Mediterraneo*.
Bosnia and Herzegovina – with the cities of Sarajevo and Srebrenica – remains Michele Capasso's second home.

www.statiunitidelmondo.org
www.fondazionemediterraneo.org
www.michelecapasso.org

The *Totem for Peace* by sculptor Mario Molinari is the symbol of the *United States of the World* and has been created in several countries.
Some versions are dedicated to the *Mothers* of war victims, of children who died of hunger, of the victims of organized crime and the mafias, and to many more.
The *Mothers of Srebrenica* are honoured by this monumental work, which commemorating the victims of the genocide of 11 July 1995.
The design for the monument can be seen here in the photograph.



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MICHELE CAPASSO

WAR JOURNALS. BOSNIA

magma

MICHELE CAPASSO

WAR JOURNALS

BOSNIA

Introduction by Miguel Àngel Moratinos

magma

This war journal is Michele Capasso's personal testimony, recounting his experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1964 to the present day.
It tells the story of extraordinary human experiences, during a historic period when the Mediterranean – at the turn of the second millennium – assumed strategic importance for dialogue and peace. Bosnia and Herzegovina became the symbol of this struggle, a nation torn by conflict embodied in the cities of Sarajevo and Srebrenica, the latter scarred by the second genocide of the 20th century, on 11 July 1995.
Fratricidal war, ethnic cleansing, the destruction of cities and memory, genocide: Michele Capasso took a stand against the tragedy unfolding in Bosnia and Herzegovina and, more broadly, in the former Yugoslavia and the Balkans. He devoted all his personal resources to this cause, urging people not to lose hope. The stories in this book bear testimony to that commitment, each one supported by documents and images.
The essence of the narrative is to reveal the remarkable resilience of human beings in facing the pain and devastation brought by war and hatred, enduring hardship without ever losing faith in tomorrow.
The *Mothers* programme of the *United States of the World*, which seeks to give voice to the *Mothers* of war victims, of children who died of hunger, of the victims of organized crime and mafia, of women killed by gender violence, and of all victims of brutality in a world afflicted by an immense famine of love and a suicidal selfishness.

Cover photo:
Munira Subašić with Pia Molinari.