

## **Boss Gaetano Fidanzati in court, Palermo 1978**

This black and white photograph in landscape format shows a modern courtroom, with 12 men in the dock, sitting in three rows. To the right, there are two policemen.

In the front row of the dock, Gaetano Fidanzati sits on his own looking just to the right of the photographer. He's a middle-aged man wearing a suit jacket over a light-coloured turtleneck sweater. He sits with his legs crossed, one arm over his lap, the other draped across the back of the bench. The tension in the fingers of his right hand suggests that he is not quite as relaxed as his pose is intended to suggest.

Behind him, two rows of men, all wearing suits and ties, respond very differently to the photographer. Some hide their faces with their hats, others with their hands, some simply turn away. In the back row, there is a blur of movement as one in dark sunglasses lifts a hat over his face. Behind them is a wall of marble tiles.

The carabinieri, military policemen, wear black uniforms, white shirt and tie, with a peaked cap and a white leather belt worn diagonally across the chest. One stands facing us, his hands folded, while the other is in profile, turned to watch the prisoners.

Gaetano Fidanzati was born in 1935, the same year as Letizia Battaglia, and died in 2013. He was a Sicilian mafia boss, heavily involved in drug trafficking.