

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Stephan Schacher is constantly in search of the extraordinary - in both his life and his photography. Gifted with a keen eye for the authentic, he creates images that give expression to the inner truth and beauty of things. Working with fascinating worlds of color, he succeeds in conveying the atmospheres and moods of the scenes he captures - a desert in Texas in the sweltering noonday heat or the cold and solitude of the far north. The people in his portraits appear unquestionably authentic, raw and honest. He pursues his vision with a passion akin to obsession - and it leads him invariably to his objective.

Schacher was born in Washington D.C. in 1965 and spent his youth in Lucerne, Switzerland. After completing his schooling in Switzerland, he returned to the U.S., and in 1988, he enrolled as a student of fine art and photography at the *Art Center College of Design* in Pasadena. He attracted the attention of art directors from various magazines, including *Rolling Stone*, who later helped him get his foot in the door of the New York scene. He did his first major assignments for *Interview*, and *Vanity Fair*. After returning to Europe in 1993, he worked on assignments for a number of periodicals, among them *Max*, *Tages-Anzeiger Magazin*, *Tempo*, and *DU* and also did portraits of such celebrities as Christo, Wolfgang Joop, and the Dalai Lama.

Schacher has been living and working in New York and Zurich since 1996. He has done commercial work for a number of firms, including Coca Cola, Sony, Mercedes Benz, Porsche and L'Oreal.

His documentation of world music on three continents, an exceptional commission by the German hi-fi manufacturer Loewe, was published in book form as *A Passage to All Senses* in 2002, and also marked his debut with moving images for the accompanying DVD.

In 2005 his book *Plates and Dishes* is published by Princeton Architectural Press (New York), for the international English edition, and in Germany *Cuties and Calories* is published by Edition Braus (Heidelberg). The result is a travel diary of a very special kind: Food and interior decoration reflect the atmosphere of the different diners and reveal local and ethnic particularities. The eyes of the waitresses tell a thousand stories - and the whole enterprise is proof of an exceptional artistic obsession. Working with a consistency and tenacity essential for concept photography, Schacher has created a fascinating photographic document.

Reviews in *Der Spiegel*, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, *German Photo* and many other publications in the United States, Canada, France etc. allow him another big step forward in his career of nearly 20 years.

Most recently, Schacher has photographed celebrities including Ewan McGregor, Michelle Williams, Hugh Jackman and Charlotte Rampling. His latest book, entitled *EUROPA ROAD* was shot entirely with a Nokia cellphone and was published by C.F. Portmann Verlag in 2007.

Schacher is currently finishing his first feature film about the 66 days on the road, entitled *True-Spirit* and has just wrapped up shooting a documentary on the New York burlesque scene.