



**Vasillaq Kolevica**  
was born in Korçë  
on April 17, 1959.

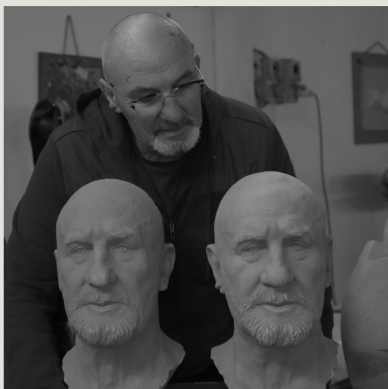
From a very young  
age, art was an  
inseparable part of  
family life: his  
father, Dhimitraq  
Kolevica, painted  
alongside him,  
while his mother,  
through the sound  
of the piano,  
brought him a  
passion for  
melody.

From 1974 to  
1978, Vasi  
attended the Art  
Lyceum of Korçë,  
where he also  
created his first  
artwork — a  
portrait of the girl  
he loved,  
Andoneta, who was  
15 years old at the  
time and is now his  
wife.

He completed his  
studies at the  
University of Arts  
in Tirana (2008-  
2012).

**PORTFOLIO**

**V. Kolevica**



**"The Rubáiyát of Omar  
Khayyám**

**(Translated by Edward  
FitzGerald, 1st Edition,  
1859 — Quatrain LXV)**

**Then said another,  
"Surely not in vain  
My Substance from the  
common Earth was  
ta'en,  
That He who subtly  
wrought me into Shape  
Should stamp me back  
to common Earth  
again."**

**- Omar Khayyam.**

**Inspired by the  
philosophy of Omar  
Khayyam, who gives  
voice to the clay  
through his verses, we  
are reminded that  
everything shaped by  
human hands carries  
the memory of what it  
once was and what it  
will become.**

**Vasillaq  
Kolevica**

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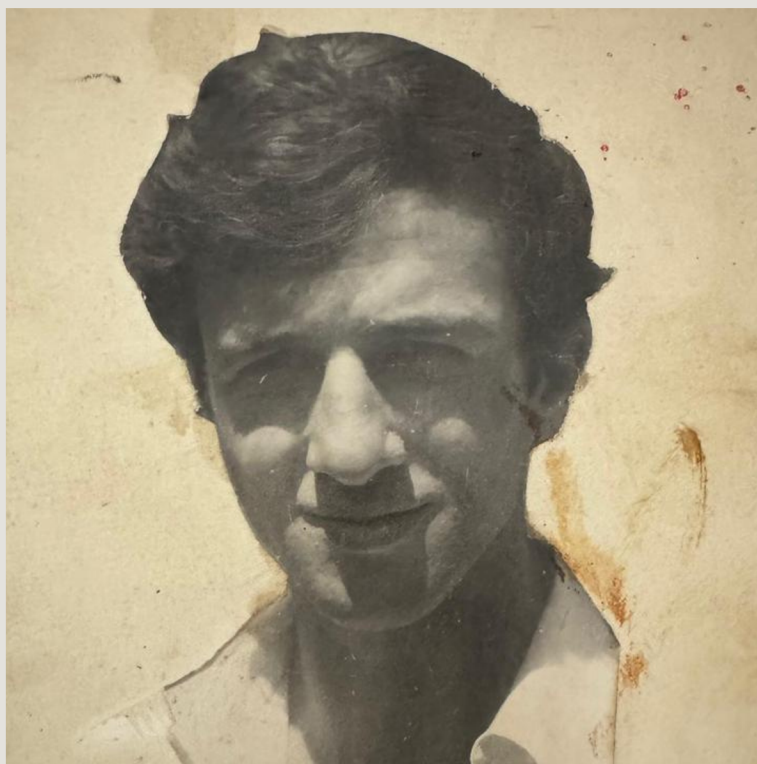
**CONTACT**

**THANK YOU**



*Welcome to Vasi's Journey*





## About Vasi

Vasillaq Kolevica was born in Korçë on April 17, 1959, into a family with an artistic heritage and distant Greek origins.

From 1974 to 1978, Vasi attended the Art Lyceum of Korçë. Due to his family background, he was denied the right to study at the University of Arts, but later returned to complete his studies at the University of Arts in Tirana (2008-2012). His first studio was born in the late 1970s, in the Old Bazaar of Korçë, where the artist built his own kilns and the first pottery wheels for working with ceramics.

Every object created by his hands carries a fragment of identity, crafted with dedication, conceived with feeling, and realized with an emotional intuition that transcends mere aesthetic function.



### ***The "Potter" Series***

Inspired by the philosophy of Omar Khayyam, the fragments and small vessels recreate this eternal dialogue between the hands that shape and the matter that remembers, a meditation on fragility, rebirth, and the eternal memory of earth and spirit.



# Studio History

## *The Full Story*

Kolevica Art is more than a creative space; it is a place where clay breathes, and where art and the love of form transform into a shared language.

Within it, one can feel the warmth of the earth, the scent of ceramics, and the light that emerges from the hands of the artists.

Kolevica Art Studio was founded by the artist Vasillaq Kolevica as a space dedicated to sculpture and artistic ceramics. With deep roots in the city of Korçë, the studio embodies tradition, craftsmanship, and a contemporary spirit in every work.

The first studio was established in the late 1970s in the Old Bazaar of Korçë, where the artist built his own kilns and the first pottery wheels for working with ceramics.

After the 1990s, with the change of the system, the studio was moved to a home and later, in 1994, took its full form as Kolevica Art Studio, which today unites tradition with the philosophy of sustainable art.

Every object created here carries a fragment of identity, crafted with dedication, conceived with sensitivity, and realized with an emotional intuition that transcends mere aesthetic function.

The Kolevica family has deep artistic and intellectual roots. Vasi's mother was a pianist at the French Lyceum, while his father played violin, guitar, and banjo, passing on a love for music and art.

Today, the creative spirit continues through his daughters, who have chosen the path of the arts and architecture, preserving the family's heritage. In particular, Anjeza Kolevica, Vasi's youngest daughter, has followed in her father's footsteps, expanding his artistic vision with contemporary sensitivity.

### **FROM VASI, TO ANJEZA.**

An inseparable part of this creative universe is also Andoneta, Vasi's wife, who brings color and life to every work that emerges from their hands.

In the hands of Vasi and Anjeza, every piece of clay becomes part of a larger story. Ceramics come alive, reflecting the philosophy of recycling and sustainability, because art here does not consume, it regenerates. It restores life in every detail, in every color that shines under the sunlight.

For Vasi and Anjeza, the art of pottery is a way to build the world with love and humility.



In their workshop, every object is an extension of the spirit, a union between the functional and the poetic. For them, working with clay means engaging in a dialogue with time, with roots, and with the future all at once.

In every project, Vasi and Anjeza are involved as a family, together with Andoneta, and they have built a true art laboratory, where they conceive the idea on paper, shape it in clay, fire it, and finally give it identity.

They believe that development lies in collaboration, not in importation, and that art must remain a living, human, and unrepeatable act. Essentially, Kolevica Art Studio is an intertwining of art with life, of spirit with structure, of idea with matter.

It is a testament that art, like love, can be realized with hands, heart, and identity.



## The First Work

His first work was dedicated to the girl he loved—and still loves—Andoneta, who was only 15 at the time and is now his wife.

It was 1974, in beautiful Korçë, when Vasi was attending the Art Lyceum. He was inspired by his close friend, neither of them knowing that she would one day become his lifelong companion.

A bond that, over time, would become a cornerstone of his deepest journey—not only because they now share their love for their two daughters, Anxhelika and Anjeza, but also because Andoneta has been and remains an inseparable part of Vasi Kolevica's creative path.

At every step, from his days at the Lyceum to the establishment of his studio, she has been there—an inspiration, a support, and a witness to a life shaped through art and love.

# Vasi's Perspectives



**Modeling:** Mikel Temo  
**Ceramic Execution:** Vasillaq Kolevica



# Artistic Philosophy

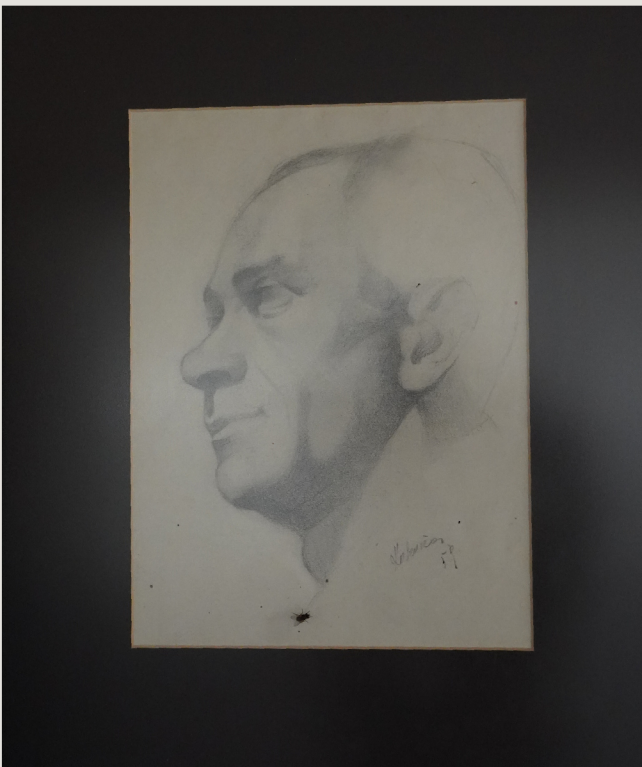
For Vasillaq Kolevica, art is born where light touches matter and silence takes a breath.

For him, clay is not merely a material but memory; it preserves the emotion, humility, and love of the person who touches it. In every work, he seeks the connection between human and earth, between memory and form.

Sculpture is his way of speaking to the world, of reviving it through the human trace.

Kolevica's art does not aim for perfection but for feeling. It regenerates, recalls, and turns every fragment into a testament of love. Because, in the end, for him, making art means living with memory and transforming life into form.

Just as music emerges from silence to create melody, his art is born from stillness to speak with feeling. In both, he finds the rhythm of the spirit and the harmony of memory.



*a little memory*



# Profile & Experience



## Education

- Art Lyceum of Korçë (1974-1978)
- University of Arts, Tirana (2008-2012)

## Artistic Experience

- Active in the art scene since 1978
- Founder of Kolevica Art Studio, Korçë (1994-present)
- Participant and awardee in national and international exhibitions in Albania, Greece, Italy, and North Macedonia
- Creator of a wide range of works in ceramics, sculpture, and relief
- Inspired by the philosophy of matter and human memory, where art takes shape as identity.
- Director of Monuments of Korçë County (2012-2013)

## Major Exhibitions

- 7 solo exhibitions in Korçë
- 4 solo exhibitions in Tirana
- 4 international exhibitions (Italy & Greece)
- Solo exhibition at the National Gallery of Arts, Tirana (2007)
  - Donation of the work "Crucifixion" to the permanent collection of NGA
- Inter-Balkan exhibition of ecclesiastical art, Volos - Greece
- International Sculpture Symposium, Korçë (2010, 2024)

## Works in Public Spaces

- Stone monument "Complex of the Alphabet Rally" - Church of Saint Dellia, Korçë
- Bas-relief in the hall of Korçë County
- Massive bas-reliefs at Korça Brewery
- 5 works in the collection of the Art Gallery, Korçë

## Languages

- Italian
- Greek

Director of Monuments of Korçë  
County (2012-2013)



Church of the Archangels Saint Michael and  
Gabriel, Voskopoje



Saint Peter, Vithkuq



Saint Mary, Vithkuq



Saint Elijah, Voskopoje



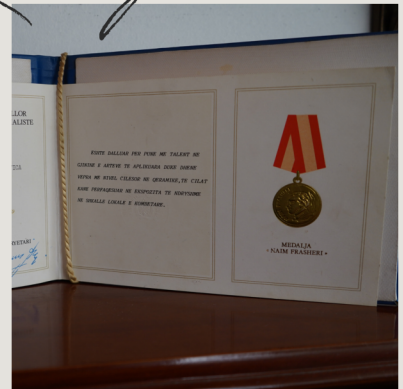
Holy Trinity, Tudas Lekas



Saint Mary, Voskopoje

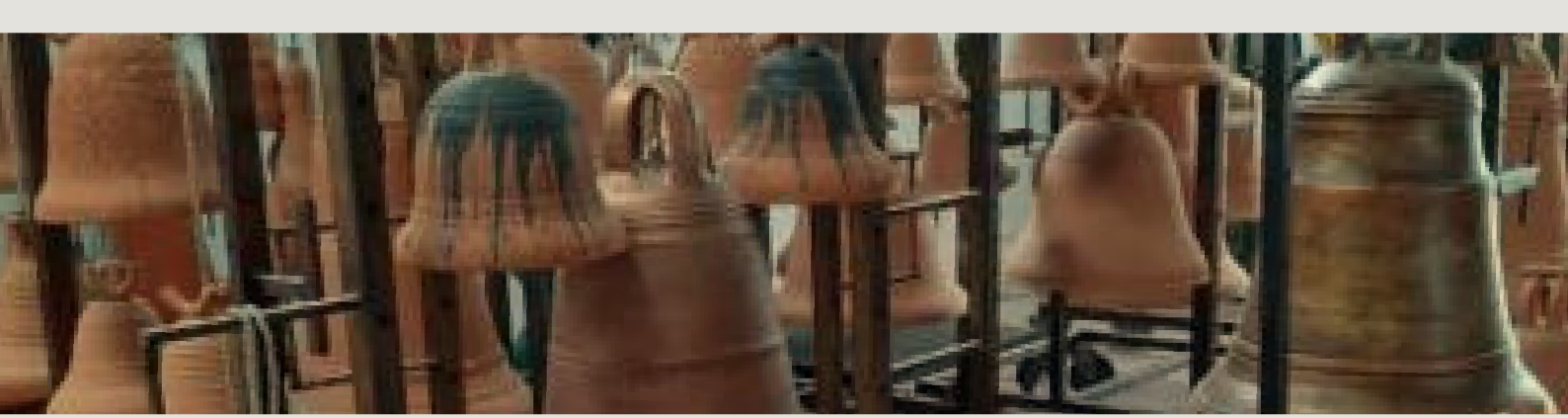


# Awards, Exhibitions, Recognitions





Awards  
Exhibitions  
Recognition



## Awards

1983-1986

- Winner of First and Second Prizes in Applied Arts competitions - Artistic Youth Awards.

1990

- "Naim Frashëri" Medal - Awarded by the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Albania, for works of high artistic level in ceramics.

2005

- Second Prize in Sculpture - National Competition "Vangjush Mio", Gallery "Guri Madhi", Korçë.

2006

- First Prize in Sculpture - National Competition "Vangjush Mio", Gallery "Guri Madhi", Korçë.

2008

- "Odise Paskali" Award - Boboshticë, for outstanding creativity and successful participation in national and international exhibitions.

2016

- "Best in the Country" Award - for promoting traditional and modern Albanian ceramics.

## Exhibitions & International Participation

2007

- Solo Exhibition - National Gallery of Arts, Tirana
- Donation of the work "Crucifixion" to the permanent collection of KGA
- Ceramic Exhibition - Argos Orestiko, Kastoria (Greece), under the auspices of the Ministry of Macedonia and Thrace
- Inter-Balkan Exhibition - "Neoanthropismos kai Valkanion", Volos (Greece), Recognition from the Metropolis of Dimitriada

2009

- National Exhibition "Vangjush Mio" - Certificate of Participation from the Municipality of Korçë

2010

- International Sculpture Symposium - Korçë, official invitation from the Municipality of Korçë (Niko Peleshi)

2024

- Korça International Art Symposium, XIV Edition - "The Days of Vangjush Mio", signed by the Mayor, Sotiraq Filo



## Titles & Recognitions

2019

- Title "World AS Sculptor"  
- Awarded by The World Peace Committee, Jakarta
- Title "Master" - National Chamber of Crafts, Registration No. 146 (17.10.2019)

2020

- Title "Grand Master" - Awarded by the President of the Republic of Albania, Ilir Meta, for outstanding contribution to visual arts and the national ceramic heritage



# Vasi's Story Highlights

# Vasi's Story Highlights



## “Aunt Ollga” returns forever to Tushemisht – Ora News, 2013

The statue was created by the sculptors Vasillaq Kolevica and Sadik Spahia, who welcomed the idea of the head of this municipality, Roshi Tollozhina, for the construction of this work of art, which conveys the portrait of a talented artist beloved by the Albanian public.

[CLICK HERE](#)

## Keeping the Art of Ceramics Alive | Vasillaq Kolevica | TEDxTirana, 2015

Kolevica reflects on his childhood in Korçë, where he first immersed himself in the art of clay. He describes ceramics not just as a material, but as memory and a deep connection to the earth and one's roots.

[CLICK HERE](#)



## Korçë, ceramic artist Vasillaq Kolevica, a challenge against technology, Report TV, 2018

Kolevica explains the creation process: from shaping the vase to firing it, which takes more than two days, while applying the colors also requires a great deal of time. He expresses regret that the art of ceramics is fading among younger generations and urges them to get involved—to continue the craft and preserve this heritage.

[CLICK HERE](#)

# Vasi's Story Highlights

Artist Vasillaq Kolevica receives the title of 'Master', RTSH Korça, 2020

Kolevica receives the title of 'Master' from the National Chamber of Crafts for his many years of experience, professional knowledge in ceramics, and for passing the craft on to younger generations. He has kept the tradition of ceramics alive for decades, and continues to do so.

[CLICK HERE](#)



**Kill the father, as I did' — the artistic message Kolevica shares with his daughter at her debut exhibition.**

Vasillaq Kolevica, or 'the last of the Mohicans' as he is called in the city of Korçë, knows how to speak of clay as if it were alive, bringing together rich and poor alike, whose dust in the potter's hands is the same. Although he has been creating for 50 years, giving life to clay and inheriting his father's art, partly out of obligation at the time, he is today grateful for this legacy.

[CLICK HERE](#)

**The Art of Pottery / Vasillaq Kolevica, 'The Last Potter' Who Turned Clay into Art**

Kolevica is a master of ceramics (potter). According to him, clay 'flows through his veins,' reflecting his deep personal connection with the material. His studio, Kolevica Art, is a space where the traditional heritage of pottery merges with contemporary art.

[CLICK HERE](#)





# HOMO FABER

CERAMICIST | DRENOVË MUNICIPALITY, ALBANIA

With a great passion for painting, Vasillaq Kolevica wanted to become a painter like his father. But fate connected him with ceramics in 1974, and never parted.

Vasillaq attended the University for Sculpture and Ceramics, but attributes his mastery of ceramics to his experience of working with clay day-to-day. He has hundreds of works in his workshop or gallery, some of which are over two metres tall, including sculptures, wall decorations, vases, decorative plates, and more.

His passion for art and ceramics was so profound that his wife and two daughters joined him in this creative journey, to produce artworks with a universal reach. Inspired by the essence of femininity, he dedicated many of his works to celebrating the female figure. To him, women are the creators of life, and as such, he portrays them as goddesses in his creations.

A whole lifetime of working clay into different shapes, colours, sizes and designs speaks for Vasillaq's craftsmanship more than anything else.

[CLICK HERE](#)



# THE CLAY HAS MEMORY



Influenced by the philosophy of Omar Khayyam, who gives voice to clay through his rubaiyat, reminding the creator that everything shaped by human hands carries the memory of what has been and what will be.

Then said another, "Surely not in vain  
My Substance from the common Earth was ta'en,  
That He who subtly wrought me into Shape  
Should stamp me back to common Earth again."

- Omar Khayyam. (Translated by Edward FitzGerald, 1st Edition, 1859 — Quatrain LXV)

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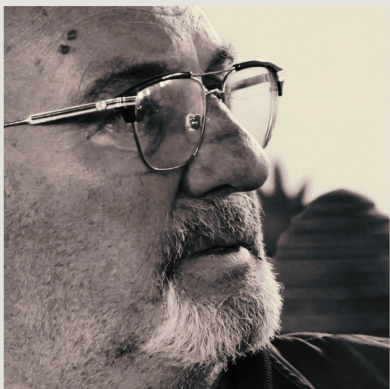


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## **HONOR AND THANKS!**

**Thank you for taking the time to read this portfolio and to get closer to the life, creativity, and passion of the master ceramicist, Vasillaq Kolevica.**

**Your appreciation of art is a great motivation to continue this creative journey that has lasted a lifetime.**

**We hope that the inspiration, colors, shapes, and the story of clay have found a place in your thoughts and emotions.**

**V. KOLEVICA**

**THANK YOU**