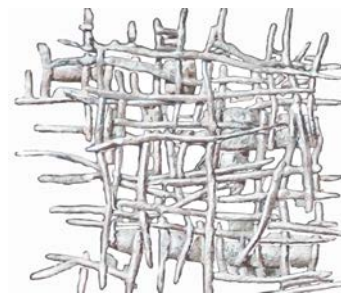


STELA IVANOVA

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BIOGRAPHY AND ARTISTIC STATEMENT:

• I WAS BORN IN BULGARIA AND HAVE BEEN LIVING IN PORTUGAL FOR 27 YEARS. I CONSIDER MYSELF A PORTUGUESE - BULGARIAN ARTIST, BECAUSE I OWE MY INSPIRATIONS TO MY CHILDHOOD IN BULGARIA, WHILE I OWE MY ARTISTIC TRAINING TO PORTUGAL.

• I HAVE A DEGREE IN ARCHITECTURE FROM THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE OF TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF LISBON. IN 2009, AFTER A FEW YEARS OF PRACTICE AS AN ARCHITECT I HAPPENED TO VISIT THE AVEIRO CERAMIC BIENNIAL IN PORTUGAL AND THE WORKS EXHIBITED THERE TOUCHED SOMETHING DEEPLY ROOTED IN ME. AFTER THAT I IMMEDIATELY STARTED MY STUDIES IN CERAMICS AT ACAV, CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN - ART AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION OF AVEIRO. IN 2013 I WAS DISTINGUISHED WITH AN HONOUR AT THE BIENNIAL OF FAENZA. IN 2019 I WAS A FINALIST AT THE 14TH CERAMIC ART BIENNIAL OF AVEIRO AND IN 2021 I WAS SELECTED FOR THE 15TH EDITION OF THIS BIENNIAL. IN 2021 I ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE 60TH CERAMICS EXHIBITION IN CASTELLAMONTE. IN 2022 I WAS SELECTED AGAIN AT THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN CASTELLAMONTE, ITALY, WHERE I WAS AWARDED THE SECOND PRIZE. IN JANUARY 2023 MY WORK WAS PUBLISHED IN TWO ARTICLES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CERAMICS MAGAZINE NEW CERAMICS.

• IN THE LAST YEARS I STARTED TO USE ROUGH STONEWARE CLAY PICKED UP FROM THE LOCAL CLIFFS IN PORTUGAL, AND I STARTED FIRING IN A WOOD KILN. I CREATED AND DEVELOPED MY OWN TECHNIQUE OF INTERTWINED FABRIC-LIKE COILS. THE NEW LANGUAGE I FOUND IS VERY RICH IN FORMAL VARIATIONS AND POSSIBILITIES AND CAN HAVE BOTH FIGURATIVE AND MORE ABSTRACT APPROACHES. THE THEMES THAT I LOOK FOR IN MY WORK ARE THE DICHOTOMIES BETWEEN SUBTLE AND ROUGH, FRAGILE AND ROBUST, ORGANIC AND ORDERLY.

• MY AIM HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO CONVEY THE IDEA OF THE SUBTLE AND DELICATE IN CONTRAST WITH THEIR OPPOSITES. I DRAW CONCRETE INSPIRATION IN THE RUSTIC OBJECTS OF MY CHILDHOOD, IN FABRICS, IN ARCHITECTURAL GRIDS, URBAN NETWORKS AND NATURAL TEXTURES.

• ART MANAGES TO MAKE ALL SCALES, ALL TIMES AND ALL EXPRESSIONS PERMEABLE AND MIXABLE WITH EACH OTHER.

• MY WORKS CAN BE FOUND IN THE COLLECTIONS OF THE SANTA CASA DE MISERICÓRDIA IN AVEIRO; MIC FAENZA; PALAZZO BOTON IN CASTELLAMONTE; CITY MUSEUM IN AVEIRO AS WELL AS IN PRIVATE COLLECTIONS.

CV

2023

• **FINALIST AT THE XVI BIENNIAL OF ARTISTIC CERAMICS OF AVEIRO**

• TWO ARTICLES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CERAMICS MAGAZINE *NEW CERAMICS*.
“IN STUDIO WITH STELA IVANOVA” BY EVELYNE SCHOENMANN
AND “CASTELLAMONTE 2022” BY EVELYNE SCHOENMANN

- 2022**

 - **SECOND PRIZE AT THE 61ST INTERNATIONAL CERAMIC COMPETITION IN CASTELLAMONTE, ITALY**
 - “ADVANCED TECHNIQUES” CLASSES BY ARTIST-CERAMIST ALBERTO BUSTOS
- 2021**

 - **FINALIST AT THE XVTH BIENNIAL OF ARTISTIC CERAMICS OF AVEIRO**
 - **FINALIST AT THE 60TH INTERNATIONAL CERAMICS COMPETITION IN CASTELLAMONTE, ITALY**
- 2020**

 - COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION “ACCOMPLICES” AT THE ALBERGARIA-A-VELHA LIBRARY
 - EXHIBITION TOGETHER WITH COLECTIVO 3C-S IN LA VIE, CALDAS DA RAINHA
- 2019**

 - **FINALIST AT THE XIV BIENNALE OF ARTISTIC CERAMICS IN AVEIRO**
 - COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION OF SMALL FORMATS AT THE MORGADOS DE PEDRICOSA GALLERY, AVEIRO
- 2013**

 - **CONCILIATOR PRIZE OF THE 58TH BIENAL INTERNACIONAL DE FAENZA, 2013**
 - MEMBER OF THE AVEIROARTE, EXPERIMENTAL CIRCLE OF VISUAL ARTISTS OF AVEIRO
 - COLLECTIVE SPRING EXHIBITION AT THE MORGADOS DE PEDRICOSA GALLERY, AVEIRO
 - AUTUMN COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION AT THE MORGADOS DE PEDRICOSA GALLERY, AVEIRO
- 2012**

 - CLASSES: DRY ROPE TECHNIQUE FOR TILES, SHARP EDGE TECHNIQUE FOR TILES, TILE PAINTING, VITROFUSION AND TIFFANY STAINED GLASS ADMINISTERED BY CEARTE, COIMBRA
 - RAKU CERAMICS WORKSHOP WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE XI ARTISTIC CERAMICS BIENNALE IN AVEIRO
 - OBVARA TECHNIQUE WORKSHOP - COURSE AT ACAV GIVEN BY PROF. JOSÉ RAMOS
- 2010**

 - COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION AT THE MISERICÓRDIA GALLERY, AVEIRO
- 2009 - 2010**

 - ARTISTIC CERAMICS CLASSES AT ACAV, CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN - ART AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION OF AVEIRO, ADMINISTERED BY MARIA PEDRO OLAIO
- 2004 - 2008**

 - ARCHITECT AT VÃO ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTS LDA, LISBON AND AT RVDN – ARCHITECTS LDA, AVEIRO
- 2005**

 - GRADUATED IN ARCHITECTURE AT UTL LISBON
- 1969**

 - BORN IN PLEVEN, BULGARY