

Artist Statement / Uriel Caspi

Since my early childhood I developed a fascination with clay. Enlightening me spiritually and emotionally, clay became the medium to articulate thoughts and feelings to hold onto. Throughout my artistic journey, I have developed unique working methods and my own visual vocabulary to explore and expand **vessel-body** spectrum. My investigations in clay allow me to manipulate traditional forms into 'embodied objects' and to extrapolate the genetics of the human **corpus** into abstract forms, where nature and technology become indistinguishable.

Navigating between arts and crafts, traditions and innovations, cultures and histories, my artworks propose an intersection between the revival of ancient crafts and contemporary art studio practice. Visually inspired by archaeological remnants from the Middle East and the aesthetics of future design, my large-scale ceramic sculptures create immersive installations that serve as platforms for examining **space and time**. Artifacts and speculative species are transformed into clay through an experimental process that occasionally merges ancient ceramic techniques with digital fabrication. Ultimately, my works evoke aesthetics from antiquity and visionary **habitats** in tandem.

My creative practice encompasses visual and conceptual aspects as well as research into material culture and global heritage of ceramics. In recent years, I am preserving alternative clay modelling and glazing techniques from antiquity, mostly skills which have almost vanished due to extensive global industrialization. Qualities and aesthetics of traditional techniques are occasionally combined with digital fabrication, and demonstrate the predictability and randomness of ceramic materials, their processes, and their broad limits.