

Zisis Koutidis. Art teacher.

Interview of students of the 4th Elementary School of Komotini
on the art of sculpture

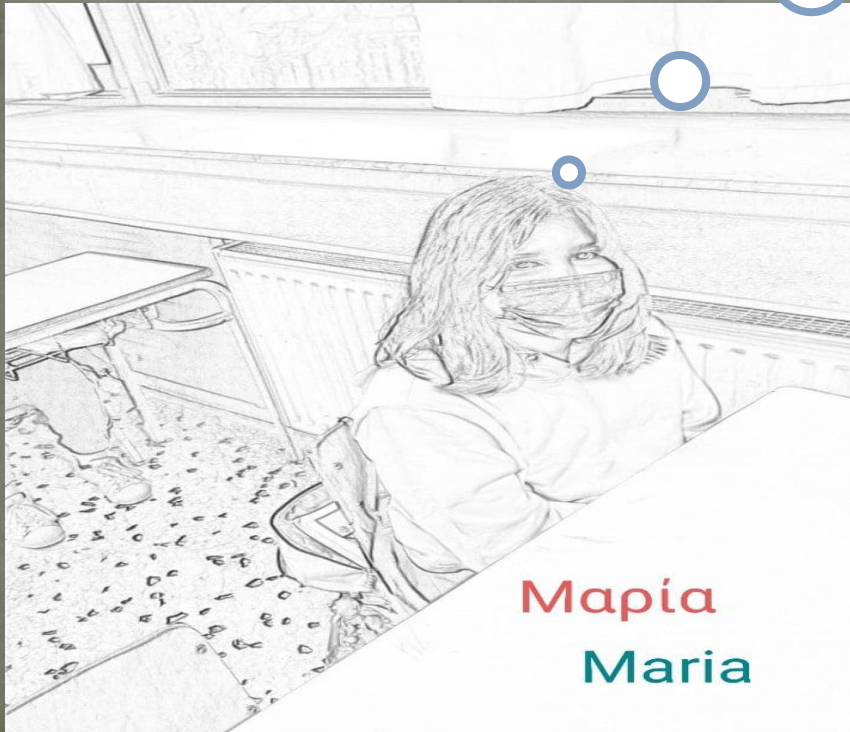


1) How did you get into sculpture? Did anyone inspire you?



- I dealt with sculpture as follows. When I went to the school of fine arts and chose the direction of painting I thought I would finish school and I would not have touched clay marble plaster metal? So a combination of stimuli led me to this, Now specifically in each case to create a three-dimensional object like a large volume of marble and suddenly it transforms in your mind and along the way a first form appears or something else can be a ship. That is, how we transform from an amorphous volume and make something that has a form and is also beautiful. It is the need to create something in space and not in the dimension of a single canvas

2) Are there artistic veins in the family?



Mapia
Maria



- That's why my parents are wondering. Yes, there are. My grandparents who were from Eastern Thrace were craftsmen who made wreaths, jars, bells but I do not know what this has to do with art, it was an art that was temporary in their daily lives.

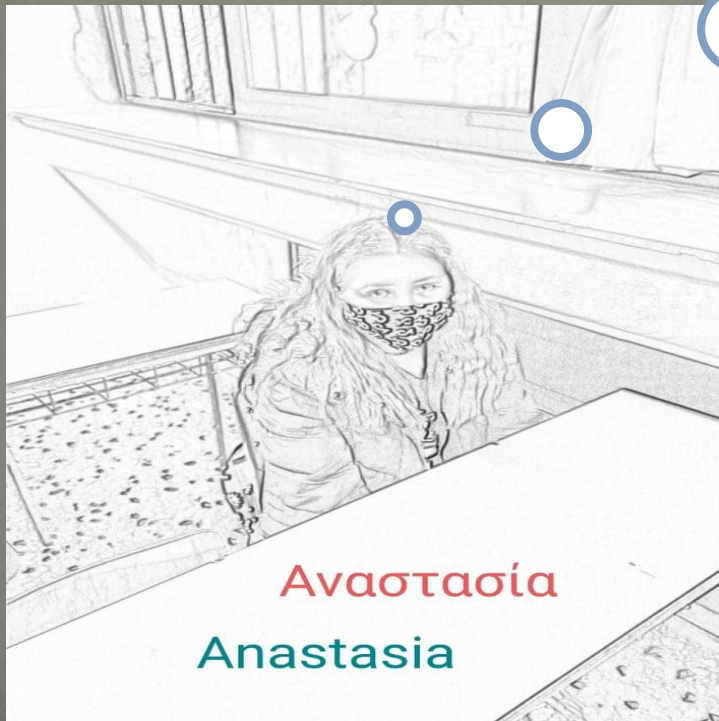
3) What studies were needed?



- Four years of study at the school of fine arts. Before that I needed to prepare a plan in a laboratory so that I was ready to take the exams and pass and as I told you before the studies continue. I continue my postgraduate studies in the department of fine arts.



4) What materials
do you use?



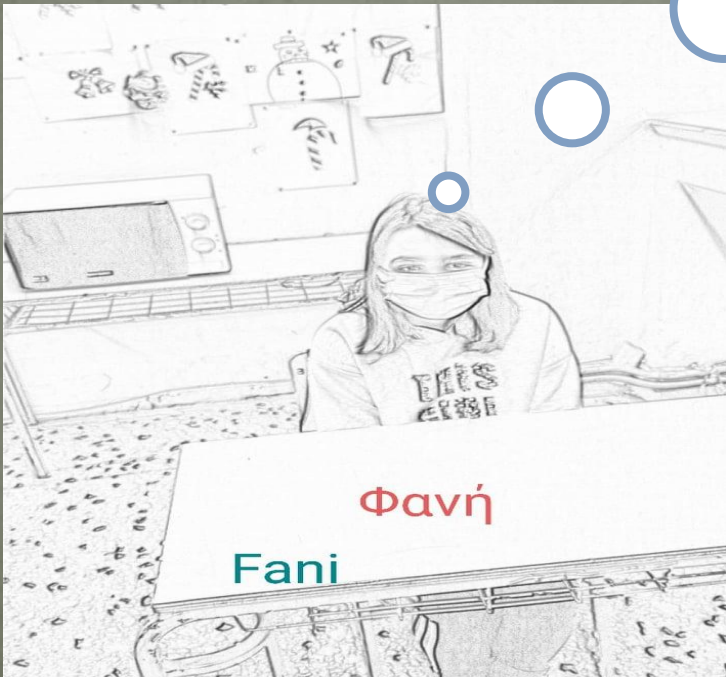
Αναστασία

Anastasia

- The basic materials I use are gypsum, the white powder that I put in water and it softens, becomes like mud, clay, wire, wood and recyclable materials such as lids, bags, anything that is considered garbage, I can imagine it in a new transformation. Beyond that, everything is possible materials, it can also be broken tiles.



5) Is a draft used before making the sculpture?





- Sometimes yes sometimes no. Usually if I want to make a series of works for an exhibition I usually use a draft, if it is something instantaneous that I want to express I just take the materials in my hands, for example I shape clay in my hands at that moment and let the work be created by alone.

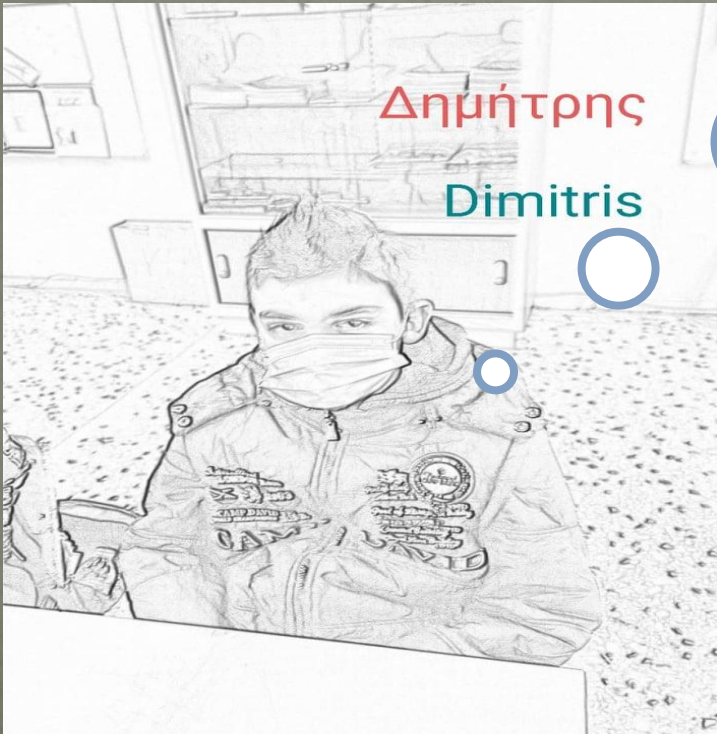
6) What inspires you in your works?



- This is a difficult question. I am inspired by the need to continue creating without repeating myself. That is, to have a reason for what I do. Let's make a small correction to how I construct the nose or the eyes or the expression in general. One step at a time further or something different from what I left behind.



7) How do you
imagine your project
before you complete
it?



- do not know if it has a very high probability with what I start to think with what is completed in the end. It has a base but mostly it changes. That is, this coincidence can greatly change the project. To change for example how I make the eye or the nose. It can create a new aspect in the project. I leave it, I'm not very strict in the course of work.

8) Is there a case along the way that has a different result than you imagined?



Σίμος Simos

- This is usually the case. This is something I would like to check a bit. Because judging by this free energy that sometimes seduces me, I am satisfied with what comes out, some others do not. That is, it is a constant struggle to capture what you have in your head with what emerges as the end result.



9) How long does it usually take to complete a project?



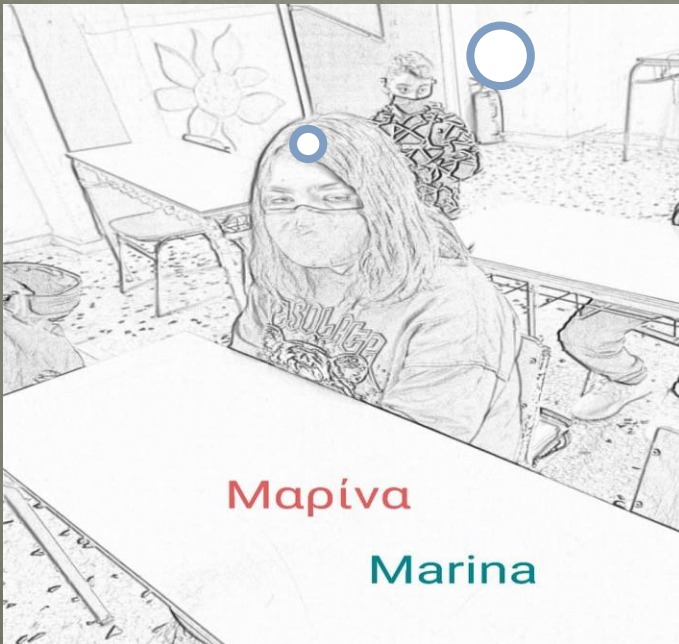
Δέσποινα

Despina

- It depends on the size. It depends on the qualities we will use and the detail. Will it be a figure, will it be an object, will it be a cluster of figures or just one? Usually I use a small model, that is, playing with the clay and then we plan the physical dimension, the size does not have a specific time, it can take 3 hours or even a month.



10) Can a large project take more than 6 months?

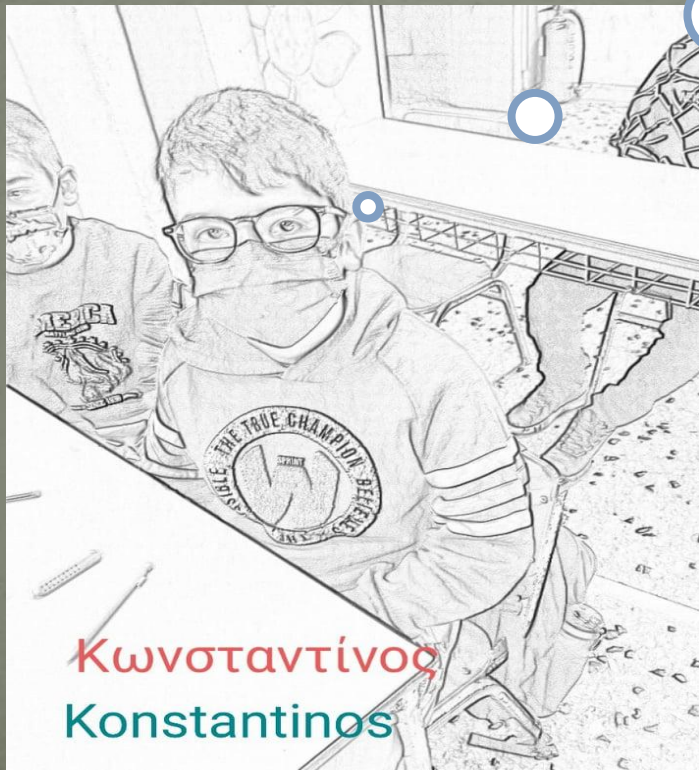


Mapiva

Marina

- For sure! 6 months is a very short time frame to complete a big project. A monument for example in the form of, say, a refugee. Let's say that I am the father (as a sculpture) and you the son (as a sculpture) and we leave, we uproot, we move the size of the son in relation to mine is definitely different, the son wants a period of 5 months while I want more. So in total the project will take 12 months. 7 months for the father and 5 months for the son. That is, 1 year, it goes in parts.

11) When you finish
a project, how do
you feel?



- ! When we arrive at our destination after a wonderful trip usually how do you feel? Not looking forward to the next one?
- -Yes
- That's how I feel too!



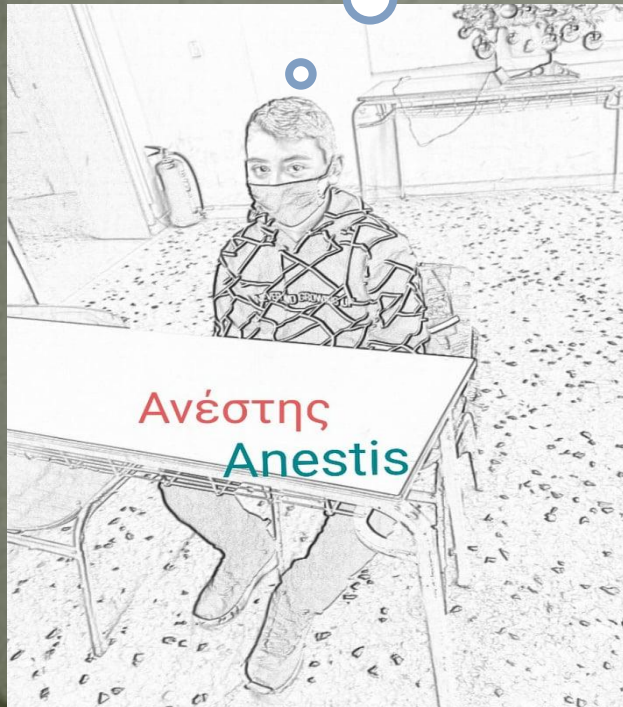
12) Is your art
difficult?



Αναστάσης
Anastasis

- Art, painting or sculpture?
- -The sculptures you make.
- Yes they are demanding depending on what character you are. If you want to get the best out of yourself it's very difficult you have to dig deep inside and discover things that you are afraid of and that you may not be able to deal with. I find it difficult. Yes! But enjoyable!

13) Could you use an assistant?



Not particularly but in some cases I think they are needed

14) Do you have a
template?



- Monet! Giannoulis Halepas from Tinos 1900 sculptor, Auguste Rodin Frenchman who is considered the modern Michelangelo. Do you have a work in mind, a sculpture by Mekelatzelos? The Virgin holding Jesus in her arms? This work stigmatized me from that moment I said I want to do sculpture at any level I reach. It pushes me to become better day by day!



15) Do you work by order?



- I am currently working this period with an order. A proposal was made for a book from the area where I come from on the subject of freedom. It's a small multidimensional project that I'm working on right now.



16) In case you do not like something aesthetically would you do it?



I think not. But to tell the whole truth for financial reasons I would think twice. But mostly not.

17) Should any of your works have your personal stamp?



- If we speak metaphorically yes, I would like to say that this is Zisis Koutidis. Despite all the influences that an artist can have, I think that the most important thing is to have an identity in his work, that is, to be really himself. As you among you want to be yourself, you try, to say for example this is Christina, to understand who Christina is. This is what we want to have an identity.

18) Is it your main profession?



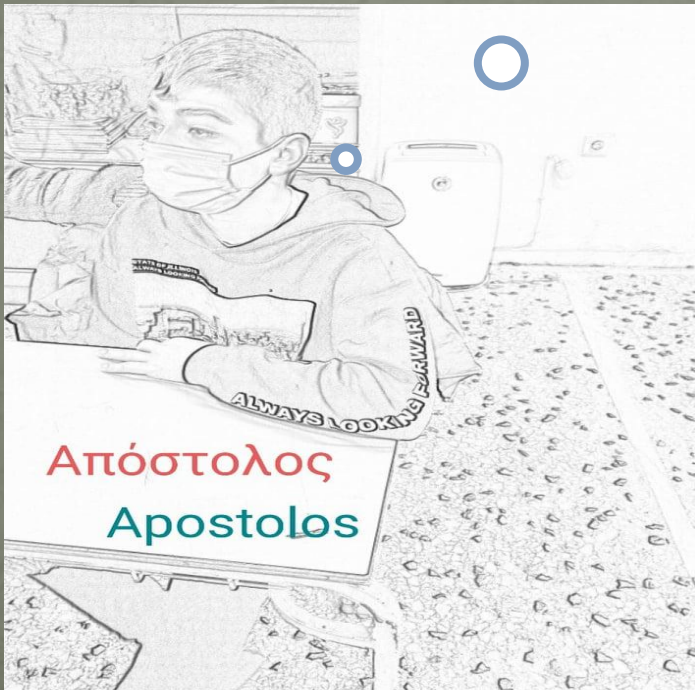
Χρήστος- Ραφαήλ

Xristos- Rafail

- No. My main profession is art teacher in schools and when I am not at school, especially on holidays and summers, I am in my workshop and I start doing some work. I offer more time to schools than to the lab.



19) Do you have any award-winning projects?



- Personally, I do not have a work that I have been awarded, but you are awarded through the criticism of the audience, how it has touched your work, how they perceive your work and express dreams and images that you have not imagined. On the other hand, I have been awarded with the school that I am in the 10th elementary school in the pan-Hellenic competition of 2021.

20) Have you had a solo exhibition?



- Yes! Three! I usually participate in group exhibitions, because I like when I am awarded to collaborate with other artists and to have a multi-productive atmosphere. I like working together, I like teamwork

