

ГУЦУЛІЯ

GUCCULIYA®

CAPSULE COLLECTIONS



BLACK-SMOKED CERAMICS

“

This project grew  
within me like roots  
connecting me to  
previous generations



**DANUTA KRIL**  
Founder & Designer

## about GUCULIYA

Guculiya is a brand of authentic black-smoked ceramics and natural textiles, founded on the conviction that the heritage of past generations deserves a modern voice — and a place in the future.

The brand was founded in 2021 by Danuta Kril — interior, industrial, and architectural designer, co-owner of a design bureau. Since her student years she has been drawn to Ukrainian culture and history — ancient symbolism, folk traditions, the quiet architecture of identity. At a certain point, that inner research asked to become something tangible.

Guculiya does not copy tradition — it continues it into a new era, through contemporary form, natural materials, and the hands of local craftsmen. Ukrainian symbolism is rooted in solar motifs, in deep belief in goodness, and in the strength of lineage.

The brand draws from this not as nostalgia, but as living material — communicating in the language of universal symbols that cross cultures and generations.

Every piece in the collection carries energy, memory, and a particular message.

ALTUNG  
CULTURA



# CRAFT PROCESS

Guculiya is rooted in a black-smoked pottery tradition from the Galician village of Havarechchyna, almost lost after the Soviet era.

By the 1980s, only three or four masters of the technique remained. Danuta sought not just a potter, but a master of this specific firing method.

She found Mykola Bida, who has spent years dedicated to reviving Havaretska ceramics.

Together, they carry the process exactly as it was practised a century ago — with one quiet concession: the earth kiln has been replaced by an electric one.

In black-smoked ceramics, accuracy is not a detail — it is the system.

Wall thickness is held between 4 and 7 mm. A deviation of 1–2 mm introduces internal stress that leads to warping or cracking.

Drying takes 48 to 120 hours at 18–24°C and 50–65% humidity — a slow, controlled process that cannot be rushed without consequences.

Then comes firing. 900–1000°C, limited oxygen, carbon saturation. This is where clay turns deep black and where every prior decision reveals itself. Up to 30% of pieces may not survive if the balance is off. This is the nature of a demanding craft.

What appears simple is built on hundreds of micro-decisions — the pressure of the hands, the speed of the wheel, the sensitivity to the material. Black-smoked ceramics exist at the intersection of control and trust.

The clay has long come from Sloviansk in eastern Ukraine. After the full-scale invasion began, the team managed to transport one tonne of raw material to safety.

GUCULTA



## collection SHADOWS

Guculiya Shadows is a collection of ceramics and textiles that surfaces from the depths of Ukrainian tradition. Hutsul aesthetics and mythology, ancient symbolism, the mysticism embedded in Gavaretska pottery — a unique firing technique of Western Ukraine.

Inspired by Sergiy Parakhjanov's movie *Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors* — darkened walls, candlelit dinners, the magical archaism of the Hutsul highlands.

An experiment in contrast: traditional black-smoke technology meets minimalist geometric form.

Trays, bowls, and candleholders carry the mark of fire and earth — each piece shaped by hand, each surface unrepeatable.

The tablecloth and runner bring the same language into textile — ancient Hutsul symbols reinterpreted through natural materials and a restrained, graphic hand. Textile artist Olesya Kovtyk hand-dyed the fabric to achieve a graphite tone, then finished it with the Tree of Life and solar ornament.

Together, objects and textiles form a muted and solemn setting — a backdrop for slow, intentional living.

GUCULYA

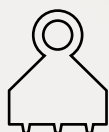


collection Shadows

**BOWL,  
BIG**

high: 270 mm  
width: 300 mm  
weight: 3.8 kg

black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows

**BOWL,  
SMALL**

high: 335 mm  
width: 250 mm  
weight: 3 kg

black-smoked ceramics

GUCULIYA



collection Shadows

TRAY,  
BIG

height: 125 mm  
width: 300 mm  
weight: 1.35 kg

black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows

CANDLESTICK  
MOTANKA

height: 220 mm  
width: 100 mm  
weight: 0.9 kg

black-smoked ceramics

GUCULIYA



collection Shadows

TRAY,  
SMALL

high: 220 mm  
width: 250 mm  
weight: 1.52 kg

black-smoked ceramics



collection Vyrii

CANDLESTICK  
TREE OF LIFE

height: 470 mm  
width: 270 mm  
weight: 1.5 kg

black-smoked ceramics

GUCULIYA



collection Shadows

CANDLESTICK  
TRINITY

high: 400 mm  
width: 210 mm  
weight: 1.4 kg

black-smoked ceramics



collection Vyrii

CANDLESTICK  
TRYSUITYA

width: 330 mm  
height: 345 mm  
weight: 2.1 kg

black-smoked ceramics

ВУСІЛІТА



collection Shadows

VASE

height: 280 mm  
діаметр: 140 mm  
weight: 2 kg

black-smoked ceramics



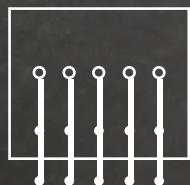
collection Vyrii

CANDLESTICK  
BEREHYNYA

width: 340 mm  
height: 500 mm  
weight: 4.05 kg

black-smoked ceramics

GUCULIYA



collection Shadows

TABLECLOTH

length: 3500 mm\*  
width: 2500 mm  
weight: 2 kg

natural linen, woolen  
threads



collection Shadows

RANNER

length: 2500 mm\*  
width: 500 mm  
weight: 520 g

natural linen, woolen  
threads

ALINA  
GUCULIYA



## collection RUSTLE

The collection is built around something almost imperceptible — a rustle. Not decorative, but archetypal.

The sound of wheat, the touch of material, the rhythm of natural cycle and time. It runs precisely through the concept of Zhorna, an object about movement, friction, the grinding of grain, the rhythm of work and life.

And through Drevko, where a symbol of renewal from pysanka ornament becomes the structural axis around which a living, ever-changing composition gathers.

At the core of the collection is a sense of everyday ritual. Simple daily actions that — through form, material, and tactility — become almost meditative.

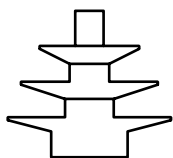
Touch, balance, stillness. Not decoration for its own sake, the deep aesthetics of the ordinary.

Danuta Kril built this collection around one idea: an object should not have a fixed scenario. It should live — shift, combine, be reinterpreted.

The element of play is embedded in the construction itself: a person rearranges, experiments, finds their own way of interacting with the space.

It is through this interaction that an emotional connection is born. The object becomes not a functional thing, but part of a daily ritual, a moment of play, discovery, and personal interpretation.

GUCULIYA



collection Rustle

**DREVKO**

height: 350 mm  
width: 360 mm  
weight: 5 kg

black-smoked ceramics



collection Rustle

**ZHORNA**

height: 150 mm  
width: 370 mm  
weight: 3.4 kg

black-smoked ceramics

DREVKO is a multifunctional object — part vase, part cloche, part bowl system. Three tiers of «crown» gather around a central stem, forming one coherent composition.

At its core: a symbol from Ukrainian pysanka ornament — a sign of renewal, abundance, and harvest. Here, it is not decorative. It is the structural axis of the whole object.

Drevko is meant to be played with. Bowls detach, reorder, recombine. A vase for flowers, plates for bread, fruit, candies, cheese — the scenario is yours to choose. The composition shifts with the space, the occasion, the mood.

Assembled — it stands as a self-sufficient sculptural form. An object on the edge of design and art.





ГУЦУЛІЯ



ZHORNA is two elements that function as one object — yet each can stand alone, forming different scenarios of use.

The upper part serves as a vase, a candleholder, or a tray for snacks, fruit, or sweets. A candle, a flower, a small decorative accent at the centre. Together they form a sculptural composition with a wide ceramic plane around it — like the surface of earth or water holding a single focal point.

Lift the upper part — and a deep bowl is revealed, lined inside with mirror glaze. Dark water, living light, quiet reflection.

The contrast between the matte exterior and the glossy interior gives the object its sense of depth and stillness.

Zhorna is not about function. It is about the scenario of interaction — the way a person touches, opens, fills. Balance, calm, the deep aesthetics of an ordinary moment.



ALTA  
CULTURA



## collection GRAIN

In Ukrainian tradition, grain was kept in wooden chests, wrapped in woven cloth — a quiet ritual to safeguard the fate of the family. When the harvest came, the first grains were not eaten. They were offered. To the land. To the ancestors. A gesture of gratitude, and of trust in the cycle of life.

Grain speaks of these invisible threads. Of heritage made tangible. Of light rising from fire — like a sprout pushing through black earth.

The Volyky candleholder carries that weight quietly — restrained in silhouette, profound in meaning. In ancient times, oxen pulled the plough, binding people to the land — a symbol of perseverance, resilience, and quiet strength. An object you won't feel the need to replace. Because true objects do more than adorn a space — they restore a sense of connection to culture, land, and self.

Where Volyky holds memory in form, the Grain candlestick holds it in geometry — compact, inwardly focused, built around convergence. Rooted in a Trypillian symbol of the union of masculine and feminine forces. A quiet power, held still. The candlelight becomes a seed — fragile, glowing, ready to sprout.

Beneath it all, the tablecloth and runner lay the ground. The runner is a field after ploughing — threads and tassels placed by hand, deliberately uneven, echoing the natural texture of a furrow in the earth. The tablecloth carries the same quiet language — a surface that frames the ritual, holds the objects, and completes the composition.

By bringing Grain into your home, you plant a seed in your own unfolding story.



collection Grain

CANDLEHOLDER  
VOLYKY

height: 225 mm\*  
width: 250 mm  
weight: 0.76 kg

black-smoked ceramics



collection Grain

CANDLEHOLDER  
GRAIN

height: 80 mm  
width: 170 x 170 mm  
weight: 0.54 kg

black-smoked ceramics

GUCULIMA

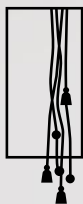


collection Grain

# TABLECLOTH RILLIA

length: 2500 mm\*  
width: 1350 mm  
weight: 2 kg

natural linen, woolen  
threads



collection Grain

## RANNER RILLIA

length: 2500 mm\*  
width: 500 mm  
weight: 480 g

natural linen, woolen  
threads



collection Rustle  
DREVKO

height: 350 mm / width: 360 mm / weight: 5 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Rustle  
ZHORNA

height: 150 mm / width: 370 mm / weight: 3,4 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
TRAY, BIG

height: 125 mm / width: 300 mm / weight: 1.35 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
TRAY, SMALL

height: 200 mm / width: 250 mm / weight: 1.52 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
BOWL, BIG

height: 270 mm / width: 300 mm / weight: 3.8 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
VASE

height: 280 mm / width: 140 mm / weight: 2 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
BOWL, SMALL

height: 335 mm / width: 250 mm / weight: 3 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
CANDLESTICK TRINITY

height: 400 mm / width: 210 mm / weight: 1.4 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Shadows  
CANDLESTICK MOTANKA

height: 220 mm / width: 100 mm / weight: 0.9 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Vyril  
CANDLESTICK TRYsutTYA

height: 330 mm / width: 345 mm / weight: 2.1 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Vyril  
CANDLESTICK BEREhYNYA

height: 340 mm / width: 500 mm / weight: 4.05 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Vyril  
TREE OF LIFE

height: 470 mm / width: 270 mm / weight: 1.5 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Grain  
CANDLEHOLDER VOLYKY

height: 225 mm\* / width: 250 mm / weight: 0.76 kg  
black-smoked ceramics



collection Grain  
CANDLEHOLDER GRAIN

height: 80 mm / width: 170 x 170 mm / weight: 0.54 kg  
black-smoked ceramics

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To create something truly great, we must understand that it has to outgrow us.

This feeling is not about ambition — it runs deeper, to the root of our identity, to the true source of creativity.



DANUTA KRIL  
Founder & Designer

# GUCULIYA

Planning your next project? Reach out  
— we'd love to hear about it.

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Founder & Designer

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