

OH, HOMELAND, BLOODY GARMENT,
FROM YOU QUARRELS ALWAYS ARISE,
WITH BLOOD FOR LUNCH AND BLOOD FOR DINNER,
EVERYONE CHEWS BLOODY BITES,
NEVER A PEACEFUL DAY FOR REST.

traditional epic



OSTROŽAC ON THE UNA



WORKING HOURS: 9 AM – 9 PM
EVERY DAY



037 539-069



OSTROŽAC
traces of time



FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO MODERN ART.

1. Middle Ages
2. Ottoman period
3. Berks family period
4. Establishment of the sculpture colony

Name Ostrožac:

The name Ostrožac originates from the word "ostrog," which refers to a sharp peak on which the fortress was built.

According to the chronicler Ivan Tomašić, Ostrožac was allegedly built in 405 BCE, which remains in the realm of legend. However, it is certain that by the 16th century, it was already considered an old town.

DID YOU KNOW...

... that in the Middle Ages, Ostrožac had a free municipality with a seal featuring a tower, a crescent moon, and a star. The closed doors of the tower symbolize invincibility, while the crescent moon and star represent ancient lunar-astral symbols.

... that within the Ostrožac fortress, there was a mosque, built behind the walls for protection against frequent attacks. It was completely destroyed in a tragic fire at the beginning of the 19th century.

... that the Ostrožac castle, unique in Bosnia and Herzegovina, was built based on the idea of Isabelle von Berks, who invested her entire dowry in its construction and complete whole renovation.

... that at the beginning of the "Ostrožac" Sculpture Colony, the castle had preserved rooms with antique furniture, where sculptors stayed during the first years while creating sculptures.



The Ottoman period was marked by the Ostrožac Captaincy and the Beširević family, who governed the fortress for 300 years. This period shaped the specific Krajina mentality, recognizable throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

With the Austro-Hungarian occupation in 1878, Ottoman rule ended, and the Berks family arrived in the region. Lothar von Berks, an Austro-Hungarian officer, and his wife Isabella, a member of the Slavonian nobility, renovated the Ostrožac castle using her dowry.

In 1969, the "Ostrožac" Sculpture Colony was founded, transforming the fortress into an open-air studio. Sculptors used bihacite, a soft, light yellow stone.