



## **“Budapest”**

*Acrylic on canvas, 23” x 27”, acquired in 2011*

And

## **“Still Life”**

*Oil on canvas, 31” x 43”*

**(Mary) Irene Dodd**

United States, 1941-

*Purchased by the VSU Art Funding Pool in 2011*

Irene Dodd is a painter in watercolor, acrylic, and oils and the daughter of painter Lamar Dodd. She received her A.B. degree at Duke University in 1964 and studied at the University of Georgia with Lamar Dodd, Howard Thomas, and Everett Kinstler, receiving her MFA in 1967. She became a member of the Art Department at Valdosta State College in 1967, was department head from 1972-1980, and remained until her retirement in 2002. She continues to reside in Valdosta, GA.

Ms. Dodd has participated in a number of individual and group shows throughout the Southeast and the United States. She has won prizes at the following events: Georgia Watercolor Exhibition, 1984, and Southern Watercolor Exhibition, 1984 & 1985. She illustrated *Darien: the death and rebirth of a southern town*, by Spencer B. King (1981), which is owned by Odum Library. She was named “Artist of the Month” by the Southern Artists League in April, 2006. Her paintings are owned by the Smithsonian Institution and various museums in Georgia.

Shortly before her retirement from Valdosta State University, she stated in an interview to the Valdosta Daily Times: “It’s like students asking, ‘How do I know a painting is finished?’ Well, it’s never finished. Well, if you painted the perfect painting, or wrote the perfect article, why continue? There are times to continue with a certain painting and a time to stop, but the painting is never finished if painting is your life. New experiences, past experiences, your attitude on a given day, they are all reflected, and hopefully, each painting is a piece representing a larger statement.”

“Budapest” with its purples, pinks, greens and whites showcases a common element of Dodd’s work, the reflection. The rich colors are echoed in the reflection of the buildings. “Still Life” is an earlier work by Dodd featuring strong colors. We have four paintings by Irene Dodd on display in the library. Two of her works are on the first floor as part of the Lamar Dodd Collection.