

# Georgette Zirbes Ivica Vidrová

## Affinities Podobnosti

"We thank Professor Georgette Zirbes and Professor Ivica Vidrová for making the gift of lifelong experience to both Slovak and American artists – and for making the gift of this superb exhibit available for all of us to enjoy. Collaboration and education across two cultures is one of the purposes of this exhibition at the Residential College. When Eileen and I created the Weiser Professional Development Awards this is exactly the kind of exchange and collaboration we had hoped would occur."

- Ambassador and Mrs. Ronald N. Weiser      September, 2008



Affinities/*Podobnosti*  
The Residential College Gallery,  
University of Michigan  
October 31 to December 5, 2008

This exhibition is generously supported by the  
Weiser Professional Development Award,  
the Center for Russian and East European Studies,  
the School of Art and Design,  
and the Residential College

Georgette Zirbes: "My work in this exhibition is the direct result of a residency at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, Slovakia. I participated with the support of a Weiser Professional Development Award, administered by the Center for Russian and East European Studies. While in residence, I worked closely with Professor Ivica Vidrová, her assistants and her students. My work from this residency incorporates shards of place from Modra, a faience folk tradition from the wine producing area near Bratislava which dates back to the 16th century. Meaningful conversations emerged across time and between places. The relationship of my surface drawings and shard compositions evoke these personal connections."

Ivica Vidrová: "My initial works were defined by two themes I was interested in. The main theme, which pertains and most probably always will, is EARTH – soil, clay and everything that is happening with it. Rocks, formations, imprints, footprints and wounds, rough structures on unlimited surface that I create borders for, become familiar with and elevate in my own way."

Combining refined porcelain and the rough stone clay technologically creates a lot of surprising defects that I aesthetically accept and respect. "Limited coloration" is the result, which I often elevate by gilding in discreet thin lines."

Georgette Zirbes studied at DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, (B.A.), The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, (M.A.) and Kyoto City College of Fine Arts, Kyoto, Japan. She has recently retired from teaching as a Professor of Art at the School of Art and Design, The University of Michigan. She is a former Fulbright grantee to Japan and to Czechoslovakia and a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Award. She has received numerous research grants from The University of Michigan. She was honored with a Distinguished Alumni Award from DePauw University. She was awarded the Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship from The University of Michigan, for outstanding contributions to undergraduate education. She received a Weiser Professional Development Award for a residency at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, Slovakia. Recently she completed a residency at the Sanbao Ceramic Art Institute in Jingdezhen, China. She has participated in solo and collaborative exhibitions and projects all over the U.S. as well as in Europe, Japan, and China. Her works are included in permanent collections of several galleries in Germany, Czech Republic, Russia, Latvia, Hungary, China, and the U.S.

Georgette Zirbes študovala na DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, (B.A.), Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, (M.A.) a na Kyoto City College of Fine Arts, Kyoto, Japan. Zirbes v súčasnosti odišla na dôchodok z miesta profesorky umení na School of Art and Design, The University of Michigan. Prostredníctvom Fulbrightovho štipendia bola v Japonsku a Československu. Získala niekoľko výskumných grantov z University of Michigan. Jej prácu ocenili vyznamenaním Distinguished Alumni Award z DePauw University. Získala Arthur F. Thurnau Professorship z The University of Michigan za vynikajúci príspevok k stredoškolskému vzdelaniu. V súčasnosti abdržala grant z Weiser Professional Development Award na pobyt na Vysoké škole výtvarných umení v Bratislave. Ukončila trvalý pobyt na Sanbao Keramické Art Institute v Jingdezhen, Čína. Zirbes vystavovala na individuálnych a spoločných výstavách po celých Spojených štátoch ako aj v Európe, v Japonsku a v Číne. Jej diela sú súčasťou permanentných zbierok niekoľkých galérií v Nemecku, Českej republike, Rusku, Lotyšsku, Maďarsku, Číne a v USA.



Ivica Vidrová sa narodila v Bratislave v roku 1943 Univerzitné štúdiá absolvovala na Vysoké škole umelecko-priemyselnej, Ateliér keramiky v Prahe. V súčasnosti učí na Vysoké škole výtvarných umení v Bratislave ako docentka. Ivica Vidrová prednášala aj na zahraničných univerzitách v Nórsku, v USA na University of Houston-Clear Lake a University of New Jersey. Ivica Vidrová získala Weiser Professional Development Award na pobyt jedného mesiaca na na Škole umenia a dizajnu University of Michigan. Profesorka Vidrová vystavovala na individuálnych ale aj skupinových výstavách v niekoľkých slovenských, ako aj v európskych miestach (Nemecko, Nórsko, Rakúsko, Maďarsko, Poľsko, Taliansko, Česká republika) galériách a tiež v USA. Obdržala niekoľko medzinárodných ocenení a jej práce sú súčasťou permanentných zbierok mnohých galérií v Nórsku, Maďarsku, Českej republike, Chorvátsku, Turecku a v Texase (USA).

Ivica Vidrová was born in 1943 in Bratislava. She finished her university studies at the Academy of Applied Arts, Department of Ceramics in Prague. Mrs. Vidrová is currently teaching as an Associate Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava. She has lectured as a Visiting Professor in Norway, at the University of Houston, Clear Lake and at the University of New Jersey. She is recipient of the Weiser Professional Development Award for a residency at the School of Art and Design, University of Michigan. Mrs. Vidrová has exhibited in solo and group exhibits in several Slovak galleries as well as European ones (Germany, Norway, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Italy, Czech Republic) and in Morocco and U.S.A. She has received several international awards and also her works are in the collection of many galleries in Norway, Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, Turkey, and Texas (USA).