



*White Lotus*

**Georgia O'Keeffe**

Oil on canvas, 1939

Given in honor of Elizabeth Mabel Holthues Stanley by her family

## White Lotus



### Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986)

Although born in Wisconsin, O'Keeffe is best known for paintings of flowers and landscapes of the American Southwest. She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and at the Art Students League of New York, but O'Keeffe became frustrated by not being able to express her own style. She taught in Texas, Virginia and South Carolina before moving back to New York and developing a professional and personal relationship with Alfred Stieglitz.

Following a 1929 trip to New Mexico, O'Keeffe spent part of nearly every year working there. She collected rocks and bones from the desert to serve as subjects in her work. In 1939, O'Keeffe traveled to Hawaii to paint the island's lush, colorful flora courtesy of the Hawaiian Pineapple Company—now Dole. The Muscatine Art Center's *White Lotus* is one of the paintings inspired by the trip. During the 1940s, O'Keeffe had two one-woman retrospectives—one at the Art Institute of Chicago and the other at MoMA.

### Collection Connection

C. Maxwell “Max” Stanley and his wife Elizabeth “Betty” were core supporters of the Muscatine Art Center and many other cultural institutions. The couple collected art and gifted their significant African art collection to the University of Iowa. Max and Betty headed several important undertakings to benefit the Muscatine Art Center such as the addition of the Stanley Gallery, the addition of the Linkage to connect the gallery to the historic house, and the establishment of the Muscatine Art Center Support Foundation to fund exhibitions, collections care and acquisitions. In 1985, Betty Stanley gifted *General Delivery* by Robert Rauschenberg, an internationally recognized American artist. In 1990, Betty's family gifted *White Lotus* in her honor.

Robert Rauschenberg  
*General Delivery*

Collage & serigraph, 1971

Gift of Mrs. C. Maxwell (Elizabeth) Stanley

