

# Master Painters



VALERIE LYNCH, Bayswater, Victoria, "Lunch Time", Brantôme, France, oil, 66 x 91 cm

## INSPIRATION

One beautiful autumn day in the South of France I was strolling along a path beside a small river, and as I turned the corner I came across the many umbrellas of a busy market day. As I passed the market and over a small bridge I came across many painterly scenes of the river, a medieval abbey, bridges and many beautiful old buildings. The view was sensational — two rivers ran through this picturesque area with bright coloured flowers everywhere. This particular scene appealed to me because of the light umbrellas standing out against the shadows around them and the vibrant roof colours and fresh greens. The locals knew of this area and sat under the large shady trees in this ancient riverside garden to enjoy their long lunch.

## TECHNIQUE

This painting has a lot of drawing — the attention to the correct placement of buildings and the umbrellas is essential. The preliminary stage is very important, I had to decide how much scene I would include, and get the proportion of the buildings and umbrellas correct. When I was satisfied with this I could then proceed to add the beautiful colours I could see in front of me. The main point of interest was the umbrellas. I placed these off centre, then painted the mid-tones as I worked all over the painting. I then painted the darks thinly and added colour, working all over the painting to keep it at the same stage.