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### Hunt Institute Will Present Exhibition of Gary Bukovnik Flower Paintings

Pittsburgh — The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation at Carnegie Mellon University and Concept Art Gallery will present a collaborative exhibition, "Gary Bukovnik Watercolors and Monoprints" from 17 August through 22 October 1995.

Cleveland-born and educated Gary Bukovnik is a Slovene-American artist who has lived in San Francisco for 20 years. The "Watercolors and Monoprints" traveling exhibition, recently exhibited at the Jakopic Gallery in Ljubljana, Slovenia, was organized by Slovenska Izseljenska Matica (SIM), a government agency that maintains ties with Slovene immigrants and people of Slovene descent in order to promote cultural exchange.

In selecting flowers as his principal subject, Bukovnik expresses his ardent and long-term artistic interest in flowers and blooming plants. Brooklyn Museum curator Barry Walker has remarked that Bukovnik "has taken from the past what he could use and filtered it through a twentieth-century sensibility. In the process, he has redefined the way we look at flowers." Although he uses several media, including lithography and aquatint, he primarily works in watercolor and monotype.

Hunt Institute curator James White suggests that in a Bukovnik watercolor one may see "both delicate and strong lines used to rough in the composition, brilliant color, large scale, and sometimes an interesting container (or more often a simple glass of water), usually set against a deliberate absence of background. In some of his compositions, the space left unpainted is as important as that painted. Bukovnik's intention is to have his images appear easily drawn, never labored. His work is romantic emotional, and intense." Judith Gordon, in an opening essay for the 1990 book Flowers: Gary Bukovnik watercolors and monotypes, has hailed Bukovnik's paintings as "the work of an artist who is as well-acquainted with the form of flowers as with their spirit."

Bukovnik's artwork is represented in diverse private, corporate, and public collections, including the H. J. Heinz Company, Citibank, the Atlanta Botanical Garden, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, as well as Hunt Institute, and has been featured in numerous one-person and group exhibitions in this country and in Europe. He also donates his art to community and civic organizations such as the San Francisco Symphony.

Gary Bukovnik will present a watercolor demonstration at Concept Art Gallery on Saturday, 16 September 1995, at 10:00 a.m.

The Hunt Institute, telephone (412) 268-2434, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Concept Art Gallery, 1031 S. Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh, telephone (412) 242-9200, is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 12 to 5 p.m.