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For Immediate Release

**HUNT INSTITUTE PRESENTS *ENDURING PERFECTION:*  
*PAINTINGS BY DAMODAR LAL GURJAR***

Pittsburgh — The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation at Carnegie Mellon University will display paintings by Damodar Lal Gurjar of Jaipur, India, from 26 April through 31 July 2001. Gurjar is influenced by the traditional school of painting from the desert state of Rajasthan, but his technique is a blend of the traditional and contemporary. Certainly he is one of India's leading artists of natural-history themes and a master at super-realism and depicting textures in his subjects.

Born in 1958 and educated at the Rajasthan School of Art, Gurjar has made his career as a freelance artist painting numerous private commissions in watercolor, gouache and tempera. One-person exhibitions have been held at the Ranthambhore School of Art in Sawai Madhopur (1990) and the Crafts Museum in New Delhi (1994). In 1999 Gurjar received a State Award from the Rajasthan Lalit Kala Academy and an All India Award by the Department of Environment. His work is almost unknown outside of India.

Accompanying the exhibition is a 44-page, full-color catalogue, which is the Institute's fourth catalogue devoted to art from India.

This exhibition of paintings will be on display on the fifth floor of the Hunt Library building at Carnegie Mellon University. Hours: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–12 p.m. and 1 p.m.–5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m.–4 p.m. (except 20 and 27 May). The exhibition is open to the public free of charge. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at (412) 268-2434.

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was founded in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971, the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography, and the Library. The current collections include approximately 28,000 books; 24,000 portraits; 30,000 watercolors, drawings and prints; and 2,000 autograph letters and manuscripts.

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