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Hunt Institute and Chatham College Present Watercolors of Indian Trees by Arundhati Vartak

Pittsburgh — The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation at Carnegie Mellon University in cooperation with Chatham College will present two exhibitions of artworks by Arundhati Vartak of Pune, India.

The Hunt Institute will display “Portraits of Indian Trees: Arundhati Vartak” from 16 September 1999 through 29 February 2000. This exhibition of approximately 40 watercolors will be on display on the 5th floor of the Hunt Library building at Carnegie Mellon University from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For further information, contact the Hunt Institute at (412) 268-2434.

Chatham College will display “Arundhati Vartak’s sketches: Souls of her paintings” from 31 August 1999 through 25 September 1999 in the Chatham College Gallery of Art. The exhibition is presented by the Chatham College Arboretum and the Landscape Studies program as part of the college’s yearlong celebration of the “Year of South Asia.” The public can view over 70 sketches from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday; 1 to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday; or by making an appointment at (412) 365-1159.

Working in Pune and Mumbai, India, Arundhati Vartak is inspired by Indian miniature paintings, but relies heavily on her thumbnail sketches and other studies based on a keen observation of her subjects. The artist is also inspired by reading old Sanskrit classics, including works by the poet Kalidasa. Her paintings have been published on greeting cards and postcards produced by the World-Wide Fund for Nature, India; CRY (Child Relief and You); the Society for the Education of the Crippled; the Bombay Natural History Society; and in various books, magazines and newspapers. She has held one-person exhibitions in Mumbai at the Jehangir Art Gallery, Artists' Centre, House of Soviet Culture, and Nehru Centre Art Gallery. Some of her paintings have been included in the Hunt Institute's *8th International Exhibition of Botanical Art & Illustration* in 1995/1996 and in *Contemporary botanical artists: The Shirley Sherwood Collection* and its accompanying book.

A full-color, illustrated catalogue will be on sale at the Hunt Institute and Chatham College. Both exhibitions are open to the public free of charge.