

Carnegie Mellon

Department of Media Relations
Carnegie Mellon University
Alumni House
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-268-2900
Fax: 412-268-6929

Contact: Eric Sloss
412-268-5765
ecs@andrew.cmu.edu

For immediate release:
March 16, 2009

Miller Gallery Hosts MFA Thesis Exhibition “Upper Management” Through April 18

PITTSBURGH— Carnegie Mellon University’s 2009 Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, “Upper Management,” will be on view from March 20 through April 18 at the Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University. The five artists featured in the exhibition are Jennifer Gooch, Joseph Hays, Samina Mansuri, Michael Nixon and Gregory Witt. An opening reception will be held on March 20 from 6-8 p.m., and is free and open to the public.

John Carson, the Head of the School of Art at Carnegie Mellon, urges, "Come on - if you care about the future of contemporary art, then you must see this show. Five MFA graduates from one of the top ten grad programs in the country, showing their work in Pittsburgh for you."

Through her work, Gooch seeks to find simple solutions to enormous problems, bringing “what-ifs” to fruition and treading the territory between the private and the public. Gooch’s projects, music and portfolio can be seen at www.jennifergooch.com.

Hays builds participatory public works that integrate natural systems into the built environment and promote ecologically productive and cost effective urban renewal. More about his human waste composting project and magazine can be found at <http://stormpoo.com>.

Mansuri investigates the concepts of place, memory, and trauma by appropriating media depictions of war-torn areas such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, Palestine and Iraq, and fabricating aerial views of fictional sites.

Nixon represents the spirit of Pittsburgh through poetic, abstract photography that highlights the urban, post-industrial landscape. Nixon’s work can be found at www.michaelnixon.com.

Witt creates mechanical and digital machines of familiar subjects that combine carpentry, robotics and video, that question the relationships between their ostensible subjects and the viewer. Documentation of Witt’s kinetic work can be found at www.gregorywitt.com.

Artists talks will be held on Friday, March 27 from noon-1 p.m., beginning on the third floor of the gallery. The Miller Gallery is located in the Purnell Center for the Arts on Carnegie Mellon's campus. The gallery is free and open to the public from noon to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. For more information, visit <http://www.cmu.edu/millergallery>.

###

About The Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University: The Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University is a non-collecting, public art gallery housed in the Purnell Center for the Arts on Carnegie Mellon's campus. It was founded by Regina Gouger Miller in 2000, and is one unit of the College of Fine Arts. Located on Forbes Avenue, it borders the neighborhoods of North Oakland, Shadyside, and Squirrel Hill in Pittsburgh, PA.
www.cmu.edu/millergallery

About Carnegie Mellon: Carnegie Mellon is a private research university with a distinctive mix of programs in engineering, computer science, robotics, business, public policy, fine arts and the humanities. More than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students receive an education characterized by its focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovation. A small student-to-faculty ratio provides an opportunity for close interaction between students and professors. While technology is pervasive on its 144-acre Pittsburgh campus, Carnegie Mellon is also distinctive among leading research universities for the world-renowned programs in its College of Fine Arts. A global university, Carnegie Mellon has campuses in Silicon Valley, Calif., and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia and Europe. For more, see www.cmu.edu.