Carnegie Mellon Fine Arts Seniors Present
Final Work in “MEGA” the 2011 Senior Exhibition

PITTSBURGH—Carnegie Mellon University seniors graduating with Bachelor of Fine Arts and Interdisciplinary Art degrees present final projects in “MEGA,” the 2011 Senior Exhibition organized by the School of Art. The exhibition is free and open to the public, with an opening reception from 6-8 p.m. on April 29 at the Miller Gallery on campus. The show will be on display in the Miller Gallery from April 30-May 14.

“MEGA,” an acronym for “Massive Ego Graphical Amalgamation,” symbolizes this group of seniors’ interconnected artistic endeavors and identities as a community. Each student developed their own personal acronym to reflect their body of work, such as Zahra Ahmed’s “Multicultural Environmental Guerrilla Abomination” or Michael Royce’s “My Etc. Gold Aesthetic.” As viewers travel through an exhibition spanning sculpture, video, installation, performance, print media, painting and a diversity of aesthetics, connections between artists’ conceptual and technical interests can be made thanks to this playful device.

“As artists, our practices emerge from our individual experiences, perceptions, and goals, but the artistic spirit of our class as a whole is more than the sum of our works. We have developed a balance of influences from contemporary culture while we maintain our own unique modes of making art,” said the 2011 student committee.

“Carnegie Mellon has no house style, and the work produced by this year’s graduating class reflects the variety of interests and particular talents of each individual in the program. The 2011 Senior Exhibition includes work that is weird, glamorous, poetic, delicate, provocative, cryptic, outrageous, beautiful, ingenious, contemplative and more. Always searching and exploratory, their final exhibition is the culminating expression of their time at Carnegie Mellon as they strive for greater achievement,” said John Carson, head of the School of Art.
"Sadly, one of the group, and a promising young artist, Jee Hoon Choi died in a tragic car accident, just a few weeks before he was due to graduate. He epitomized his peer group: using his time at college to the full, searching, striving, working hard, seeking new knowledge, developing his skills and thinking about how his art might make a worthwhile difference in the world. We will all miss him terribly, but we will remember him fondly and take strength and inspiration from his example," Carson said.

Exhibition brochures and catalogs will be available during the duration of the show at the Miller Gallery, or by request from the School of Art. For more information on the 2011 Senior Art Exhibition please visit http://www.cmu.edu/art or http://www.cmu.edu/millergallery.

###

The School of Art at Carnegie Mellon University (www.cmu.edu/art) considers, in practical and visionary terms, the role of art and the artist in society. Ranked #1 in the nation for its multimedia Master of Fine Arts Program, the school produces artists of exceptional ability and initiative who are able to connect meaningfully with the communities around them. All School of Art degree programs (Master of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Interdisciplinary Arts) and its Pre-College Program, incorporate a broad-based approach to art-making, encouraging a coherent, informed understanding of personal, public, conceptual and technical issues relevant to many forms of artistic expression.

The Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University (http://www.cmu.edu/millergallery) supports the creation, understanding and growth of contemporary art through exhibitions, projects, lectures, events and publications. The Miller Gallery is the contemporary art gallery of Carnegie Mellon and is one unit of the College of Fine Arts. It is located in the Purnell Center for the Arts on Carnegie Mellon’s campus in Pittsburgh, PA. The Miller Gallery is open to the public from 12 to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is free.

About Carnegie Mellon University: Carnegie Mellon (www.cmu.edu) is a private, internationally ranked research university with programs in areas ranging from science, technology and business, to public policy, the humanities and the arts. More than 11,000 students in the university’s seven schools and colleges benefit from a small student-to-faculty ratio and an education characterized by its focus on creating and implementing solutions for real problems, interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation. A global university, Carnegie Mellon’s main campus in the United States is in Pittsburgh, Pa. It has campuses in California’s Silicon Valley and Qatar, and programs in Asia, Australia, Europe and Mexico. The university is in the midst of a $1 billion fundraising campaign, titled “Inspire Innovation: The Campaign for Carnegie Mellon University,” which aims to build its endowment, support faculty, students and innovative research, and enhance the physical campus with equipment and facility improvements.