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**Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida
Conserves Paintings by Jamini Roy through a Generous Donation**

GAINESVILLE, FL, Feb. 9, 2016— The Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida recently completed the conservation of seven paintings by modern Bengali artist Jamini Roy. This was made possible by a \$50,000 grant award from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation in the Summer of 2015.

The Harn Museum’s Asian collection contains 45 works by Jamini Roy (1887-1972) and ranks among the largest public collections of distinguished holdings by the artist outside of India. Inspired by Indian village artisans, Roy often used paint colors made from organic matter including rock-dust, tamarind seeds, mercury powder, etc. and painted on woven palm fiber mats or canvas on board. Regardless of the ephemeral nature of these materials, conservation scientists are able to successfully preserve this important imagery by consolidating lifting and flaking paint, stabilizing the canvas supports, and cleaning using dry methods. The conservation of these paintings, carried out by Rustin Levenson and her associates at ArtCare, was completed in January 2016.

“This support will prevent further deterioration and allow the Harn to display and loan works which were previously too fragile to do so,” said Jason Steuber, Harn Cofrin Curator of Asian Art. Harn Director Rebecca Nagy said, “The Carpenter Foundation’s generosity will translate into increased usage and benefit by various disciplines in the humanities at the university since these works played vital and varied roles during India’s transformation from a colonial state to independent modern nation-state. We are thankful for being able to restore these important objects of history.”

Beginning in 2009, the museum began implementation of a treatment plan, one painting at a time, and is dedicated to raising additional funds to complete the conservation of the remaining twelve paintings which are in need of stabilization.

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About the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art

Founded in 1990, the Harn Museum of Art is an integral part of the University of Florida. The Harn contributes to an interconnected, international community by integrating the arts and culture into curricula throughout the university's system of colleges and centers. Its holdings include more than 10,000 works in five main collecting areas: Asian art, African art, photography, modern art of the Americas and Europe, and international contemporary art. The museum also has noteworthy collections of Oceanic and Ancient American Art and works on paper. In addition to rotating installations drawn from its permanent collection, the Harn organizes traveling exhibitions, public lectures, panel discussions, academic symposia, and educational programs for adults, students, and children.

The Harn Museum of Art, at 3259 Hull Road in Gainesville, Florida, is part of the University of Florida's Cultural Plaza, which is also home to the Florida Museum of Natural History and the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Admission is free. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. The museum is open until 9 p.m. the second Thursday of every month for Museum Nights. The Camellia Court Café is open Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information call 352-392-9826 or visit www.harn.ufl.edu.

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