



March 6, 2003

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Texas Wesleyan University presents the *Gujarat – Sculptures* art exhibition

FORT WORTH, March 6 – Texas Wesleyan University presents a solo art exhibition by Gisela-Heidi Strunck called *Gujarat – Sculptures*. The exhibition runs from Sunday, March 23 through Thursday, April 10 in the East Room Gallery of the James and Eunice West Library on the Wesleyan campus located at 1201 Wesleyan St. The opening reception and gallery talk will be held on Thursday, March 27 from 5-6:30 p.m.

The artwork of Gisela-Heidi Strunck is both inviting and imposing. Referencing the universal religious symbolism of portals and altars, Strunck's work displays a strong personal and spiritual connection to the Indian sub-continent where the artist has traveled and studied extensively. The work is heavily influenced by Hindu and Buddhist temple structure and other devotional forms. Made of rich, finely polished exotic hardwoods adorned with gold, tassels and other elements, these sculptures have the same precious quality as religious objects around the world.

A native of Germany, Strunck has traveled extensively throughout the world. The artist moved to the Metroplex in 1970, and has made seven study trips to the Indian sub-continent

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since 1994. Her many personal and spiritual connections in the region are clearly evidenced in the work while clearly being made by a Western artist for a primarily Western audience. Her art raises the question of what sort of relationship “an outsider” has to countries with alien ways, exquisite spiritual and physical beauty, extreme poverty and uncertain political conditions.

The Gallery will be open during library hours. For a library schedule, call 817-531-4800 or visit the University Web site at [www.txwes.edu](http://www.txwes.edu). For more information about the exhibition, call the Texas Wesleyan University Department of Art at 817-531-4973.

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