Dear Carleton Alumni and Friends,

I invite you to join Carleton College archaeologist Nancy Wilkie and Indian art historian Dr. Annapurna Garimella on this specially-designed trip focusing upon masterpieces of Indian architecture and art, including visits to eleven incredible World Heritage sites. Highlights include:

- Three of the finest rock-cut temples in the world. Master craftsmen carved fabulous rooms and even entire temple complexes completely out of the living rock. One contains what many consider the world’s finest and earliest Buddhist painting and sculpture.

- Four spectacular royal garden-tomb complexes of the mighty Mughal Empire that ruled most of India for over 400 years, beginning in 1526. In addition to the world famous Taj Mahal, you will also see its predecessor, Humayun’s tomb; and the tomb of the grandest of all Mughal emperors, Akbar the Great.

- Many of India’s greatest royal fortress/palace complexes, whose massive battlements contain sumptuous courtyards, hallways, and royal chambers with intricate detail work. Several contain glittering collections of the accoutrements of Indian rajas (kings).

- Plus, a royal astronomical complex with a 20-storey sundial; India’s largest temple complex with over 1,444 marble pillars, all carved in delicate detail; an afternoon viewing exotic birds in one of India’s national parks; several great art collections, such as the National Museum and Prince of Wales Museum; and lively bazaars filled with craft shops.

- Enjoy comfortable, often luxurious, accommodations and a variety of delicious Indian and international cuisine.

Sincerely,

Dana C. Wright ’95
President, Carleton College Alumni Association

P.S. This adventure is limited to 25 travelers. Please call toll-free (800) 811-7244 or email carleton@studytours.org today with questions and so we can hold your space.
Dr. Nancy Wilkie is a distinguished archaeologist and professor who has led numerous study tours throughout Asia and the Mediterranean. Nancy is the William H. Laird Professor of Classics, Anthropology, and the Liberal Arts, and Co-Director of the Archaeology Concentration at Carleton, where she has been on the faculty since 1974. From 1998-2002 she served as President of the Archaeological Institute of America, and in 2009-10 she was the AIA’s Charles Eliot Norton lecturer, one of the highest honors that the Institute bestows. In the mid-90’s she was named to the Alumni of Notable Achievement by the College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota; and in April 2003 the President of the United States appointed Nancy to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee of the U.S. State Department. The Committee reviews requests from foreign governments for the protection of their cultural property and recommends a course of action to the U.S. State Department. Nancy has directed archaeological projects in Greece, Egypt, and Nepal; led Carleton study programs in Nepal and Sri Lanka; and has lectured on several travel programs to India and Sri Lanka since 2001. Nancy’s most recent research project is focused on the depiction of Hell in Buddhist literature and art.

Dr. Annapurna Garimella is an art historian and designer who specializes in the art and architecture of India. Annapurna has been a study leader on many tours of India and received the highest praise. She earned her Ph.D. in Art History from Columbia University, where her work focused on religion, kingship, architecture, and urban planning in medieval India, and she curated a show on Rajput painting at the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of Art, Washington D.C. Annapurna has taught at universities in the U.S. and India. As Research Editor for Marg Publications, South Asia’s oldest publishing house dedicated to the arts, Annapurna edited several volumes on Buddhist art in Central Asia and the Himalayan kingdoms. Annapurna heads Jackfruit, a research and design organization that works in the visual, built, and performing arts. She is also the founder of A.R.T., an organization that gathers resources and promotes research and teaching in art and architectural history, archaeology, crafts, design, and other related fields. Her own published work includes research on the medieval city of Vijayanagara, modernism, contemporary religiosities, and the politics of tourism and heritage. Annapurna is based in Bangalore, India.

At Elephanta, Ajanta and Ellora you will visit the finest rock-cut temples. Perhaps none is more astounding the Ellora’s Cave 16, which is carved entirely out of the mountain’s “living rock.”
Day 1: November 29 or November 30, 2012: **DEPART USA**

Day 2: December 1: **DELHI, India**
Late arrival and transfer to hotel. *Overnight at the Hotel Oberoi Maiden for two nights.*

Day 3: December 2: **DELHI**
We will focus on three major sites today: the **National Museum of India**, which contains over 200,000 works of art spanning thousands of years; the World Heritage site of **Humayun's tomb**, the first garden-tomb on the Indian subcontinent ("the predecessor of the Taj Mahal"); and the **Qutub Complex**, a World Heritage site, which includes a 236-foot high minaret, a 1,500-year old iron pillar that does not rust, and a large mosque that was constructed from reused temple pillars. We will also slowly drive by and admire many other famous monuments, such as **Jama Mosque, Red Fort, Raj Ghat** (where Mahatma Gandhi was cremated), the ruined fortress at **Feroze Shah Kotla**, the **Ashok Pillar**, and **Safdarjung's tomb**. *(B,L,D)*

Day 4: December 3: **DELHI | AGRA**
After an early breakfast we depart for Agra, making two stops en route. First, we explore **Mathura**, one of India’s most ancient towns, with ghats (steps) lining the banks of the Yamuna River. It is a major pilgrimage site for Buddhists, Jains, and especially Hindus, since the site is strongly connected to the god Krishna. Next we visit **Sikandra**, the splendid **tomb of Akbar** (the greatest of all Mughal emperors), which is built from red sandstone inlaid with marble. Make a sunset visit to the **Taj Mahal**, a beautiful tomb complex in pure white marble and red sandstone unique in its size and exquisite proportions. *Overnight at The Trident for two nights.* *(B,L,D)*

Day 5: December 4: **AGRA**
Begin the day with a sunrise visit to the World Heritage site of the **Taj Mahal**. Continue to another World Heritage site, **Agra Fort**, built by Emperor Akbar and comprising a maze of lovely courtyards, mosques, and private chambers. After lunch, we explore the **Tomb of Itimad ud-Daula**, the first Mughal structure totally constructed of marble and the first to make extensive use of the *pietra dura* technique, in which marble is inlaid with other stones. *(B,L,D)*

Day 6: December 5: **AGRA | BHARATPUR**
This morning, you may choose to relax or enjoy one last sunrise visit to the Taj Mahal. After breakfast, depart for the World Heritage site of **Fatehpur Sikri** ("The City of Victory"), the abandoned city of Emperor Akbar the Great. The audience halls, palaces, and mosques are perfectly preserved, as are the tomb of Sufi saint Sheikh Salim Chisti, Panchmahal (a five-storey palace), and the Buland Darwaza (a 174-foot high victory gate).

After lunch, you may relax at our exquisite garden hotel complex, or you may explore by cycle rickshaw the **Keoladeo National Park**, a World Heritage site and one of South Asia’s greatest (and easiest) parks to see myriad species of exotic birds. The Park was once the private hunting reserve of the Maharajas of Bharatpur. Part of the park lies under water, the extent and volume depending on the intensity of the rains, and the rest is covered in dry deciduous forest and extensive grassland. *Overnight at The Bagh.* *(B,L,D)*

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*Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)*

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Top photo: the impressive Red Fort in Delhi. Center photo: Some of Keoladeo National Park’s beautiful, easily-viewed birds include this adult painted stork, with juvenile in background. Bottom photo: the rarely-visited Tomb of Itimad ud-Daula, a gem of Mughal architecture.
Day 7: December 6: BHARATPUR | JAIPUR
This morning, relax at our exquisite garden hotel complex or take a drive along back roads through beautiful farmlands to Deeg, which features the vast summer palace and massive “mud” fortress of the Maharajas of Bharatpur. Following lunch we drive to Jaipur, where we discover the colorful Old Bazaar filled with a wide variety of shops. Overnight at the Hotel Trident Jaipur for two nights. (B,L,D)

Day 8: December 7: JAIPUR
Depart this morning for Amber Fort, the site of a 17th century palace overlooking a lake at the entrance to a rocky mountain grove. The palace is a distinguished specimen of Rajput architecture. The Jai Mandir (Hall of Victory) is so delicately ornamented with fine inlay work that it glows. After lunch, visit Jaipur’s City Palace, an imposing blend of traditional Rajasthani and Mughal architecture. The complex is divided into a series of courtyards, gardens, and palatial buildings, including the City Palace Museum with Afghan and Persian carpets, miniature paintings, astronomical manuscripts in Persian and Sanskrit, and a medieval weapons collection. Next explore the World Heritage site of Jantar Mantar, an extraordinary and vast astronomical observatory complex built in the early 18th century. (B,L,D)

Day 9: December 8: JAIPUR | UDAIPUR
Depart for Udaipur, stopping along the way to explore Chittorgarh, one of the greatest fortress/palace complexes in all of South Asia. The complex sits on a 600-foot high hill sprawling across nearly 700 acres, containing palaces, gates, temples, and commemoration towers. You will be inspired by the history and legends of the courageous rulers of this realm. Overnight at the Trident Udaipur for two nights. (B,L,D)

Day 10: December 9: UDAIPUR
Today visit the City Palace, the largest palace complex in Rajasthan and once the seat of the Rajput kings of Mewar. Balconies, towers, and cupolas surround the palace, and there are fine views over beautiful Lake Pichola and the city from the upper terraces. The main section of the palace is now a museum with a large and varied collection. The afternoon is free to relax or explore Udaipur’s lively streets and many craft shops. (B,L,D)

Day 11: December 10: UDAIPUR | JODHPUR
Depart for Jodhpur, stopping en route to explore Ranakpur, the largest temple complex in India. Mainly associated with its huge, beautiful 14th/15th century Jain temples constructed of white marble, Ranakpur temple has 29 halls and 1,444 pillars each of which is intricately carved. Ranakpur is amongst the five holiest places of the Jain community and exceptional in beauty. After lunch continue driving to Jodhpur. Overnight at the Balsamand Garden Retreat for two nights. (B,L,D)

Day 12: December 11: JODHPUR
Today visit Rajasthan’s most formidable fortress/palace, Meherangarh, which is still run by the Maharaja of Jodhpur. This majestic fort sprawls atop a 410-foot high hill and consists of a network of courtyards and palaces with a splendid collection of all the trappings of Indian royalty. Old cannons look out from the ramparts, with magical views over the sheer drop to the old town beneath. We will stop briefly at the traditional cremation grounds of the rulers of Jodhpur and admire the fabulous white marble memorial to Jaswant Singh II. After lunch, relax or join a walking tour of the Old Town, filled with arts and crafts shops. (B,L,D)
Day 13: December 12: JODHPUR | MUMBAI | AURANGABAD

After a leisurely breakfast, we depart for the airport for our flight to Mumbai (Bombay) and connect to Aurangabad. Overnight at the Rama International for two nights. (B,L,D)

Day 14: December 13:
AURANGABAD | AJANTA CAVES

We visit the World Heritage site of the Ajanta Caves, rock-cut monuments dating back to the 2nd century B.C., containing early paintings and sculpture considered to be early masterpieces of Buddhist religious art that influenced the development of Buddhist art as the religion spread throughout Asia over the next 1,000 years. The vast monastic complex of Ajanta consists of several vihara (monastic halls of residence) and chaitya-grihas (stupa monument halls), all cut into the mountain. (B,L,D)

Day 15: December 14:
AURANGABAD | ELLORA | MUMBAI

Visit the World Heritage site of Ellora, which represents the epitome of Indian rock-cut architecture. The 35 “caves” – actually structures excavated entirely out of the vertical face of the hills – were built between the 5th and 10th centuries. The 12 Buddhist, 17 Hindu, and five Jain chambers were all built in close proximity, evidence of the religious tolerance prevalent during this period of Indian history. After lunch, fly to Mumbai. Overnight at the Trident Nariman Point. (B,L,D)

Day 16: December 15: MUMBAI | USA

This morning we pass through the Gateway of India and take a boat ride to the World Heritage site of Elephanta. Here we admire a fine cluster of 6th – 8th century rock-cut caves, depicting aspects of the God Shiva as the cosmic dancer, the androgyne, and the amorous groom. After lunch, you may relax or enjoy a visit to the Prince of Wales Museum for one last view of outstanding Indian art, including miniature paintings, sculpture, and bas-reliefs. Day rooms have been reserved for us at the Trident Nariman Point. After our farewell dinner, we transfer to the airport for flights home. (B,L,D)
Per Person Prices

DOUBLE Occupancy ........................................... $6,995.
SINGLE Supplement ............................................ $1,645.

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability).

All prices based on a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 25 participants. With fewer than 15 participants, a small group surcharge will apply.

Your Trip Includes:

- Leadership of study leaders Nancy Wilkie and Annapurna Garimella;
- Three flights within India;
- Fourteen (14) nights’ accommodations plus one dayroom in deluxe hotels;
- All meals throughout the trip, including welcome and farewell dinners with cocktails;
- All excursions and entrance fees as per itinerary, with bottled water provided;
- Surface transportation by deluxe, air conditioned motorcoach;
- Services of a Professional Tour Manager;
- Services of local, English-speaking guides;
- Arrival and departure transfers;
- All tips to porters, drivers, and guides;
- Still camera fees;
- Local taxes and service charges;
- Porterage at the airports within India;
- Comprehensive pre-departure information, including a suggested reading guide, travel guide, and packing list.

Rates do NOT INCLUDE: International airfare; passport and visa fees; inoculation fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; tips to Tour Manager; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as laundry; alcoholic or other beverages (except as noted above); taxi, telephone, and fax charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour.

Cancellation Policy: All requests by passengers for cancellations must be received in writing. Cancellations received at least ninety (90) days prior to departure are fully refunded less an administrative fee of three hundred dollars ($300) per person. Cancellations received between eighty-nine (89) and sixty (60) days prior to departure are subject to 100% of the tour cost. For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. An application will be sent with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

Prices are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.
other carrier insurance, quarantine, and acts of God. In the absence of negligence on the part of the operator, the participant agrees that the operator has no responsibility or liability for any nature whatsoever for damage to or loss of property, or injury to, or death of persons due to any act, omission or negligence of any carrier, hotel, restaurant, bus carrier, tender service, sightseeing company, or any other persons rendering any of the services or ground portions of the itinerary. The participant further waives any claim against the operator and its agents, servants and employees, and the participant hereby waives any claim arising there from. Operator and Sponsors reserve the right to alter our prices. As a condition of acceptance, each participant must agree to and sign the following release of liability: Release: Notwithstanding anything set forth above or otherwise contained herein, the signatory clearly understands that the Sponsors are in no way responsible and can assume no liability of any nature whatsoever for the tour and any acts, omissions or negligence by the Operator or by companies and persons with whom the Operator may contract. The signatory has carefully read the list of activities, requirements and conditions as listed in the brochure and application for the tour and is aware that the tour and its activities involve the risk of personal injury or death and property damage or loss. In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation in the tour, the signatory voluntarily accepts all risk of personal injury or death and property damage or other loss arising from participation on the tour and hereby agrees that he/she and his/her dependents, heirs, executors and assigns, do release and hold harmless Sponsors and Operator from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, illness, personal injury, death or property damage or loss, however caused, arising from or related to this tour. The signatory has read carefully this agreement, and will abide by the conditions set by Sponsors and the Operator as described in the brochure and in the terms and conditions of this and other sections as stated herein or elsewhere published. The signatory affirms that he/she has not received or relied on any oral or written representation of Sponsors as a basis for executing this release.

Signature Date
Signature Date