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**Telfair Museums Presents *Betsy Cain: In Situ and Beyond Utility:
Pottery Created by Enslaved Hands***

Savannah, GA—Telfair Museums will bring the summer to a close with two new shows at the Jepson Center—*Beyond Utility: Pottery Created by Enslaved Hands*, opening July 30 in the Lewis Gallery, and *Betsy Cain: In Situ*, opening in the Varnedoe and Levitt galleries August 6, 2011.

Beyond Utility showcases remarkable pots made by enslaved people in the mid-19th century. Although crafted for utilitarian purposes, these jars, jugs and other vessels exemplify the work of talented artisans. Using a variety of forms and decoration, the featured objects demonstrate how largely unknown potters carefully shaped, molded and embellished these receptacles, incorporating aesthetic elements within everyday functional items. Today, these containers provide a link to a lesser-known part of American history, specifically the life and work of enslaved Africans and their descendents. Compiled from local private collections and open through December 18, *Beyond Utility* provides audiences with a visual supplement to the symposium *Slavery and Freedom in Savannah* from October 13 through 15.

Betsy Cain: In Situ presents recent works by the artist, an engaged and respected figure in Savannah's art community for the past thirty years. Cain is also an outspoken environmental advocate, drawing inspiration from the lush Low Country landscape since settling in Savannah in the early 1980s. This exhibition, showcasing the mature work of a sophisticated artist who has spent decades developing her craft, considers the evolving context and significance of her oeuvre. *In Situ* explores the layers of meaning in Cain's work through the examination of her three primary contexts as an artist: the studio, the landscape, and the body.

In Situ "is in part about how a place inhabits you over time. A personal excavation of meanings," says Cain. Since earning her M.F.A. from the University of Alabama, she has worked in a variety of media, including drawings, watercolors, large-scale oil paintings, and "cut-outs"—sculptural paintings on wood cut into stylized forms. Although her work has been included in group exhibitions at Telfair Museums and is featured in the permanent collection, this is her first solo exhibition at Telfair. An opening reception for *In Situ* will be held for members at the Jepson on September 1 and will continue through December 4, 2011.

For more information, please visit Telfair.org or call 790.8802.