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Telfair Museums presents *Alter Ego: A Decade of Work by Anthony Goicolea*

Savannah, GA—Telfair Museums is proud to present *Alter Ego: A Decade of Work* by Anthony Goicolea, an exhibition honoring the young artist's impressive and diverse body of work, at Telfair's Jepson Center. Over the past decade, Anthony Goicolea has produced a significant oeuvre that explores themes ranging from personal history and identity, to cultural heritage, to alienation and displacement. He employs a variety of media, including traditional drawing and painting, video installations, and digitally manipulated photography, to examine these universal subjects that speak to audiences young and old.

Goicolea's work has been featured in exhibitions at institutions including the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago; the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC; the International Center of Photography, New York; Haunch of Venison Gallery, London; Galerie Aurel Scheibler, Berlin; the Groninger Museum, the Netherlands; and the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid. Goicolea's art can be found in the collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Yale University Art Collection, the North Carolina Museum of Art, and Telfair Museums.

In 2005 he received the BMW Photo Paris Award, and shortly after was commissioned by one of the world's leading fashion design and marketing studios - Calvin Klein, Inc - to create elaborate window displays in one of the most extensive collaborations between a designer and an artist to date. One of these displays converted the staircases at the company's flagship Madison Avenue store into a passageway covered by a frozen, snow-covered half-pipe structure. A more recent project culminated in three short film vignettes characterized by the artist's ethereal atmosphere that were displayed in hundreds of stores worldwide.

A first-generation Cuban-American artist, Goicolea was born in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1971. The skilled storyteller made his artistic debut in the late 1990s with a series of provocative photographs featuring young men on the threshold of adolescence acting out childhood fantasies and bizarre rituals in staged settings or dense, fairytale forests. Soon after, the artist garnered international attention with his strangely dream-like woodland landscapes and vast, apocalyptic urban wastelands. In a marked departure, Goicolea has recently mined his personal history in a collection exploring his roots and family heritage. A fervent search for ancestral connections to a mythical homeland revealing nostalgia for a past that the artist never actually experienced, as well as a sense of cultural dislocation and estrangement, is exposed in these poignant pieces.

Alter Ego is the artist's first monographic exhibition to include both early and recent works, representing the considerable scope of Goicolea's career. Organized jointly by the North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, and Telfair Museums, the show features approximately 50 pieces ranging from photography to mixed-media installations and draws from both private and public collections, including the Telfair's own permanent collection. The exhibition is accompanied by a fully-illustrated hardbound catalogue with essays by Linda Johnson Dougherty of the North Carolina Museum of Art and former Telfair curator Holly Koons McCullough. Goicolea, who now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York, holds a B.A. in art history and a B.F.A. in drawing and painting from the University of Georgia, Athens, and an M.F.A. in sculpture, with a minor in photography, from Pratt Institute of Art, New York.

The exhibition will be on display in the Jepson Center's Steward Galleries and Kane Gallery from September 2, 2011 until January 8, 2012. A Director's Circle Preview Dinner will be held at the Jepson Wednesday, August 31, at 6 pm. The artist lecture and Members' Opening Reception will follow on Thursday, September 1, from 6 to 8 pm.