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Contact:

Kristin Boylston

Director of Development and Communications

912.790.8890

boylstonk@telfair.org

Telfair Museums Highlights 125 Years of Collecting at the Telfair

Savannah, GA- As part of Telfair Museums' 125th anniversary celebration this year the museum will present *Portraits to Pixels: Celebrating 125 Years of Collecting at the Telfair*, on view to the public June 24- August 7, 2011 at the Jepson Center. *Portraits to Pixels* will feature selected works representing the history, complexity, and diversity of the permanent collection since 1886.

With the addition of the Jepson Center in 2006, Telfair Museums has grown into a three-site institution with an exciting and diverse collection of over 4,500 objects. That collection is at the core of the Telfair's mission to provide powerful experiences with original works of art, and to interpret and preserve those works for future generations.

While the museum offers exciting and innovative programs for all segments of the community, and often serves as an engaging gathering place for residents and visitors- the collection, which includes the Telfair's three architecturally-significant buildings, is the very foundation upon which the museum is built.

Early on, the museum's collection was shaped by three personalities: Telfair founder Marty Telfair, first director Carl Brandt, and his successor, fine arts advisor Gari Melchers. These individuals exercised a profound impact upon the collection, anchoring it within their own time- the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Since that time, the museum has continued to expand and refine the collection building on current strengths, and pursuing new directions reflecting the diverse nature of contemporary art.

Telfair Museums will offer a special lecture by Holly Koons McCullough, Director of Collections and Exhibitions for the Telfair, on **Thursday, June 23 at 6pm** in the Jepson Centers' Neises Auditorium. The lecture is sponsored by Telfair Academy Guild. A reception will immediately follow in the in the Jepson Centers' Eckburg Atrium to celebrate the opening of *Portraits to Pixels* and *Judith Godwin: Early Abstraction*.

. For more information call 912.790.8800 or visit Telfair.org.