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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 26, 2012

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Transportation Museum to open exhibit: "Along the Alabama River, the Quilts of Gee's Bend"

Tuscaloosa Alabama - "The Gee's Bend quilts constitute some of the most miraculous works of modern art America has produced. Imagine Matisse and Klee arising not from rarified Europe, but from the caramel soil of the rural South," Michael Kimmelman, *The New York Times*.

The Mildred Westervelt Warner Transportation Museum and the City of Tuscaloosa are pleased to announce the newest exhibit: *Along the Alabama River, The Quilts of Gee's Bend*. The exhibition features five quilts and five etchings done by world-renowned quilters from Alabama's very own Gee's Bend, located just south of Selma, Alabama.

Curated by Director Shaina Strom in partnership with the Souls Grown Deep Foundation, the exhibit discusses the cultural impacts of our neighboring river way and how geography and history have isolated Gee's Bend. The quilters are a part of a society that is rooted in racial, geographical and economic struggle, with the strength and resilience to create some of the most acclaimed modern art America has produced. Quilts from Gee's Bend have previously been exhibited across the country, at museums including the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in D.C., and The Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This exhibit is the third installation of revolving exhibits that continue to fulfill the museum's mission in providing educational and cultural experiences for the Tuscaloosa community.

The exhibit will open with an evening reception on Art Night, Aug. 2nd, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and will be available to the public until Nov. 30th, 2012. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 pm. Please call for admission rates. For more information about scheduling educational programs, tours and group rates, please contact the museum directly at (205) 343-5390, or visit the website at www.mwwtm.com.

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