

## **JUDITH SCOTT**

### **Cocoon**

March 28 - May 4, 2002

Ricco/Maresca Gallery announces an exhibition of fiber-based sculpture by artist Judith Scott. This body of work is taken in part from a traveling exhibition first mounted at the Shiseido Galleries in Japan and traveled to the Musee de l'Art Brut, Switzerland; The Center for Creative Growth, CA; Intuit: The Center for Intuitive and Outsider Art, Chicago, IL and now Ricco/Maresca Gallery. Works produced recently and never before seen in New York will be shown with pieces that have toured and have been featured in John MacGregor's full-length, color book on Scott's work, *Metamorphosis*.

Scott, who lives with Down's Syndrome, began to produce her fiber sculptures only ten years ago at the age of forty-five. Her technique involves the process of wrapping random objects, sometimes one by one and sometimes combined, with string, twine, yarn and other appropriated materials. Though varying in size, shape, texture and color scheme, all of Scott's pieces adhere to her fixation upon the process of wrapping and securing her objects in a cocoon of her own design.

After being rescued by her sister from institutional housing for the mentally ill and enrolled at the Creative Growth Art Center in California, Scott's abilities began to take shape. Having finally been exposed to art making, her talents emerged with a fervor that has not waned throughout the years. Each piece is a time-intensive production utilizing an enormous amount of materials, concentration and patience. Judith's intensity yields these mysterious and beautiful works that metamorphosize cast-away objects into sculptures with a distinct presence. Because Judith can neither speak nor hear, her internal dialogue is much like her artwork- hidden and most likely multi-dimensional.