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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Somi Brings Blend of Jazz, African, and Soul Music to Weinberg Center

FREDERICK, Md., Monday, October 16, 2017 — Described by NPR as “the quintessential artist citizen of the world,” international songstress Somi will take the stage at the Weinberg Center for the Arts on Thursday, October 26 at 7:30pm. Born in Illinois to immigrants from Rwanda and Uganda, the singer/songwriter will blend African, jazz, and soul music for an evening of melodic storytelling.

Tickets begin at \$25 and may be purchased online at WeinbergCenter.org, by calling the Box Office at 301.600.2828, or in person at 20 West Patrick St. Discounts are available for students, children, military, and seniors.

Somi's American experience has always been infused with the African diaspora's richest political and artistic traditions. A longtime New York City resident, Somi is also a true Africanist; she spent part of her youth in Africa with her parents and now tours both the United States and the African continent extensively with her band. Born from an 18-month “sabbatical” in Lagos, Nigeria, Somi's 2014 album “The Lagos Music Salon” debuted at the top of US jazz charts. Her latest album “Petite Afrique” is a song cycle that honors the dignity and erasure of the African immigrants in her gentrified Harlem neighborhood. In addition to being the founder of New Africa Live, a nonprofit championing her fellow African artists, Somi is also a TED Senior Fellow.

This engagement of Somi is made possible through the Jazz Touring Network program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, with support from the National Endowment for the Arts. A complete listing of artists and performers scheduled for the 2017-2018 season can be found at WeinbergCenter.org.

ABOUT THE WEINBERG CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Weinberg Center for the Arts is one of the region’s premier performing arts presenters, offering film, music, dance, theater, and family-focused programming. Located in the historic Tivoli movie theater in downtown Frederick, Md., the Weinberg Center strives to ensure that the arts remain accessible and affordable to local and regional audiences alike. Weinberg Center events are made possible with major support from the City of Frederick, the Maryland State Arts Council, Plamondon Hospitality Partners, and other corporate and individual donors.

Photos available upon request.

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