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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2017

**HUGH MASEKELA BOWS OUT OF JAZZ EPISTLES PROGRAM
REPLACEMENT TO BE NAMED AT A LATER DATE**

ST. LOUIS - Due to ongoing treatment for prostate cancer, legendary trumpeter Hugh Masekela has cancelled his upcoming appearances, including his scheduled performance on April 14 at The Sheldon for the Jazz Epistles reunion with Abdullah Ibrahim and Ekaya. The concert will still go on as scheduled, with a replacement trumpeter to be announced at a later date.

In a statement, Masekela says, in part, "It is a tough battle but I am greatly encouraged by the good wishes of family, friends and everyone who has supported my musical journey, which remains the greatest source of my inspiration. I have cancelled my commitments for the immediate future as I will need all my energy to continue this fight against prostate cancer. I'm in a good space, as I battle this stealthy disease, and I urge all men to have regular tests to check your own condition. Ask questions, demand answers and learn everything you can about this cancer, and tell others to do the same."

Tickets to Jazz Epistles - The Story in Concert featuring Abdullah Ibrahim and Ekaya on Saturday, April 14 at 8 p.m. at The Sheldon are \$45 orchestra/\$40 balcony/\$15 student and are available through MetroTix at 314-534-1111 or at TheSheldon.org.

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