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Etienne Charles
CREOLE SOUL

Friday, May 29, 2015 ~ 8 pm
Coolidge Auditorium
Library of Congress, Thomas Jefferson Building
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The Library of Congress
Coolidge Auditorium
Friday, May 29, 2015 — 8 pm

Etienne Charles
Creole Soul

Etienne Charles, Trumpet/Percussion
Brian Hogans, Alto Saxophone
Alex Wintz, Guitar
Sullivan Fortner, Piano
Ben Williams, Bass
John Davis, Drums

Program

Selections to be announced from the stage
About the Artist

Jazz artist **Etienne Charles** was recently selected as a 2015 Guggenheim Fellow. He is the assistant professor of jazz trumpet at Michigan State University. Charles was described by *The New York Times* as "an auteur," and by *Jazz Times* as "A daring improviser who delivers with heart wrenching lyricism." According to *Downbeat Magazine*, "Charles delivers his ebullient improvisations with the elegance of a world-class ballet dancer." He has received critical acclaim for his exciting performances, thrilling compositions and knack for connecting with audiences worldwide. In June 2012, Charles was recognized in the U.S. Congressional Record for his musical contributions to Trinidad and Tobago and the world.

Perhaps more than any other musician of his generation or Eastern Caribbean origin, Charles brings a careful study of myriad rhythms from the French, Spanish, English and Dutch speaking Caribbean to the table. Crucially, as a soloist, he fully understands the New Orleans trumpet tradition (which is readily discernible in his trademark instrumental swagger) and what famed Crescent City pianist Jelly Roll Morton so succinctly captured in the now immortal phrase, "The Spanish Tinge."

His latest recording, *Creole Soul* has received critical acclaim worldwide for its fusion of root grooves from the Afro-Caribbean. His previous release, *Kaiso* (Culture Shock Music 2011), features his arrangements and interpretations of the music of calypso legends Lord Kitchener, Mighty Sparrow and Roaring Lion.

As a sideman he has performed and or recorded with Monty Alexander, Roberta Flack, Frank Foster, Ralph MacDonald, Johnny Mandel, Wynton Marsalis, Marcus Roberts, Maria Schneider, Count Basie Orchestra, Eric Reed, Lord Blakie, David Rudder and many others. He holds a Master’s degree from the Juilliard School and a Bachelor’s degree from Florida State University. For more information please visit etiennecharles.com.

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