NMAAM Sister Rosetta Tharpe Rock and Roll HOF Induction Statement

The National Museum of African American Music (NMAAM) is thrilled that Sister Rosetta Tharpe now has her rightful place in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Tharpe crossed color barriers in ways that were unprecedented for a queer, black woman in the 1930s and ’40s. She traversed musical lines by combining gospel and secular music into a one-of-a-kind rock and roll style that inspired musical greats like Chuck Berry, Elvis Presley and Little Richard. Her career spanned decades, and NMAAM is proud that, in 2018, her artistry continues to be celebrated.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSIC

The National Museum of African American Music, set to open in 2019, will be the only museum solely dedicated to educating, preserving and celebrating the influence African Americans have had on music. Based in Nashville, Tennessee, the Museum will share the story of the American soundtrack by integrating history and interactive technology to bring musical heroes of the past into the present. For more information, please visit www.nmaam.org.

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