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Film and Publication Board
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FPB CLASSIFICATION OF 'THE SPEAR' PAINTING AS DISPLAYED AT THE GOODMAN GALLERY

22 May 2012

The Film and Publication Board yesterday (21 May 2012) deployed a team of five classifiers to view and classify the much publicized 'The Spear' artwork by Brett Murray and as displayed at the Goodman Gallery.

The above visit and consideration was made in light of complaints received from members of the public via written correspondence, telephone and social media.

The Classifiers are engaged in a process to determine the appropriate classification for the artwork in line with the Film and Publications Act and Section 1 of this Act which includes paintings in the definition of publications covered under the Act. A classification decision has at this stage not been reached.

The Film and Publication Board is also in receipt of communiqué from lawyers representing the Goodman Gallery and City Press, requesting an opportunity to make representations to the Film and Publication Board and the committee responsible for classifying this particular painting.

The above request has been acceded to and the FPB has set aside time for the representations to be heard at 18:00 tonight, 22 May 2012, from the above organizations.

The Film and Publication Board encourages public engagement and participation and it is in this context that the above requests have been agreed to.

Once the representations have been made and the Classification Committee dealing with this matter has finalized its deliberations, the outcomes will be made public.

The Film and Publication Board is committed to have this process concluded as soon as possible given the public interest on the matter.

Issued by the Film and Publication Board.

For more information or interviews, please contact Prince Mlimandlela Ndamase (Spokesperson) on 083 480 0014.