

Pretoria, 20 June 2008

PRESS RELEASE – EURO2008

“SOCCER and ART” launched successfully at Bassline



from public soccer performances ...

The Austrian Embassy, together with Bassline and countries playing, are organizing public viewings for the EURO2008 quarterfinals to the final match (19 to 29 June) live on the big screen.

to public art performances...

On each of these 7 evenings the Austrian artist Walter Stach invites 7 South African artists to watch and interpret the match shown on the big screen by painting on big canvases live during the transmissions.

Each evening will focus on one basic structural aspect of the game of soccer and transform it into an artistic theme: e. g. against – together, tension – relaxation, motion, rules – irregularity, etc.

The art performance is organized by the Austrian Embassy Pretoria.

The Austrian and Swiss Embassies, representing the host countries of EURO2008, together with the Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation of the Government of Gauteng, are bringing EURO2008, the last major international soccer event before the Confederation Cup 2009 and the FIFA World Championship in 2010 in South Africa, to the fans and followers in Gauteng.

Public viewings are organised in 14 Township taverns across the Province, and at Bassline in Newtown on the big screen. The taverns run a competition with prize drawings.

Bassline, together with the public viewing, features a full cultural by-programme, including soccer movies and artists transforming the matches live onto canvass.

Next public viewings/performances:

Quarterfinals

Friday, 20 June: Croatia vs Turkey
Saturday, 21 June: Netherlands vs Russia
Sunday, 22 June: Spain vs. Italy

Semifinals:

Wednesday, 25 June: Germany vs ??
Thursday, 26 June: ?? vs ??

Final: Sunday 29 June 2008

