

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY  
**RUTGERS**

Mason Gross School of the Arts - Visual Arts Department  
New Brunswick - New Jersey 08903 - 201/932-9078

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To whom it may concern,

I am happy to recommend Dumile Mgxaji Feni. Both his art and his life are exceptional. He has had a long career as an artist in South Africa beginning with his first solo exhibition in Johannesburg in 1966. In 1967 he represented South Africa in the Sao Paulo Biennial. His work is characterized by strong distortions and an impacted stylization. It is almost as if they contain the struggles he as undergone under apartheid and both the expressing of this and the self control this has entailed.

His life is <sup>that is</sup> one unfortunately typical of those who have challenged apartheid. He has been imprisoned a number of times, beaten and mistreated. He is a man of true dignity and gentle demeanor but with the force of his convictions.

It's interesting that at this point in time, in all seriousness, he wishes to reenter the art school environment to study and develop a realistic style which would be different, perhaps very different, from his previous work. I take this intention seriously and I think it should prove of considerable interest to those he would work with. He brings many years of experience as an artist and as a fighter for human rights to this endeavor.

He is most highly recommended.

Sincerely,



Leon Golub  
John C. Van Dyke Professor of Visual Art