

NAKED CHRIST PAINTINGS R16 ARE BANNED

STAFF REPORTER

THE Censor Board has forbidden artist Harold Rubin to exhibit his two controversial naked Christ paintings. The decision was made known yesterday, but Mr. Rubin has not been officially informed.

The 30-year-old Johannesburg artist exhibited the two paintings at a Johannesburg art gallery several weeks ago, when they were seized by police, and sent to the Censor Board in Cape Town.

The first depicted a naked man on a cross, with his head thrown back and a black tongue protruding from his mouth. Around the head were Christmas hats.

The second, seized a few days later, also showed a naked man on a cross. Below the figure was a man holding a machine-gun, and another stabbing at him with a spear.

TOLD LAWYERS

Several days ago the police told Mr. Rubin's lawyers that he was not allowed to show the second painting.

Mr. Rubin said: "I have not been told a thing. I think they should have let me know first."

The public prosecutor has not yet decided if Mr. Rubin will be prosecuted for blasphemy, which is an offence in South Africa.

K.D.M.
12/9/62