



Supplementary Figure 1. Spider phobia group rating data per picture.

The *natural spider picture set* and the *parametric spider picture set* were compared based on the subjective anxiety ratings from the spider phobics. Part A and B show the ratings for each stimulus, depicting variance across participants (boxplots, red crosses = outliers; picture size 120x120). The stimuli from the parametric spider picture set covered a 50% larger range on the visual analogue scale from 'not fearful at all' to 'extremely fearful' (A, B). Importantly, this additional variance in the *parametric spider picture set* was structured as hypothesized (B), allowing for a systematic manipulation of perceived proximity.