

EVA

EUROPEAN
VISUAL
ARTISTS


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EVA and its members societies (ADAGP, Bild-Kuns, Bildrecht, Bono, Bus, Copydan, DACS, Gestor, Ivaro, Hungart, Kuvasto, La Saif, Phoebus, Pictoright, Prolitteris, Sabam, Sofam, SIAE, SPA Autores, VEGAP, OOAS, EAU, Mydstef, Akka-Laa, Latga and Lita) joins with our U.S. counterpart, the Artists Rights Society, in supporting efforts in the United States Congress to reform the Copyright Office so that it has the independence from the Library of Congress and the financial and technological resources necessary to meet its obligations to authors of copyrighted works. In no other country in the world is the national library responsible for administration of the copyright laws.

We also support a role for the Copyright Office in making available remedies for infringement that do not warrant the great expense of litigation in United States District Courts. However, use of such a system to obtain relief from infringement should be voluntary on the part of authors and not preclude his or her access to the full rights and remedies available by bringing infringement actions before a U.S. Federal Court.

Finally, because the U.S. has not yet recognized the resale royalty right, we are unable to provide the reciprocity that would give U.S. artists the benefit of this long standing Berne Convention right now enjoyed by artists of over 70 nations. As pending resale rights legislation gives the Copyright Office a role in overseeing the private sector administration of such a right, we believe that it would be appropriate for inclusion in legislation reforming the Copyright Office.

For these reasons we welcome and support the objectives of the House Judiciary Committee's White Paper.



Carola Streul
Secretary General



SOFAM



la saif Société des Auteurs des arts visuels et de l'Image Fixe



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