

30. November 2012

Resale right

Dear Madame or Sir,

I am welcoming the opportunity to comment on the proposed bill introducing resale right in the USA. I am commenting in my capacity as president/ chairman of the board of the German artists Organisation "Bundesverband Bildender Künstler" (Federal Organisation of German Artists), which works on a political level for the improvement of the professional situation of fine art artists.

German artist watch the discussions about resale right in the USA with very much interest and this topic is often being discussed with our US colleagues. It is difficult to understand how such an important remuneration (participation in the economic success of a work) can be denied to fine art artists – while composers, writers, performers and film authors are remunerated whenever their works are performed. Fine art artists are the only creators which live from the sale of the originals of their works and - without resale right - are cut off all profits the works are later generating in the vibrant market for contemporary fine art.

Therefor we wish to express our strongest support for the bill presented and hope our US colleagues shall receive their share in sales revenues of their works in the secondary market, too. Needless to mention that after successful introduction of the resale right in the USA, the US artists are entitled to the same remuneration in Europe, namely in Germany, too.

VG Bild-Kunst, our German society for the management of visual arts, has commented on the details of the bill and I refer to their comment which we fully support.

Sincerely yours



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