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ARTISTS

Press release on the UK Resale Right

UK PARLIAMENT ADOPTS THE RESALE RIGHT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ARTIST OF AN ORIGINAL WORK OF ART WITH GREAT MAJORITY

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Pfennig, President of EVA says: "We are delighted about this clear vote for authors' rights by the UK Parliament. Finally, the contribution of artists to increase economic value has been recognised. Thanks to the resale right the authors of fine artists are treated on the same footing as composers and writers."

All commercial resale of works of art where prices of € 1 000 and above are reached qualify for a payment to the author. Many living artists will benefit. It is regrettable that Austria and The Netherlands decided on less author friendly solutions.

Carola Streul, secretary general of EVA says: "The artists in whole Europe can congratulate their UK colleagues for this great success after a long and tedious fight. The UK Parliament took a wise decision. We are certain that such positive example in the country with the largest art market in Europe will be followed by others. Neither Switzerland, nor the US can continue to stay apart! "

The EVA member DACS will manage the resale right in the UK and is well prepared. It fought for over 15 years together with numerous artists and artists organisations in the UK and abroad for this fundamental improvement in author's rights.

Background:

The Common House adopted on Wednesday the 8th the new legislation with a majority of 332 to 159 votes and it only needs the Minister's signature to come into force which will be the case within the next days. The right had to be introduced due to the EU Directive on harmonisation of the resale right (EC 84/2001). The UK was one of the few countries in the EU which had no resale right before, thus causing serious unbalance to the internal EU art market.

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