

→ ~~Mr Taylor~~
Ms Webster
Ms Fitzpatrick

From the Director
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~~Mark Taylor~~
General Manager, Arts and Regional
Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
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Dear Mr Taylor

Thank you for your letter of 16 July 2004 concerning the Discussion Paper on a Proposed Resale Royalty Arrangement, as recommended in the Myer Report.

My colleagues and I have read the paper with interest. The principle is one which we must support, although we have some reservations about how effectively it can be imposed. We are well aware of the debate on droit de suite in the UK, for example, and we note the observation (p.27) that in France 70% of re-sale royalties are paid to the descendants of only seven artists. The issue of the cost of administration and collection is an important one, and may prove burdensome and ultimately ineffective.

You may like to know that the issue was raised by Brian Kennedy at our Darwin CAAMD meeting last year, and was informally debated. All present – with the exception of Brian Kennedy, who spoke articulately on the potential benefit to indigenous artists – expressed some scepticism about the logistics and practicalities of instituting such a scheme.

From the NGV's perspective, we find ourselves, having read and considered the discussion paper, in favour of the principle, but with some concerns about its effective implementation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further comment.

Yours sincerely



pp Gerard Vaughan

"Dictated by Dr Vaughan, but signed on his behalf due to his absence abroad"