

20th July 2004

To whom it may concern

Re: droit de suite

As the owner and director of Greenaway Art Gallery (operating in Adelaide for the past 13 years), I wish to express my total support for a resale royalty scheme in Australia for Australian artists. I have been working on a 5% clause in my gallery for many years and until legislation is passed will continue to do so.

Ian W. Abdulla is an indigenous artist I have represented for the past 12 years. His paintings sell at \$7,000 each but in recent years his production has declined as his health has declined. He has supported himself and extended family for the last decade and I worry that there will become a time when he will not be able to paint. With a small income from droit de suite, copyright and royalties on his 2 books, Ian will continue to have the self esteem and pride that he has gained through his paintings.

Critics of droit de suite suggest that only a handful of well-known artists will benefit from this system and that administration costs will make it unworkable. Viscopy has proved that it is possible to introduce a system that can advantage artists within Australia – particularly indigenous artists.

If small businesses are now asked to fill out BAS forms every quarter then surely a resale form is not that much more, if Viscopy or another agency doesn't want to handle it. Artists should have to register for reimbursement payments and be paid per quarter. Fines should be imposed on auction houses, galleries, private dealers or anyone re-selling art if they don't make available a list of all sales made by registered artists. Monies collected going to administration costs.

The basic purpose of this short letter is to show my support for droit de suite.

Yours sincerely

Paul Greenaway OAM