

What is Droit de Suite?

Droit de Suite, which translates as "right to follow," and also known as Artists Resale Right (ARR) is a legal concept that grants artists and their heirs the right to receive a percentage of the resale price of their original artworks. This right aims to provide ongoing support to artists as the value of their works appreciates over time

Origin and Purpose:

Droit de Suite was first introduced in France in the late 1920s and has since been incorporated into various copyright and art laws in different countries. The primary purpose of this right is to address the disparity between the increasing value of an artwork and the limited financial benefit received by the artist from its initial sale.

How Does it Work?

When an artwork covered by *Droit de Suite* is resold on the secondary market (e.g., at an auction or through a gallery), a percentage of the sale price is set aside to be paid to the artist or their heirs. This percentage varies depending on the jurisdiction and the price of the artwork. The payment is usually capped at a certain amount, and the percentage may decrease as the price of the artwork increases.

Eligibility:

Droit de Suite typically applies to original works of art, including paintings, sculptures, drawings, photographs, and limited edition prints. It may not apply to reproductions or copies of the original artwork.

Beneficiaries:

The primary beneficiary of *Droit de Suite* is the artist who created the work. In the case of the artist's death, the right can be passed on to their heirs, typically for a certain number of years after the artist's death.

Global Variations:

Different countries have implemented *Droit de Suite* with varying rules and regulations. Some countries have set minimum price thresholds for the right to apply, while others have specific rules about who can claim the right and for how long after the artist's death.

Critiques and Support:

Supporters of *Droit de Suite* argue that it provides artists with a more equitable share of the financial benefits generated by their artworks' appreciation. Critics, on the other hand, raise concerns about potential administrative complexities and the impact on the art market.

Conclusion:

Droit de Suite reflects a commitment to recognising and valuing the ongoing contributions of artists to the art world. As the art market continues to evolve, this right remains a topic of discussion and adaptation in various legal frameworks worldwide.

View the Artists Resale Right value here: <https://artistscollectingsociety.org/arr-calculator/>