

Consumers' and creators' common ground

Tuesday 21 February, 10am-5:30pm, Free Word Centre, London EC1R 3GA



The Creators' Rights Alliance and Consumer Focus invite you to a seminar to explore what common ground consumers and creators of copyright works can find on exceptions to copyright, orphan works and copyright licensing – areas where the government proposes a string of changes. For example: should all who create works – whether in images, music or words, whether they are yet professional or not, have a right to fair reward, if they wish, when that work is exploited for profit? Should *all* have the right to be identified, or not, in the manner of their choosing; and to object to mutilations that harm their reputation?

The event will bring together consumers, users and creators under Chatham House rules for what we hope will be an informative and challenging day.

Lionel Bently, Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Cambridge, will provide attendees with an overview of the issues. **Richard Hooper**, appointed to investigate the feasibility of the proposal for a Digital Copyright Exchange, will give a keynote. The body of the day will consist of three panels and discussion among all participants, as follows:

Permission always required?

The UK government proposes to maximise the “exceptions” to copyright. **Private copying**: It is absurd that is currently illegal to make a copy of your stuff for your own personal use. But where are the boundaries? EU law says creators need to be fairly compensated... **News reporting, criticism, review & research**: Do everyday users who report, criticise, review and research on blogs, social media platforms and wikis understand these rules? **Transformative uses**: The government proposes permitting **parody**: but questions remain over the boundaries and the possibility of abuse.

• Panelists: Peter Bradwell, Open Rights Group; Joyce McMillan, journalist, Emily Goodhand, librarian.
Chair: Andrew Yeates

Locked-up creativity: where is the key?

Much has been made of the issue of “**orphan works**” – those which are still in copyright, but for which no copyright owner can be located. The government plans a licensing scheme to allow for the use of orphaned works after “**diligent search**”. Fear of abuse is rife among some creators. “Diligent search” for the creator or other owner is not defined; commercial use is seen as a “rights-grab”; and would “orphans” substitute for new work from known creators? The government proposals have little to say on how we may **prevent orphanage** in the digital future.

• Panelists: Gwen Thomas, Association of Photographers; Mike Collins, musician; Naomi Korn, consultant. Chair: Bernie Corbett

Does consumers' cash get to creators?

Where it is impossible for the consumer and the creator or their publisher to negotiate directly, copyright is frequently licensed, or re-use compensated, through **collecting societies**. But many publishers and broadcasters require creators to “**assign**” **all rights** in their works and insist on the author signing away their moral right to attribution and to defend the integrity of their work. Consumers and creators have already joined forces over social media platforms' Terms & Conditions.

• Panelists: Kostas Rossoglou, BEUC; Nick McGowan-Lowe, photographer; Richard Hooper.
Chair: The Hon Mr Justice Arnold

Consumer Focus and the Creators' Rights Alliance look forward to an open discussion that identifies areas in which organisations represented can work together in future.

• **Places are limited: please indicate your intention to attend, by 13 February. Please indicate any dietary or access requirements you have, to copyright-event@consumerfocus.org.uk. Help with travel costs may be available.**