

# Serving our members

Our members repeatedly tell us they are concerned about two main things: their copyright payments and advocacy for a fair copyright system.

In 2016-17, a report from the Australian Productivity Commission recommended a radical change to a US copyright doctrine known as "Fair Use".

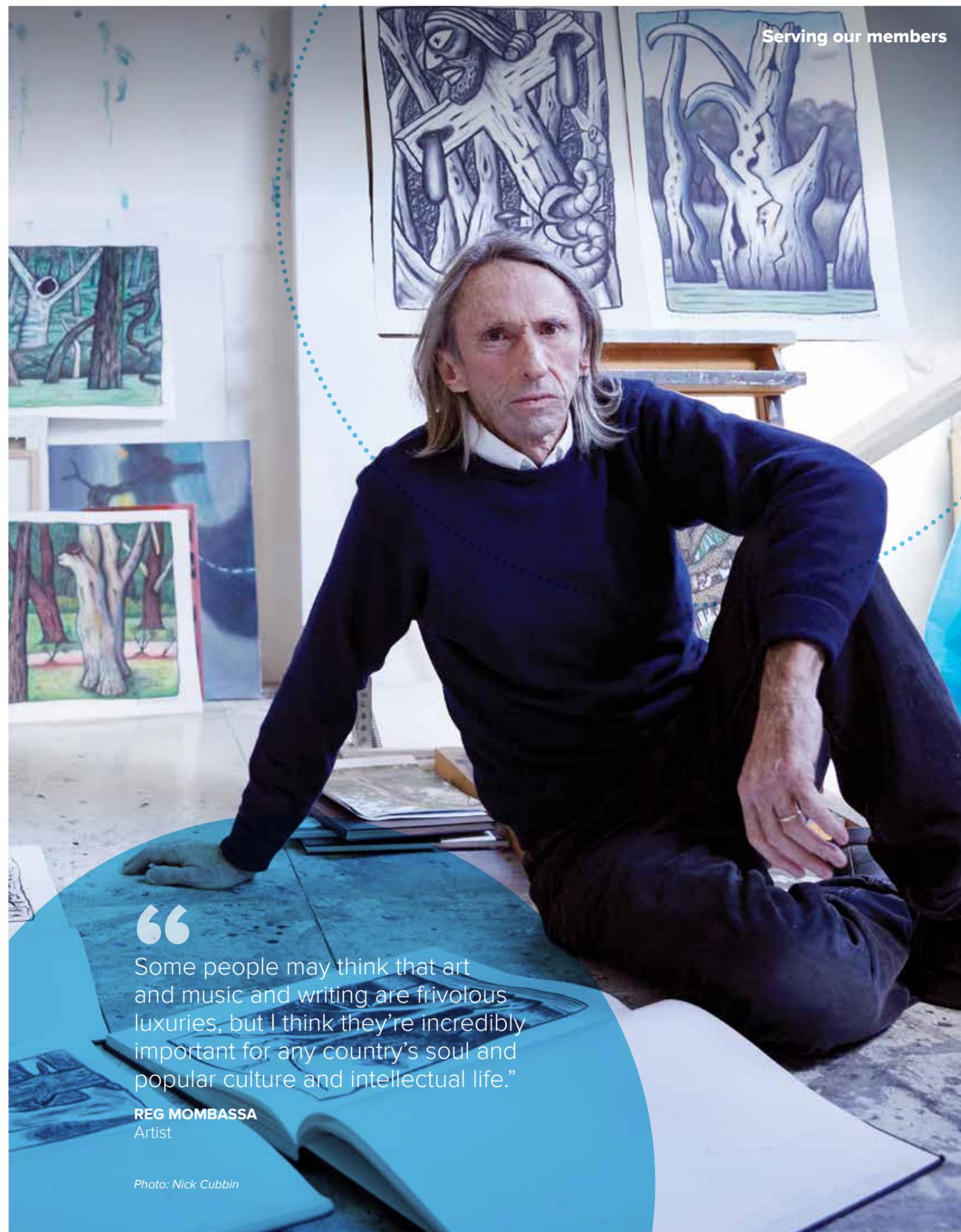
While we always support sensible changes to copyright, we, and our creative content partners, could not support such a change as it could seriously undermine Australian writers, journalists, film- and television-makers and artists, as well as all the great companies that invest in Australian creativity, (as a comparable approach did in Canada).

We mounted two successful campaigns: **Free Is Not Fair** and **This Book/Song Changed My Life**. The campaigns provided channels for members to express their views, both directly to politicians and indirectly, via social media, of the importance of a fair copyright framework to the creation of high-quality Australian content.

The Government responded in August 2017, saying it will consult with the stakeholders in the sector in early 2018 on a sensible framework of amendments to modernise Australian copyright. We will take part in this consultation and represent our members' interests.

[www.freeisnotfair.org](http://www.freeisnotfair.org)  
[www.changedmylife.com.au](http://www.changedmylife.com.au)

-  **Members send more than 60,000 emails** to every MP and Senator in Australia
-  **12 opinion editorials** published in major press outlets
-  **Tens of thousands** reached via social media
-  **30+ celebrities filmed** rejecting Fair Use and/or naming a book/song that changed their life
-  **Three Open Letters signed** representing more than 40 Indigenous creators, 51 playwrights and screenwriters, and 25 teacher associations from across the nation



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Some people may think that art and music and writing are frivolous luxuries, but I think they're incredibly important for any country's soul and popular culture and intellectual life.”

**REG MOMBASSA**  
Artist

*Photo: Nick Cubbin*