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Visual artist and Viscopy member Amanda Marburg. Photo: Olivia Tran.

Copyright Agency | Viscopy merger

After a successful five-year “Services Agreement” between Copyright Agency and Viscopy, the two organisations began the formal arrangements to merge.

Between them, they represent tens of thousands of members, ranging from visual artists and illustrators to journalists, cartoonists, surveyors, educational authors and publishers.

Viscopy Chair, Tim Denny, said the merger, expected to be finalised by the end of 2017, was a very positive move which would deliver further benefits to members and partners through reduced administration fees, more seamless operations and greater support for Australian creatives and culture. The Viscopy Board unanimously recommended that members vote in favour of the move at an EGM on 2 November 2017.

Under the new arrangements, Copyright Agency is creating a new class of membership, ‘visual artist’, for Viscopy’s approximately 13,000 Australian and New

Zealand visual arts members. Those members will be able to elect a new Visual Arts Director to the Copyright Agency Board.

The merger will take place by way of a Scheme of Arrangement which requires approval by the Supreme Court, the corporate regulator ASIC and the membership itself. If successful, Viscopy members will automatically become members of Copyright Agency.

Chair of the Copyright Agency, Kim Williams, said, “The rights to fair payment for the work of visual artists and all creators are under challenge as never before so it’s vitally important their voice is given due prominence in copyright policy discussions and, more importantly, in defence of copyright. We will ensure this advocacy continues energetically, and we will aim to deliver more revenue to Australian and New Zealand artists through consolidation of operations and reduced costs.”



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Trying to make an income from your practice can be tough at times, so it's nice if you can benefit from what you love to do.”

AMANDA MARBURG
Visual Artist

Photo: Olivia Tran