



## **Over 100 SODART members have accepted the invitation to join SODRAC**

Montreal, June 4, 2008 – Only two weeks after the invitation was extended to members of the Société de droits d'auteur en arts visuels (SODART) (Visual Arts Copyright Society), over 100 SODART members have agreed to entrust their rights to the Society for Reproduction Rights of Authors, Composers and Publishers in Canada (SODRAC) (). In so doing, these individuals will continue to benefit from professional copyright management services in Canada and abroad.

This overwhelmingly positive response from visual artists attests to the key role played by collective management societies. Indeed, the wide distribution of artistic works today has only been made possible by collective copyright management. For users, access to artistic works and payments of royalty fees are simplified, while creators are assured of receiving fair remuneration whenever their artistic works are disseminated. The efforts of a specialized copyright management organization will be essential in the future, particularly in a digital environment in which works are instantly distributed around the globe.

SODRAC has specialized in copyright clearance for musical works since 1985 and for visual art works since 1997. Leveraging its unique North American expertise in the area of collective management of reproduction rights, SODRAC makes its repertoire available to a broad-based clientele. It also seeks to promote the use of artistic works across all distribution platforms and to ensure that its member authors, composers, publishers and visual artists are fairly remunerated for their creative work. Including former SODART members who have joined SODRAC, SODRAC's repertoire includes works by Paul-Émile Borduas, Marc Chagall, Salvador Dali, Marc-Aurèle Fortin, Joan Miro, Pablo Picasso, Jean-Paul Riopelle and Andy Warhol.

Please note that although SODART discontinued its operations on May 20, 2008, both SODART and SODRAC are working closely to ensure that applications to use SODART members' artistic works are processed in a timely manner. Distributors may still contact SODART; the organization's staff will ensure follow-up with visual artists and with SODRAC during this transition period. Needless to say, distributors will be provided with regular updates regarding the names of SODART members who have joined SODRAC.

For further information, please contact:

SODRAC  
François Dell'Aniello  
Head, Visual Arts and Crafts Department  
(514) 845-3268, ext. 248  
[fdellaniello@sodrac.ca](mailto:fdellaniello@sodrac.ca)

SODART  
Gilles Lessard  
Executive Director  
(514) 906-0230  
[sodart@sodart.org](mailto:sodart@sodart.org)