

# FRENCH CREATION AND INTERNET LAW

## *RESOLUTION OF THE DGA NATIONAL BOARD*

**Whereas**, filmmaking remains our highest form of popular cultural expression and our work has the ability to transcend language and culture; and

So fundamental is the right to intellectual property and the protection of those who create it that it is the only “right” our Founding Fathers specifically enshrined in the United States Constitution; and

With the advent of the Internet, online piracy has made it possible to illegally download as well as upload an entire movie or television program with the click of a button; and

While the Internet with its ever increasing penetration and speed, brings great promise and potential, it also elevates the scale and scope of the battle we must fight, as geographic boundaries have fallen by the wayside and those who would illegally use content operate with impunity; and

Our members have a tremendous stake in this problem which puts their very livelihoods and creative work at risk now and into the future; and

We believe that the voices of future generations of filmmakers and creative artists may be stifled if piracy takes away their ability to earn a living; and

The struggle we face in the United States against those who believe that cultural works do not deserve to be protected and disrespect those who create it are the same struggles filmmakers face around the world; and

Filmmakers, music composers and other creative artists in France are in the forefront of this fight and are at this moment in the midst of a major fight for graduated response legislation that will make clear, through reasonable and non litigious means, that there are repercussions for using the Internet to illegally download; and

With urgent and united international action to address this problem we have the opportunity to influence a digital future that works for the benefit of both film artists and the consumer public; and

Like our colleagues in France we believe that one cannot truly revere and respect the idea of liberty without acknowledging that there is no greater liberty than the freedom to create.

**Therefore**, the National Board of the Directors Guild of America today expresses its solidarity with and support for our colleagues in France and their effort to pass the “Creation and Internet” law.

We are fully joined with you in this struggle to protect your artistic and economic interests, both now and into the future and pledge to work with you to this end.

*President*  
**Michael Apted**

*National Vice-President*  
**Steven Soderbergh**

*Secretary-Treasurer*  
**Gilbert Cates**



*National Executive Director*  
**Jay D. Roth**