



Artists. Protecting you and your artwork

A Code of Conduct will help you as an artist by making sure art dealers follow proper guidelines for doing art business with you.

How will this Code make it better for me?

If you do business with art dealers who have signed the Code then you can expect that,

- You will be treated with respect
- Your reputation will be protected and valued
- Your rights will be protected
- Your artwork will be protected and given recognition
- You will have fair and prompt payment
- You can make a complaint

How will the Code do this?

1. Creating artwork

Before you create artwork for an art dealer they **must** do the following things for you,

Reach agreement with you about how you will do business together that includes:

- if they are buying the artwork from you or selling it for you
- if you are allowed to create artwork for other dealers or not
- what artwork you will create and how long it will take
- how you will be paid and when you will receive payment
- how they will take care of your artwork and promote it
- the right to change your mind and what happens if you do
- how you can complain if you have a problem with the dealer.

Give you the agreement in writing

Give you a chance to understand the written agreement and you can ask for help

2. Selling your artwork

When you have given your artwork to the art dealer they **must** do the following things,

Make sure you are paid within a short time:

- For art dealers who buy your artwork they must pay you no later than 30 days
- For art dealers who sell your artwork, they must pay you within 30 days from the day of sale

Indigenous Australian Art Commercial Code of Conduct

3. Promoting and protecting your artwork

If the art dealer wants to sell your artwork, they **must** do the following for you

- Make sure that you and your artwork are given **proper recognition**
- Uphold your **artist's rights** by respecting Indigenous cultural practices
- Care for your artwork** so that it is not damaged, destroyed or stolen

4. Keeping you informed

The art dealer **must** let you know what is happening to your artwork and **keep you up-to-date**

- When it was sold and the price paid for your artwork

5. Doing the right thing by you

At all times in your business with an art dealer, they must **not** do the following things

- Take advantage of you by **putting you in a situation against your will**
- Use their position of power to **force you to do something you don't want to do**
- Put too much **pressure on you to make artworks**
- Manipulate** you or **stand over** you or **bully** you or be a **thug**
- Stop you having a say** about how you want to create your artwork
- Underpay you or **try and give you alcohol, drugs or cars in poor condition as payment** for your artwork
- Use documents you **can't understand**
- Hide information** about how they will do business with you
- Deny you a choice** of changing how they do business with you

6. Speaking up

If you have a problem the art dealer **must** do the following things

- Make it easy for you to complain** to them about any problems that may come up
- Treat your problem seriously** and listen to you
- Work with you** to fix the problem

If you are still unhappy about what the art dealer is doing then you can make a complaint to the **Code Administration Committee** who will **investigate**.

Ask an art dealer before you do business with them if they have signed up to the code. If they haven't ask them 'why not?'