Performing rights in Switzerland and abroad

As soon as your work has been registered, SSA collects your copyright remuneration (royalties) on your behalf. SSA’s sister societies represent you abroad and collects your royalties in the following countries:

South Africa: DALRO
Argentina: ARGENTORES
Belgium: SABAM
Brazil: ABRAMUS
Chile: ATN
Spain: SGAE
France: SACD
Italy and San Marino: SIAE
Latvia: AKKA-LAA
Luxembourg: SACD
Mexico: SOGEM
Monaco: SACD
Poland: ZAIKS
Portugal: SPA
Quebec: SACD, Canada
Czech Republic: DILIA
Russia: RAO
Ukraine: UACRR
Uruguay: AGADU
Venezuela: SACVEN

In other countries, particularly Germany and Austria, the Netherlands and Scandinavia, SSA has no official representation. We can, however, if you wish for us to do so, collect your royalties directly from the producers or the performance venues – on the condition that you have informed them on SSA getting involved and if they have agreed to this.

Under a regulation valid from October 1st 2019 on, SSA manages in all territories the publishing contracts on the translations of your stage works. SSA represents the authors vis-à-vis the publishers and the royalties are payed via SSA.

In the case of any payment disputes abroad, SSA does not carry out any enforced claims collection.

How do I proceed in the following situations?

- **A producer or a group is asking you for a direct authorisation to perform:**
  Please refer them to SSA (or the society which represents SSA in the respective country) so that the society can establish the performance contract and collect your royalties after the performances.

- **A producer commissions you with the creation of a stage work:**
  Please suggest to them that they should enter into a work for hire contract and do not,
under any circumstances, include the performing rights in such a contract (no buy-out). You can access a model contract for a work for hire contract on our website, www.ssa.ch. Please subsequently refer the producer to SSA in order to conclude a performance contract.

- You perform your works yourself (author/performer),
- You produce your own works (author/producers),
- Your own group performs your work:
  If you sell performances of your work to a producer or a performance venue, please enter a provision into the sales agreement that obliges the producer or the performance venue to pay the performing rights via SSA or its representative abroad. If you negotiate with an agent (tour agent), please assign the duty contractually that they have to add this provision to any sales agreements they enter into on your behalf for your work.

- A publisher would like to acquire the publishing and performing rights on your stage work, in the original language or in a translation:
  Please contact our Legal Department and submit them the draft contract the publisher may have proposed you (sj@ssa.ch).

Here is a model provision that obliges producers or the performance venue to pay the performing rights via SSA or its representative abroad:

French:

« Les droits de représentation de …… (nom de l'auteur / des auteurs) sont à la charge de …… (nom du producteur / lieu d'accueil). La Société Suisse des Auteurs (SSA)* (rue Centrale 12/14, 1003 Lausanne, Suisse, www.ssa.ch) les perçoit en son nom / leurs noms. …… (nom du producteur / lieu d'accueil) s'engage à s'informer des conditions particulières de perception auprès de la SSA* au plus tard 15 jours avant les représentations.»

English:

"Performing rights of …… (name of author(s)) shall be the charged to …… (name of producer / performance venue). The Société Suisse des Auteurs (SSA)* (rue Centrale 12/14, 1003 Lausanne, Switzerland, www.ssa.ch) collects them in his / their name. …… (name of producer / performance venue) agrees to make enquiries with SSA* about specific conditions regarding the collection of performing rights no less than 15 days prior to the performances."

German:

„Die Abgeltung der Aufführungsrechte von …… (Name des Urhebers / der Urheber) geht zu Lasten …… (Name des Produzenten / Veranstalters). Die Société Suisse des Auteurs (SSA)* (Rue Centrale 12/14, 1003 Lausanne, Schweiz, www.ssa.ch) nimmt sie in ihrem / deren Namen wahr. …… (Name des Produzenten / Veranstalters) verpflichtet sich, sich spätestens 15 Tage vor den Vorstellungen bei der SSA* über die spezifischen Wahrnehmungsbedingungen zu informieren.“
Italian:


Spanish:

"Los derechos de representación de …… (apellido del autor / de los autores) están a cargo del …… (apellido/nombre del productor / lugar que acoge la representación). La Société Suisse des Auteurs (SSA)* (rue Centrale 12/14, 1003 Lausanne, Suiza, www.ssa.ch) los recaba en su nombre/sus nombres. …… (apellido/nombre del productor / lugar que acoge la representación) se compromete a informar de las condiciones particulares de la percepción con la SSA* a más tardar 15 días antes de las representaciones."

Portuguese:

"Os direitos de representação de …… (apelido do autor / dos autores) serão pagos pelo/pela …… (apelido/nome do produtor ou casa de espetáculos em que se realizar a representação). À Société Suisse des Auteurs (SSA)* (rue Centrale 12/14, 1003 Lausanne, Suíça, www.ssa.ch) receberá em nome dele / deles. …… (apelido/nome do produtor ou casa de espetáculos em que se realizar a representação) compromete-se a informar-se junto da SSA* das condições de cobrança aplicáveis, pelo menos 15 dias antes das representações."

* Please replace “SSA” by the society in the respective country (see list above)

Please inform SSA subsequently by providing the following details (at least 15 days prior to the performance, in the case of performances abroad as soon as possible):

- Work title,
- performance date and venue,
- address of the producer or the performance venue,
- purchase price paid to the company for the performance(s).

SSA or its representative abroad can then inform the producer or the performance venue on the financial conditions on the collection of your royalties.

If you are not the sole author on the work in question, please remember to obtain the performance authorisation from your co-authors and to provide the option for SSA to act on their behalves (if they are members of a collective management organisation).

A model contract for the *première of a stage work* is available on our website, www.ssa.ch, if you wish to enhance the première of your work.