Kelly Barone
3495 Delaware Avenue
Kenmore, NY 14223
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US Copyright office
Orphan Works

Dear US Copyright office;

I just received information regarding “Orphan Works” and I felt that it was necessary to reach out and share with you why these changes are not acceptable to any artist.
As an artist for over 20 years and now as a teacher of various mediums I earn my living by selling my artwork and also sharing my knowledge with those who pay to receive my instruction.

Copyright is the basis on which my business rests. Making changes will negatively impact the value of everything I create. Allowing someone else to infringe on my copyright would be the same as me walking into a law office, taking legal paperwork off an attorney’s desk and destroying or selling it.

Once published, artwork does not lose value but gains value.

It is for me to decide who may use my work and in what manner. I would not want my distinct artwork on merchandise that I have objections to any more than you would want your name associated with a cause you are against.
My artwork, my portfolio is my inventory. In this digital era, what I create, my personal inventory and portfolio have a stronger value than ever before.
Why would I support anything that is the equivalent of giving someone the efforts of my daily work for no compensation? I cannot work for free, and I am sure that you do not, and this is, in fact, what this change would ask me to do.

Sincerely,

Kelly Barone