July 20, 2015

U.S. Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the possible upcoming changes to copyright laws regarding the Arts. I have been an art/hobbyist for over 15 years. Retaining ownership and copyrights to my work is critical to my growth and success as an artist.

It is important to me as a self an artist to retain control of all works created by me and to determine how it is used and by whom. As an artist I would not welcome anyone or any company monetizing or using my works without my consent or knowledge. Copyright law is the basis on which an artist business rests. Our copyrights are the very products that we license. And without that protection it places our livelihood in jeopardy.

Lobbyists and corporation lawyers have "testified" that once our work has been published it has virtually no further commercial value and should therefore be available for use by the public. This is completely untrue as many famous artist's works are still used in commercials by large companies. Example: http://www.designer-daily.com/advertising-inspired-by-famous-painters-19619

The changes proposed by Orphan Works lobbyists would put an end to retaining rights to my works and impose costly fees. Their proposal is morally and ethically corrupt and infringes on the rights of all artists and should therefore be considered illegal and unconstitutional.

All artists should automatically retain their right to their own works as currently provided by the law.

Sincerely
Joel Ghany
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