July 19th 2015

To: Catherine Roland
Senior Advisor to the Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office

I just recently learned about the new orphan works copyright law, and I must stress, myself and many other artists young and old will be heavily effected by these changes. Things have changed greatly with the assistance of the internet. Artists now have more access to material now. With this new access, young and new artists have been born with the freedom to create and do what they like with no worries of a registration fee or anyone taking away their creation from under their noses. That goes for older artists as well. Our work is ours.

The internet though is a double edge sword. Even with the protection of copyright, we cannot always stop thieves and mimics and corporations from taking our art and using them for their own purpose, whether its fame or money.

Its the current digital millennium copyright act that helps us combat those who think they can take our work for their personal use without the artists permission or paying them.

That's important to us. That we are in charge of our work. That we have a say and that we use our artwork the way we want whether its letting it sit, monetizing it, selling it to a business, or leaving it out there for many to admire.

Our work is ours. Regardless of professionalism or not, our work is **our** business inventory. Instead of finding loopholes and ways to avoid paying artists who have worked 10+ years of their lives to hone this craft, protect them!

We have already stopped this back in 2008, with a dramatic cry from artists back then. Why are we bringing this up again?!

Sincerely,
Jennifer Rodriguez
Drawing since 13 years old
Professional artist/craftsman