KINUKO Y. CRAFT

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

July 21, 2015

Re: Proposed changes to copyright law

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am unalterably opposed to the proposed changes in Copyright Law regarding so-called "Orphan Works" which I learned about only a few days ago.

I have been a professional working artist/illustrator for almost 50 years. During this time I have created thousands of pieces of published art, including nine widely published picture books for major U.S. publishers, art for the covers of major US News Magazines and the Covers of many famous authors' books. It is literally splattered all over the internet. My work has already been stolen and illegally published even under current copyright law.

My work has been widely licensed in the USA, Europe, Taiwan and other countries on greeting cards, calendars, puzzles, wrapping paper, etc. From these efforts, I have gained considerable additional income from the re-use of the art involved.

My work has also repeatedly won graphic arts awards, which easily number over one hundred, if not more. I am a multiple gold medal winning artist at the New York City Society of Illustrators and a member of their Hall of Fame. My art has been widely exhibited and can be found in the collection of The National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian and it has been featured in nearly a dozen published articles.

Under the proposed changes, as I understand them, others could incorporate my life's work into theirs and copyright it their name. I would completely lose control of my own artworks and the income that is derived from them, effectively forcing me to compete with my own art--used by thieves—legally!

The fact that in our modern age of instant communication, copyright has become an inconvenient impediment to mass communication and information storage is all the MORE REASON to keep the current law in place and strengthen it, not a reason to abandon it. Please continue to protect the rights of all Artists to control the copyrights to their own work!

Very Sincerely,

Kinuko Y. Craft,
Artist, Illustrator, Business Woman
http://www.kycraft.com

83 Litchfield Road, Norfolk, CT 06058. Tel: 860-542-5018, Fax: 860-542-6029.
Email: Kinuko@kycraft.com

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