2015 Orphan Works and Mass Digitization

This is a misnomer. This proposed legislation is more like “kidnapped” than “orphaned.” The use of my work belongs to me until/unless I sell or otherwise grant permission to someone else to make use of it.

I have been a working artist since 1953. In that length of time, one routinely goes back and forth from illustration to fine art. Many commercial works are “done for hire”, the client contracts with me for the project. Depending on the terms of our contract; they may be buying the work itself only; derivatives from the work only; original work and some or all rights to derivatives.

A routine contract for card and stationery images leaves me in possession of the original and every reproduction right except for cards and stationery as specified. I have work done in 1984 with one client that is still in print and still producing for me and that client. The arrangement continues even with the company itself being sold.

This revised copyright legislation offers me absolutely nothing except the privilege of allowing someone to confiscate an important source of revenue for me.

I am writing to oppose this legislation.

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