July 2015

The Copyright Office
Washington D C

To whom it may concern,

As a working, professional artist, I would urge the copyright office to not make any changes in the current copyright law. I have been a professional for over 25 years and make a relatively comfortable living as such. Part of that income is derived from connections with galleries and other venues to which I deliver work. Part of that income is derived from having an on line presence in the form of a web site, updated with images of new works that are available for purchase throughout the year, a Facebook presence with a 'business page' on which I post images of newly completed works which are available for purchase, and a blog page on which I do similar postings.

With the broadening reach of any of the Social Media platforms available to artists such as myself and posting images of work constantly, should I lose the ability to retain the copyright to any of those images, that will have a substantial effect upon my income level. As more and more direct sales of works of original art are taking place on these Social Media platforms, if an artist has to fear losing control over where those images may be seen or for what purpose those images may be used by others, should the copyright law be significantly altered as it stands now, artists will have to think twice before making any sort of posting of their work on such public platforms where that image could be taken and used by some large business for purposes unknown. It would have a chilling effect on creative people fearing this possibility and probably act to hinder making use of what has become a major source of income for a majority of artists in the 21st Century.

I urge you to reject any alterations to the existing law that would infringe on the right of the creator of a work of original art to continue to solely own and protect their copyright privilege.

Sincerely, Terry Miller