Shaari Neretin
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July 18, 2015

Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office
101 Independence Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (80fr23054)

Dear Ms. Pallante,

I am a visual artist living in Boston, MA. I am writing to urge Congress to maintain and update copyright laws that will protect and sustain visual artists and writers in the U.S.

We are often independent contractors with small businesses. Or we are just people doing our work and selling it. I fall into the later category. As such, when I create a piece - a painting or a drawing or a multi-media piece, I am the owner of my work. As it should be. When I decide to sell a piece and/or I sign an agreement that provides me with financial remuneration and/or appropriate AGREED upon credit for my work, it is I who makes that decision. As it should be. With the new laws that are being discussed, I and my fellow artists will no longer have the rights to our OWN WORK. How can this be? How can artists and writers continue to create when they know that their work can be appropriated and used not only without their knowledge, but without payment and with no choice as to WHO is using our work?

The changes being suggested to the Copyright laws seem to be indicative of greed and disrespectful to the individual artists and writers in this country.

Please do not err on the side of those who just want more for nothing. Instead please protect artists and writers - those of us who often work for little and yet continue to create more.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaari Neretin

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