Vincent Morin Jr.

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Dear Copyrights Office, 7/23/15

To whom my words may concern. My name is Vincent Morin Jr., I am a 62 year old visual artist. I have been working in the visual arts industries all of my life, both in commercial arts (the theater: scenery and props, special events: design and fabrication, visual merchandising, graphic design, video, etc.). And I have always participated in the Fine Arts as well, in gallery exhibitions and competitions. My education has predominately been in this field. This matter was brought to my attention within the last few days by a fellow artist. It is with great concern that I am responding to this issue" The Orphan Works Acts". After reviewing this proposed change and realizing the potential threat of the unfair practice that is being forced on us as honest working citizens that happen to choose to make our living by means of our god given gifts and talent. It would be a serious violation of trust to allow anyone to use our creations to monopolize without our knowledge and consent for their own gain. I do admit that I do not totally understand everything that these proposed changes will mean in long run. So far what I am concerned about is that right decisions be made in the best interest of our rich creative community. I realize that most of the commercial projects are pretty much open to the public and outright a product of they who have commissioned said artwork. But when it comes to my very personal fine art pieces, I do make agreements with the buyer to retain the copyrights to my pieces. Also we'll make agreements for the piece to be available for loan if an exhibition that may call for this particular work. These transactions are always done in good faith agreements. I also understand that some of my work is out in the world without being registered. When participating in an exhibition, some of my work have been used in print to promote the upcoming event. Here again waivers and contracts are made available for our consent. Sometimes we don't think about registering all works because of busy schedules and the struggle to continue to produce more works. It does take money out of our pockets to even do this. As far as a piece losing value once it's published, that's not true because it is part of our business inventory and personal livelihood. So please consider what is at stake and with real hope the right decision will prevail.

Sincere Thanks, Vincent Morin Jr.

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