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Library of Congress

U.S. Copyright Office

Docket #2015-01

Dear Madam or Sir;

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the problems visual arts face in the marketplace. I'm a professional artist and have been one for 10 years now. As a result, I believe I have a valuable real-life perspective on how copyright law actually works in the business world, as opposed to how some legal scholars seem to think it works or how corporate lawyers and lobbyists would like it to work for the benefit of their clients.

I'm writing to stress that for me, and for artists like me, copyright law is not an abstract legal issue. Our copyrights are our assets. Licensing them is how we make our livings. I work in animation where a creator's ideas creates jobs for all. I help make those ideas a reality. So much of my work is shipped overseas for cheaper returns, and animation as a career is already a struggle, even though an immensly rewarding one. If animation show creators no longer had ownership over their ideas, characters and materials, it would destry so many livlihoods for so many working artists in the animation industry. Not to mention the many hard working artists I know working on their own projects that arts bought by a studio, who work on their own stories, comics and art work in their free time.

Freelance, independent artists are finding it challenging enough these days to earn a decent living without suffering further erosion of their earnings and potential earnings as imagined in these outrageous, morally and ethically corrupt proposals by those who have consistently devalued creative and intellectual property, culture, art and the artists who create it. This proposed law to replace existing copyright law should be dismissed as the dishonest, and unconstitutional, affront that it is.

Thank you for your time,

~Sarah Gencarelli