July 23, 2015

Register of Copyrights

U.S. Copyright Office

101Independence Ave. S.E.

Washington, DC 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress

Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

This is in response to the Orphan Works Act. The approval of this would be detrimental to all creators especially those not affiliated with major corporations. This would make it even more difficult for artists to make a living, maybe even impossible with the passing of this act. Many artists create multiple projects at once, to have to register each and every sketch, photograph, piece of writing, doodle, painting, drawing, etc would be a drawback to our nation's current system of copyright. It doesn't not seem like a necessary thing to do to have to register a work one might have just sketched out in order to prevent it from being cataloged into a database somewhere on the internet. Companies would be able to stock artist images for their own use as they see fit without a way for artists to fight back legally. "Orphan Works" is too open ended and can be twisted to fit a companies' agenda to make money on an artist's work without their consent. This would undoubtly result in job loss and loss of profit for a great number of artists. Even a simple photograph posted online of one's family would be free for use to all on the internet for profit. As a freelance artist I can tell you how this would greatly affect my career as well as my colleagues. Our projects and talents should not be exploited to serve special parties and agendas, I ask that you please reconsider the passing of this act. Thank you for your time.

Victoria Lau
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