

COMMENT:

Please allow orphaned works to enter the public domain for artists to use to generate further cultural value. In order to protect the rights of those who have created the work, a minimum time requirement could be established before the works can even be considered orphaned, and artists must make "sincere effort" to find the true owner of the work. Should the owner appear after the creative piece has been created and distributed, perhaps retroactive royalties as a percentage of net profits could be stipulated (within reason).

This is an important issue and I hope the Copyright Office will take the correct action in helping to ensure that cultural works remain just that: works that belong to the culture.

Simit Patel
Concept Architect