Hello!

I'm sending this letter because of my concern over the changes that are possible to coyrights.

I'm a new artist. I'm not a real professional yet but I have started making money off of my work. The changes I've read about and bringing the copyrights back to Orphaned works worries me greatly. I chose this profession because it is what I'm passionate about. In this critical time of networking and building a name for myself I do have to push through a sea of artists and make myself known. This includes showing off what I'm capable of without payment. If these are Orphaned works than it can potentially ruin my ability to showcase what I'm capable of without fear of others taking advatnage of my works and using them as their own. For this reason I want you to know that copyright law is not an abstract legal issue but it does severely help me establish my basis of a business. Not only in the free works I mentioned but also in the future everything I create will be at an even greater risk.

It is so important to an artist to have these basic copyrights on our works in order to determine how and by whom our works are used. Again as I have stated above having works to showcase, even if they are not paid works, are extremely important to an artist as they are our means of creating a foundation. Also it is good to mention that lobbyists and lawyers have testified that once an artists work is published then it has almost no commercial value and should be available to the public domain. That simply is not true. This ties into my point above even more. These works can become part of our inventory so to speak. An inventory that we can show what we are capable of doing. Being able to have these works to show off though also comes from the beginning stages of becoming an artist. If I cannot advertise myself without my works suddenly being copyrighted by another person than I become extremely less likely to pursue my career.

Regards,

Darren Miranda