July 7, 2015
To: The U.S.Copyright Office
From: Ina Saltz

As an artist, photographer, professor and designer, I am writing to express my distress about the proposed new copyright law.

A bit about my background: Over the past forty years, I have created many artworks (calligraphy, photography) which have been published in my four books (Typography Referenced, Typography Essentials, Body Type I & II) and approximately fifty magazine articles; in addition, online photo essays of my work have been published at MotherJones.com, the American Institute of Graphic Arts, etc . For 22 years I was an art director at prestigious publications such as Time magazine and BusinessWeek magazine, collaborating with some of the finest artists and photographers in our industry. I am now a full professor of art at the City College of New York, educating future artists. I hold a BFA degree from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art. I have served on several professional industry boards and taught at Stanford University's Professional Publishing Course for fifteen years.

I am concerned about the rights of my students who are entering the field, the rights of the many artists with whom I have worked over the years, as well as my own rights as an artist.

Copyright protection is the bedrock and safeguard of all intellectual property. Changing this law, as you propose, would strip artists of many rights and sharply diminish our ability to support ourselves through our artwork.

It is difficult enough under the current copyright law to support oneself and a family as an artist. Infringing further on the rights of artists will depress and discourage the entire creative community, a vital component of our nation's economy. It is taking income away that is rightfully ours.

There is a common misunderstanding that once a piece of artwork has been published or used, it loses its value...this is not the case at all. Photographs, illustrations, graphics, calligraphy and all other artworks are our inventory. It is our right to resell them as we see fit. In fact, the reselling of our works, granting limited rights as we see fit, is often a major component of an artist's income. My photographs and calligraphy have been republished nationally and internationally, over and over again. An artist's work can retain its value even beyond the artist's lifetime.

In the digital area, we can market our work more easily to a much wider audience. Our ownership rights (and the income derived from it) are even more important. Now we need to protect those rights even more forcefully, because the very same technology makes it all too easy to steal our work and use it without

permission or payment. Even though that is illegal, the proposed mass digitization of artwork in the new act would facilitate unauthorized use.

Artists have reputations to protect, too. For example, I only want my work to be published by reputable and respected sources. The context in which my work appears is of vital importance to my reputation as an artist. That is part of what gives my work value. I should have the right to determine when, where and how my work appears. The new law seeks to diminish those rights, potentially ceding control of my work to corporate interests who seek to profit unfairly from my work.

We need and deserve the right to negotiate our own terms when we license our artwork. I oppose extended collective licensing, which would take away our freedom to trade freely and voluntarily.

As for the proposed proposal regarding orphaned works, I would like to point out that works seized by the Nazis are still being found and extraordinary efforts are being made to return them to their rightful owners, seventy years after the fact. I oppose this proposed provision; artworks should not be "made" orphans simply because their ownership cannot be easily determined.

If you pass this law, it will unfairly punish artists as a class. We deserve to enjoy the fruits of our labors and to have the protection of our government through fair copyright law.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I sincerely hope you will respect the rights of artists and reject this act. I am copying my Congressman, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, on this message.

Sincerely,

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CC: Rep. Jerrold Nadler