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U.S.Copyright
Orphan Works

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

I am an Artist, Illustrator, and Graphic Designer for over 25 years. I studied at Parsons School of Design many years ago, but I am predominately a self-taught artist. I have worked long, and very hard, over the years to hone my craft and find my place in the art world, and I continue to do so every day.

Copyright is the basis by which I do business. Copyrights to my artwork, or any other tangible expressions, are very VALUABLE to me as an artist. These rights enable me to determine how and where my work is used; which companies to work with, and what products I may want my designs to be on. Infringing on my rights as an artist and creator of any of my work is nothing short of STEALING from me, and my family.

I license my copyrights for product creation, as well as derivative works in my graphic design business and the sale of my original art work. Copyrights allow me to certify that it is my work, and prevent anyone from stealing it, putting it on inappropriate products, or print, and destroying my reputation.

In the digital era, inventory is more valuable to artists than ever before. Everything I create becomes a part of my business inventory. There are works that take me hours, weeks, or sometimes, months to complete, while it only takes a thief a second to steal and profit from my hard earned efforts.

Large corporations built their companies by branding themselves through logo design, packaging and product. They would never stand to be devalued by having their rights removed.

I would never condone someone profiting from my work without my knowledge or expressed written consent. I don't know of anyone that would. Do you?

Sincerely,
Dina Gerner

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