July 23, 2015

Catherine Rowland, Senior Advisor to the Register of Copyrights

I am writing because I have become aware that a new copyright act may be put into place. This, known as the “Orphan Works” will deny artists who have created an image a right to their solely own their own work if/ when someone else in the general public can decide to appropriate that image and use it for commercial purposes.

There are many thousands of visual artists, painters, photographers and illustrators, who live in Northern Virgina who will be adversely affected by this proposal. I am one of them, and spend countless hours creating each original artwork (paintings, drawings, woodcut prints, etchings). As a professional artist who exhibits in the region and on my website, I rely on the originality of my concepts and quality of execution to make it my own expression. It would be grossly unfair for others to appropriate my work for their profit.

Please bring this to the attention of the Copyright Office, Attention Catherine Rowland, Senior Advisor to the Register of Copyrights, as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
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