July 23, 2015

Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Liz Helberg. I represent an artist by the name of Elizabeth Stacke. Both Ms. Stacke and myself are new to art licensing. We have been busy building our business over the last few years. To include building a website (elizabethstacke.com) and copyrighting all of Elizabeth Stacke's work. When I heard that the "Orphan Bill" was back in play again I had to write your office.

Visual artists in today's digital environment face many challenges. Now we have to worry about any joe off the street taking our life's work and being protected under this new Orphan Bill without ANY legal recourse when infringement happens. This is the life work of Elizabeth Stacke – why should anyone else other than Elizabeth Stacke and myself prophet from the work Elizabeth Stacke creates? If the existing copyright laws change internet companies would hurt our ability to make any kind of living. As of now there are issues with companies "stealing" work. The proposed change in the law would cement it with absolute no recourse for the artist to sue for any damages. Why would the government be in favor of corporations or any individual to do just that – steal from the artist who created the work? Would you at the copyright office work for free? Out of the goodness of your hearts? If not, why should we? If this very BAD bill gets passed the cost to be in business will go through the roof, the cost of registering each and every image will be cost prohibitive and in my opinion many artists will simply refuse to enter the field and your office will have even less artists paying to register their works.

Both Elizabeth Stacke and myself ask you to exclude visual art from any and all orphan works provisions.

Sincerely,

Liz Helberg
Elizabeth Stacke