

TO: Julie L. Sigall, Associate Registrar for Policy and International Affairs

I am writing as the project manager of a multi-year effort to publish as many artworks from our permanent collection as possible in an online database. A non-profit art museum, we hold about 100,000 artworks, with many subject to U.S. copyright. In connection with this digital project, my staff have tried to contact hundreds of artists in the last three years for rights approval. Unfortunately we are unable to locate at least 1/3 of the artists or copyright holders. It has taken hundreds of hours of staff time to research the where-abouts of artists or their estates, often to no avail. I greatly support legislation permitting the reproduction of "orphaned" works. Thank you.

Renee Montgomery

Assistant Director, Collections Management and Information