

Comments regarding Orphan Works Art and Copyright- 2/18/13

My name is Andrea Mistretta. Since 1979 my original copyright protected art and creations have helped make millions of dollars for many larger companies in the chain of commerce in the U.S. and abroad.

My works like many others, are an integral to the success in the chain of commerce that include manufacturers, importers, shippers, buyers, packagers and retailers who rely on unique proprietary styles.

I am one of thousands of hard working artist/designers/small business owners who influence the artistic styling in many categories of manufactured goods. We will be negatively impacted if the ability to enforce our copyrights is diminished from its present state which was established by the 1976 U.S. Copyright Act. and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, to which the United States is a vital signatory.

A weakened U.S. copyright law will result in increasing misappropriation of creators' proprietary rights and even further loss of income. The moral and economic consequences to our society must be weighed carefully before any changes to copyright.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral_rights_\(copyright_law\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral_rights_(copyright_law))

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I have also restored historic art, which were true "Orphans." Clear language is needed to define the **appropriate rights for true orphaned art and distinguish "works of art" from "working art"**. **"Working art" are licensable, copyright-owned art that earns income for its creators and their heirs deeming it as a distinctive separate category by definition in clear simple legislative language.**

The law of nature proves that when small vital systems at the foundation are killed, it eventually kills the larger systems they support are eventually killed also. So too will perish the small businesses whose livelihoods are in the visual, musical and literary arts fields. If their copyrights go unprotected in the economy system, it will eventually take its toll on larger entities in the chain of commerce.

Protection of the integrity of original art created by the nation's image makers is a matter of protecting morality and honor as well as the protecting goods of artistic imagery. It not only takes skill to create imagery, but unique innate talents to make the original goods of imagery. Imagery that sells more goods. Goods sold are commodities in the Eco System "ECONOMY SYSTEM" as I mentioned in my presentation at the Small Business Administration's economic impact forum on proposed Orphan Works legislation in August 2008 in New York City.)

<http://ipaorphanworks.blogspot.com/2008/08/80808-sba-hearing-on-orphan-works.html>

Fighting art theft from predatory entities exhausts and kills small businesses. When society doesn't protecting its treasures from extinction.

The copyright law should be strengthened because digital imagery can be stolen from thin air so much more easily than physical property.

Thank you,

Andrea Mistretta

<http://www.andreamistretta.com>