July 17, 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 (80fr23054)

Dear Ms. Pallante,

I am writing to you as an award winning professional illustrator who has worked steadily over the past 40 plus years as a creative artist. I am asking that copyright laws are written and enforced to protect the artwork of the individual artist in order to create a vital and safe haven to produce work that is solely in the control of the creator. Forever.

It seems apparent, to me, that corporations, stock art and photography houses and other numerous entities have been and continue to use our artwork in disregard to the creator and sole owner of the art.

This new law appears to be designed by the attorneys and lobbyists under the roof of internet firms

1. What are the most significant challenges related to monetizing and/or licensing photographs, graphic artworks, and/or illustrations?

It's a major concern of the creeping demands from publishers to sign away the digital rights and ownership of a creator's work. Uploading work on the internet is dicey enough, add to that the ease of removing watermarks and signatures, and the stage is set for theft of art.

1. What are the most significant enforcement challenges for photographers, graphic artists, and/or illustrators?

I propose that all work-for-hire is eliminated and made illegal. Work-for-hire provides a legal threshold for corporations to exploit and steal potential income for artists. The only exception would be if an artist is working as a full-time employee. Penalties for theft of art, whether "orphaned" works, irregardless of any degree of effort to find

1. What are the most significant registration challenges for photographers, graphic artists, and/or illustrators?

Registration of my art would take thousands of man hours and an enormous amount of money. It would be impossible. To me, I would favor strict laws against any form of artistic thievery by enforcing and making penalties large enough to persuade anyone from for using art, and or distorting that art without permission.

1. What are the most significant challenges or frustrations for those who wish to make legal use of photographs, graphic art works, and/or illustrations?

I have only used other works as inspiration for my own. However, if I did use any body else's artwork, graphic, or photograph I would contact that artist and/or the artist's estate for permission first.

1. What other issues or challenges should the Office be aware of regarding photographs, graphic artworks, and/or illustrations under the Copyright Act?

I would like to see Jerrold Nadler's ART Act of 2015 enacted for the reciprocal resale of original art.

It is my hope that the Copyright Office will put the safety, trust and profit for artists first, so we can keep creating, keep producing, and keep thinking creatively through each of our unique minds with the security that the Copyright Office has our backs. If these new laws became reality: the creative output from the individual human mind would become severely less and the contribution of artists to the intellectual growth of our culture will be extinguished.

Thank you for this Notice of Inquiry.

Sincerely,
Larry Day