July 22, 2015

US Copyright Office:

I am very concerned about and have many objections to the far-reaching ramifications on visual artists of the new US Copyright Act that Congress is considering. This new Copyright Act would be financially devastating to me as I would loose my Constitutional right to the exclusive control of my work. The public would be allowed to use my work by altering it and even copyright these derivative works in their own name! My business would be basically destroyed by this law which would allow people to change my work, use it for their own financial gain, and not pay me anything. Allowing others to usurp my work would be like allowing someone to steal my money that I have dutifully earned!

I am a practicing visual artist who has been selling my original paintings in watercolor and mixed media as well as my original collages, drawings, and assemblages since 1979. The sale of my artwork has been a primary source of my income for many years.

My background includes a BA in ART from the University of California, Davis; graduate work to attain teaching credentials from UC Davis; part-time art professor at a community college for almost 36 years; Signature membership in Watercolor West, a prestigious international watercolor society; artwork selected into international exhibitions; exhibitions in numerous galleries and museums.

This new US Copyright Act that is being considered is very unfair to visual artists and will create great harm for all the visual arts. All artists must be able to have control over their own works. Controls must remain in place to protect us, not changed to give our work away for free!

Please consider my concerns and do not change the copyright laws that are already in place.

Thank you in advance for your understanding of the issues.

Christine Sullivan
3535 E. Coast Hwy., #326
Corona del Mar, CA 92625
chrissullivanart@gmail.com