ORPHAN WORKS 2015

My name is Andrea Mistretta and I have operated my own small business as an art licensor, graphic designer and illustrator since 1979.

Please preserve copyright law so that I and thousands of others can continue to create a livlihood. As small businesses, we individuals with specialized skills and unique innate talents make original imagery which is produced on goods sold in the stationery, fashion, home décor, and many other industries. As original creators we support larger companies in the chain of commerce in the US and abroad.

Protecting the rights to our unique intellectual properties and products is an integral element in the success of manufacturers, importers, shippers, buyers, packagers, retailers who rely on unique proprietary art styles produced for marketable products by unique individuals like me. http://andreamistretta.com http://www.mardigrasgraphics.com

We will be negatively impacted if the ability to enforce our copyrights is diminished from its present state established by the 1976 U.S. Copyright Act and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works, to which the U.S. is a vital signatory.

I testified to the important "Eco-system" or "ECONOMY SYSTEM" in my presentation at the Small Business Administration's economic impact forum on proposed Orphan Works legislation in August 2008 in New York City.) - When small vital systems at the foundation aren't protected, it eventually kills the larger systems they support in the chain of commerce in the economy system.

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

The copyright law should be strengthened because digital imagery can misappropriated more easily than physical property. Weakening U.S. copyright law will result in increasing misappropriation of creators' proprietary rights and 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_%28copyright_law%29>

I recommend the following experts be contacted to advise with any new copyright law language. They have the depth of knowledge and many years practical experience with copyright on both domestic and international levels.

Brad Holland, Illustrators' Partnership of America, Phone: 212.226.3675
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Thank you Andrea Mistretta
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