Catherine LaPointe
8242 US Hwy 11
Potsdam, NY 13676
Cell: 315-420-7855
www.catherinelapointe.com
LaPointeArt@gmail.com

07/23/15

Ms. Rowland,

I am writing to you today to protest the renewal of orphan works legislation. In an age of lightning-fast communication and sharing, it can be difficult enough to keep track of your intellectual property, especially when that property is intended to be seen and enjoyed by the public. However, it is not intended to be distributed freely and without any consideration for the time and expense that went into creating it.

A large part of the commercial art business is not in selling original, physical works, but in selling licensing and reproduction rights to be distributed by lawful parties. A blatant disregard for the difficulties of this business will only drive it to extinction.

I personally have already experienced these difficulties first hand. All it takes is one careless individual to distribute intellectual property without the proper credits or permissions, and the genie is out of the bottle. If anything, the US Copyright Office should be doing everything it can to protect creators and small businesses, rather than undermining them.

I do hope that my concerns, and the concerns of many like me, will be taken into consideration in the coming days.

Thank you,
Catherine LaPointe