I have been an active visual artist for 25 years so far since graduating from Auburn University Visual Arts Dept. with a Bachelor’s degree in Illustration and a minor in Painting. I have used my education in such jobs as Scenic artist at Birmingham Children's Theater (B'ham, AL), and as Scenic Director for 10,000 Lakes Festival and WeFest (in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota), but the reason that I am still in this business is because I do a lot of design work for bands including the Grateful Dead, Wookiefoot, and Moe., and many other bands that travel the country doing their form of live art.

I make a picture, and they reproduce it in many ways and most times I am able to share a % of the profit in the end. But even my older work that was done out of the love for drawing captures the eyes of potential clients that are looking for a certain kind of style or look. Our copyrights are the products we license, and this means that infringing our work is no different than stealing the food out of my children's mouth.
My work does NOT lose it's value upon publication, because every piece of work goes into my archive and becomes a part of my business inventory.
In the digital age, we simply showcase our work online, we have the same inventory that we have ALWAYS had, IMAGES TO BE PRINTED ONTO THINGS...

I must strongly insist that you take these points into consideration before signing away our rights to our own work. Copyright is not just a LEGAL ISSUE for artists such as myself, but it is the very BASIS of our foundation. -Please don't call my babies 'ORPHANS'... they are NOT.
I have hundreds of them, but I love them all equally and I pray that they will keep food on our table for years to come. This is all we have. PLEASE don't take them away!!!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

~Chuck (Charles) Hues (Hughes)
Artguy