Please do NOT amend the copyright Act to broaden the definition of "orphan works" to include visual arts, and do not broaden the "fair Use" of "orphan" visual arts.

I am a professional visual artist. I have exhibited my work nationally and internationally for over 25 years, and my work is owned by over 50 public & university libraries and museums. Because of the nature of visual arts, the fact that visual artists like myself create a great many individual works of visual art, because most visual artists like myself earn relatively little from the sale of our work, I cannot afford to register every work that I create, show in public exhibitions, or sell. Nor can I afford to monitor possible copying and unfair use of my work

Since my work is made as unique pieces, or very small handmade artist's editions, it is not intended for a mass market. However, the value that it does have depends on its originality and singularity. Its value would be destroyed if it could be freely copied and sold under the fair use doctrine. Its value would also be destroyed if it could be altered without my permission.

There may be good reasons to loosen fair use requirements for other art forms. I have no opinion on that. But I know that the proposals for orphan works and for making fair use of visual arts less restrictive would be devastating to me and to other visual artists in my situation. Mass digitization and extended collective licensing of visual arts would also have an extremely deleterious effect on visual artists, who already have to struggle in the marketplace.

Like other visual artists, I rely on the copyright law for protection. Please do not take any action that would diminish my rights under the law.