Copyright Office July 22, 2015

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you concerning the Orphan Works Acts and Mass Digitization. As a professional visual artist I make my living from my created art works. For over fifty years I have been an artist and have built my inventory, copyrighted my works with your office, and expected my works to remain in my sole control by the copyright protection you have provided. This is extremely important as my skill and the works derived from it are my compensation. My education is varied and from prominent institutions such as Parsons School of Design, The Fashion Institute of Technology, Academy of Art University, as well as workshops and certification programs for Botanical Illustration, painting, etc.

As you can see I have spent a great deal of time and money advancing my skills. These skills should remain for my advancement only. Copyright law is the basis for which my business ventures are capable of expanding. Without it I would not be able to license, sell, or preserve my works. It is extremely important to my business that I remain solely and voluntarily able to decide how and by whom my work is used.

My works do not lose their value after publication whether it be hard or digital. Also the digitization of my works is now an essential part of my exposure and sales as an artist.

If these changes to the copyright law are made, Orphan Works Acts and Mass digitization, it would seriously hamper my ability as an artist to earn a living.

Sincerely,

Amy Rie McGuire

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