I am 83 years old and continue to produce and depend on income from licensing. Our copyrights are our source of income. Lobbyists and corporation lawyers have "testified" that once our work has been published it has virtually no further commercial value and should therefore be available for use by the public. This not true. I work very hard and our copyrights are the products we license. This means that infringing our work is no different than stealing our money. It's important to our businesses that we remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom our work is used. My bio below explains who and what I am as a creative artist:

“Some people are simply driven to draw and paint what they see around them. I am one of them. I began as a small child and have been an artist all my life. I am an honors graduate of Parsons School of Design, and have studied fine arts as well at the Art Students League of New York. I have had a number of one-woman shows in New York and Connecticut, and have received awards in Juried exhibitions. Over the years my fine art paintings have been collected in the U. S. and the U.K., and reproduced as posters and greeting cards, sold worldwide. Some of my paintings are now reproduced in iris giclee, limited edition, prints. I was honored to be juried into the prestigious Mystic Seaport's 26th Annual International Marine Art Exhibition, with my painting: “It’s A Keeper.” My work ranges from large complex still lifes—to landscapes—to lush florals--to coastal/seascapes. My current focus is farm animals, but especially Connecticut farms and barns, hoping to raise awareness to their unfortunate and rapid disappearance. In 2010 the Mayor of Roxbury purchased my painting of Orzech’s Blue Seal Feed Barn & Farmhouse to hang in the Roxbury town hall. I have never indulged in abstract intellectual notions of art, but rather I have merely tried

to capture the things I enjoy observing, while hopefully sharing these observations with others."

If you go to www.RyanArtDuo.com you will find some of my work, as well as my husband's art. He is 87 and depends on an income derived from his licensing of his art.

Thank you for considering our side of the discussion.

Lorraine Ryan

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