July 23, 2015

To the Copyright Office:

Regarding the Notice of Inquiry on Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works.

I am a visual artist and only became aware of the proposed change in copyright law. It has hit me with great dismay that the work of an artist such as myself would be considered to lose its value upon publication.

I am a painter and depend on the law to protect my right to retain control of the images I create, even after the sale of the original art, just as an author retains the sole rights to his or her work. I have worked hard to attain a certain stature in my field, having won numerous awards for my work, making me more of a target for fraud and theft. We need stronger copyright laws, not weaken them.

I am submitting this at the last hour and hope you will deem it to be counted in protest of the proposed new law that would open my work to theft. Everything that I create is part of my livelihood and in this digital era artists need the law to protect us more than ever. It is important to an artist's business that we remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom our work is used.

Please keep the in mind how visual artists would be hurt by this proposed change in copyright law.

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