July 22, 2015

Dear U.S. Copyright Office,

I am writing to you to ask that you **not** replace our existing copyright law with the revised (unfair, unacceptable and ethically questionable) legislation currently under consideration.

As an "emerging artist" I have only in the past few years begun to sell my art online on websites such as Etsy and Vango. If this revised legislation replaces the current copyright law, it will end my career as an artist. I have been an artist all my life; painting is all I know how to do -- yet I will have no choice but to stop painting as I will not allow my art to be used without my written permission. My art is my own, a part of my soul, and only I should have the right to decide who can use it and for what purpose it will be used. Every artist needs to keep their exclusive right to control their intellectual property guaranteed under current law.

I do not have the time, money, or the inclination to register every single one of my paintings, drawings, etc. if I wish to keep the barest minimum of rights that "registering" would (supposedly) provide.

If everyone but the artist gets to make a living from that artist's work, how then can any artist be expected to continue to create art if they can no longer make a living from doing so? I believe that many artists will do the same thing I will...refuse to make any more art that people can steal and get away with it scot-free! It will come at a dear price though, namely the artist's heart and soul...as creating art is a big part of what makes an artist who they are as a person. People who enjoy art will also suffer.

This proposed new copyright legislation would be **catastrophic** to artists everywhere...Established artists, emerging artists -- little kids dreaming of being an artist when they grow up.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Sincerely,

Rachel Biggs