ATTN: U.S. Copyright Office
Re: Orphan Works Acts

This letter is written in an attempt to respectfully convey the importance of copyright and proper consent in relation to my design and illustration business.

I am a working artist, graphic designer, and illustrator who has been working in the field for the past 4 years. I studied Painting, Drawing and Illustration at San Francisco State University and have been published in W42ST Magazine, Render Quarterly, Graze, and several other publications. I currently work as a graphic designer for CreativeLive and as a freelance illustrator.

For me, copyright law is not an abstract legal issue, but the very basis on which my business rests. My copyright is the very product I license to my clients; it is the very reason that they patronize my business.

This means that infringing my work is like stealing my income. It's vital to my business that I remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom my work is used. My work does not lose value upon its publication–in fact, everything I create immediately becomes part of my business inventory. In this digital era, inventory is more valuable to artists than ever before.

I urge you to consider the wide array of visual professionals like myself, particularly emerging illustrators and designers who do not yet have the means to copyright all of their work as they create it. Consider the robbery of our craft that this "reform" would allow to happen.

Sincerely,

Rachel Frankel
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