July 22, 2015
To the United States Copyright Office

Do NOT vote to change the copyright law.

I am an independent visual artist who has been working in the field for 45 years. It has taken many years of hard work to get to the place that I am now. I earned my money by being one of the first digital artists before they were teaching it in school and a fine artist. I am now becoming more known in my field, but I still use artwork that I created many years ago. I have taken great pains to NOT post my work on facebook and other social media because I do not like how they can be confiscated and used by any unscrupulous entity including social media itself that has duped some who do not understand the ramifications into posting work. I think their policies are invasive and an attempst to confiscate anything that is posted online with disregard for the source of an artists income. I have copyrighted my work in the 60's and early 70s and it takes a lot of effort to protect your creations in that fashion. It is a burden on the artist and taxpayers to manage the process. I do not want to go backwards in this regard.

I do not understand how Congress can think that we do not care about our life's work and would willingly give it away or let it get stolen for others use. The idea that we would have to register the quantity of works that we produce or lose them seems patently unfair to satisfy corporate desire to obtain our work for free. Please do not fix something that is not broken and create a mess that puts a greater burden on us to protect our works and our source of income. Visual artists have enough struggles to earn a profit and our works should not be free to everyone, once they are published. Publication is a necessary tool sometimes to make back some of the money we spent and the hours we invested in creating these works. It does not mean it's a free for all. In this digital age it is way too easy for people to steal another artists work. This does not make it OK. Do not sanction this theft just because there is more digital content out there to steal.as well as businesses out there who want to take it without compensation or without regard for how it's used.

Thank you,
N.C. Swan
Nancy Swan