Frenchman Creek Studio

23 July 2015

ORPHAN WORKS ACTS NOT BECOME LAW

I am an artist and I have pursued art before I knew that everyone didn't sketch, draw or paint. Much later, I received a teaching degree in Business Education from the University of Northern Colorado and a Masters degree in Technology Education. Although I taught in the public school system and at the Junior College level, I pursed my art career on the weekends and evenings before I quit teaching technology completely and started painting full time.

My art educational background is mostly self-taught with an occasional workshop from national known artists to help boost my art awareness and to make connections with other artists. Starting in the 1980's, I have validated my proficiency in art through entering show and through the awards that they received. As an example of the last couple of years, I have been juried into or placed in the following shows… *(For full list, visit website www.NancyLDee.com.)*

- Wash On 19 In Winter--Pastel--3rd Professional Pastel--Wray Art Show, May (Judge Jennie Dooley)
- Dubbert's Bank Barn--Transparent Watercolor--Salon de Refuses Show--Lincoln Gallery, Loveland, June / Juried In, HM--National Greeley Art Exhibition at FMS Bank, 2-9 May (Judge Desmond O'Hagan) / 1st--Cheyenne County Members Show at Sidney, NE, 14 April (Judge Ken Pledger) / 2nd Professional WC--Wray Art Show, May (Judge Jennie Dooley)
- Morgan County Angular Moment--Pastel--Award of Excellence--Association of Nebraska Art Clubs Annual Show / Traveling Show for 2015-16 / 2nd Best of Show--Phillips County Art Show & Sale, 26-29 March (Judge NJC Art Instructor, Dave Wagner) / Juried In, 2nd Place & Chosen for Event Poster--10th Annual Mile High International Pastel Exhibition at the Denver Public Library, Level 7, 14 July to 30 August (Judge Albert Handell)
- *Amherst Market*--WC--Award of Excellence & 2014-15 Traveling State Exhibit, Association of Nebraska Art Clubs held at McCook (Judge Robert O'Brien)
- *Sandhill Road Cut*--WC--Juried into National Greeley Art Exhibition at FMS Bank, 2-9 May (Judge Desmond O'Hagan)

My main point by explaining where I am at in my art career is that I do not think that the copyright law is an abstract legal issue, but the basis on which my business exists. My copyrights are the products I license. This means that infringing on my work is like stealing money out of my pocket. It's important to my businesses that I remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom my work is used. Currently, my work does NOT lose its value upon publication. Showing my work is important to confirm my level as an artist and most shows will not exhibit work that is older than two years. So it is important that I maintain an inventory and that everything I create becomes part of my business inventory.

In this digital era, my inventory is more valuable to me than ever before. I am firmly requesting that the "Orphan Works Acts" not pass.

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