07/22/2015

To Whom it may concern, with respect and sincerity,

I graduated from California College of the Arts with a degree in Illustration just this past May. That means I have only had two months out of the gate and into the “real” world. Already, as my future dawns, there is turbulent news. I fear the new copyright incentives will bring about a time of unaccounted reuse.

By keeping the rights to original works of art, creators are able to build upon their victories and become more successful. Controlling reproduction rights to our work allows my fellow creators and I the dignity of furthering our successes. Is this not the keystone of the American Dream? By creating images we are giving birth to a personal legacy, a future history of objects made by our hands to be used how we, the creators, wish. We do not want others to determine how our legacy can be used.

Commercial Illustration is a commission based enterprise, whereby a small-business individual creates an image for a larger business. It is magnificent capitalistic harmony.

People look for salvation from a higher power, I think that power is the government. Let the media portray politicians however it wants. I know that there are humans in power, not robots acting at the mercy of money, lobbyists, and think tanks. Please allow artists to maintain the dignity of controlling what they create and what they will be remembered for. Thank you for your time, consideration, and compassion.

Sincerely,

Ryan Glenn Simone