

To:

[FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)

Subject:

Request for Submissions

Date:

Monday, March 22, 2010 2:37:24 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel,

I received word of your request for input on new copyright legislation from Tim Brooks, a fellow music historian and someone who is deeply devoted to the preservation of early music recordings. He has made numerous efforts to convey to the government that copyright laws on recorded music whose composers and performers are long deceased threaten the ability of future generations to hear and know about our national musical history. In this spirit, I would like to ask whether you have considered revising, or perhaps even eliminating, copyright laws for works once the creators have died. Doing so would enable researchers and teachers to preserve such items in digital formats that are both stable and accessible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ann van der Merwe
Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Music
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