From:

 To:
 FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty

 Date:
 Tuesday, March 23, 2010 8:33:15 AM

Dear Ms. Espinel,

I am glad to hear that you are listening to both sides of the copyright infringement issue. I am a classical composer who feels that copyright protection has gone way too far in one direction, beyond the Constitution's "limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries", extended beyond those authors to estates, lawyers, and large corporations. I do not feel the need to collect royalties 70 years after I die. A large company bought out the small company where I had music published, and pieces of mine are now "permanently out of print". I'd rather have my music heard by more people than make more money, ! if one precludes the other. I have a friend I can't identify who told how he had written a song which he had submitted to a large company. Subsequently he found it had been published under somebody else's name, with a couple minor changes. He couldn't tell me the name of the company, since that was part of the settlement. Then he went to the piano and played "It's a Small World After All". The company that has rights to that song should be familiar to you. I'm entitled to get paid for what I create like anyone else, but if a work of art is truly a work of art, it also belongs to everyone. In heaven, everything is public domain. In hell, everything is copyrighted.

William Vollinger