

ATTN.: Jule L. Sigall, Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs  
SUBJECT: Orphan works  
TYPE: comment  
FROM: Samuel Forrest Arnold  
Organization: Smothered Hope mailing list  
Title:

Date: Thu, 24 Feb 2005 17:13:03 -0500  
Comment:

In 1996 or so, I was a member of the Smothered Hope mailing list, which was a fanlist for people into the band Skinny Puppy. On top of discussing things, projects were undertaken by members of the list in collaboration. One example was to collect a number of ultra-rare bootlegs and out of print recordings into a double-CD set for list members (obtaining permission from the artists and supplying them with copies).

One suggested project was to re-print the old Skinny Puppy tour shirts that everyone coveted. (This was years before Hot Topic brought the shirts back into production) List members were able to contact the surviving members of the band, who thought it was a great idea and gave their full support, the only problem was they had signed the rights away to the company who originally printed the shirts.

The company was tracked down, and was found to have gone out of business some 4 or 5 years before we came knocking. The project died at the idea stage due to not being able to secure the proper permissions.

-- END OF COMMENT --