

To whom it may concern:

All films are works of art. It stands to reason that a significant aspect of our national heritage is dependent on the preservation of these films.

"Orphan" films are most at risk and stand a much better chance of survival if released into the hands of filmmakers, historians, and, yes, even collectors and those who may wish to reproduce them for distribution to the general public (the benefits of making the art available to large numbers of people far outweighs any concern over monetary gain such individual may have, which, we must agree, is minimal on older films, particularly those from the silent era). Any "easing" of restrictions would be a contribution to the preservation of this art form. Please consider that art should be made available to the masses - the same way a famous painting is reproduced in a book, films should be made available through the various technologies of today to be enjoyed by as many people as possible, not burdened with restrictions that will prevent this from happening.

Sincerely,

Tim Lussier

"Silents Are Golden"

<http://www.silentsaregolden.com>