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To: Julie L. Sigall
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 05/06/2005

From: david fine

Comment:

I'm a lover of early expressionistic art. I have some first edition prints from the 40's that can't be reproduced because the company that holds the rights stopped printing anything in 1960 and can no longer be reached. There are currently no copies of these works for sale that I have found and it is not on display publicly, so for all intents and purposes this work has been erased from our culture, and that's a real shame. There needs to be a process of due diligence to contact rights holders after which orphaned works can be used, and perhaps even ascend to the public domain.

In cases like this, the work is rarely economically viable, it's simply a matter of preserving the art that is so important to all of us. Please help!