



## Policy for Exhibiting Artwork in SUAG Shows

- Artwork will be juried for content (these shows are family oriented)
- Artwork must be original work
- Artwork must be signed by the artist
- Paintings must have a wire hanger (no saw-tooth hangers)
- Paintings must be framed unless designed specifically not to be framed
- Paintings must be labeled on the back with:
  - Artist name – Title –Media – Price – Phone Number
- Artwork must be for sale or labeled NFS (not for sale)
- 3-dimensional work must have a label on the bottom
- Artwork must be accompanied with a signed release form
- The artist must accept responsibility for art entered into any SUAG shows. The SUAG is not responsible for theft or damage.



## Don't be a Copycat

This is a brief refresher course to make sure you're not committing copyright infringement.

American copyright law holds that there are no limits to copying, whether you're selling your art, entering it in a competition or simply practicing your technique. What does copyright cover and how can you make sure you don't run afoul of the law?

### Ground Rules

Copyright is a form of intellectual property that protects original works of art, drama, literature and music. In terms of artwork, sketches, drawings, paintings, sculpture and photographs are all protected. So if you regularly look at others' work or photographs in magazines, books or newspapers for inspiration, make sure you have the artist's written permission. Otherwise you are infringing on the original artist's copyright.

Most people think that only "verbatim copying" – duplicating an entire work exactly – is all that's considered infringement, but it's not. For example - changing the medium won't protect you from a copyright infringement lawsuit. Or making a sculpture from a painting will still be an infringement.

For every type or degree of copying you can think of, there is some legal argument. Here are two you should know about:

"Look and Feel" copying refers to taking the overall design of a particular piece. Most of these are in the computer and greeting card industries.

"Trade dress" is a related area of trademark law, and there are a few cases that do protect an artist's rights. "Trade dress" is broader than "look and feel" and relates more to the overall style of one's work.

Fragmented literal similarity is taking parts of a work and incorporating them into a new work. Even though the overall work is different, you've copied parts of someone else's work exactly, such as the sun and people from this painting or clouds and a couple of buildings from that painting. It's still considered a copyright infringement. The main difference between fragmented literal similarity and verbatim copying is the amount you've copied.

Such statements as "All you have to do is change a little bit", 5%, 20% and so on have no support in law.

These comments are excerpts of an article that appeared in "Art Business" magazine.

