

PUBLISHED BY

The Journal of Biocommunication, Inc.

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INCORPORATING THE

Journal of Biological Photography

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We have proudly designated *JBC* 36-1 to be a *JBC SPECIAL ISSUE*, as it represents an entire issue primarily devoted to just one topic. Historically, the *JBC* has published only two other similar issues focused on a single topic. The first *SPECIAL ISSUE*, *JBC* 11-2 published in May of 1984, was titled *Computers Graphics In Biocommunication*. AMI member Herb Smith was the *JBC* Guest Editor for this landmark publication. Thank you, Herb, for your leadership and insight in producing this issue.

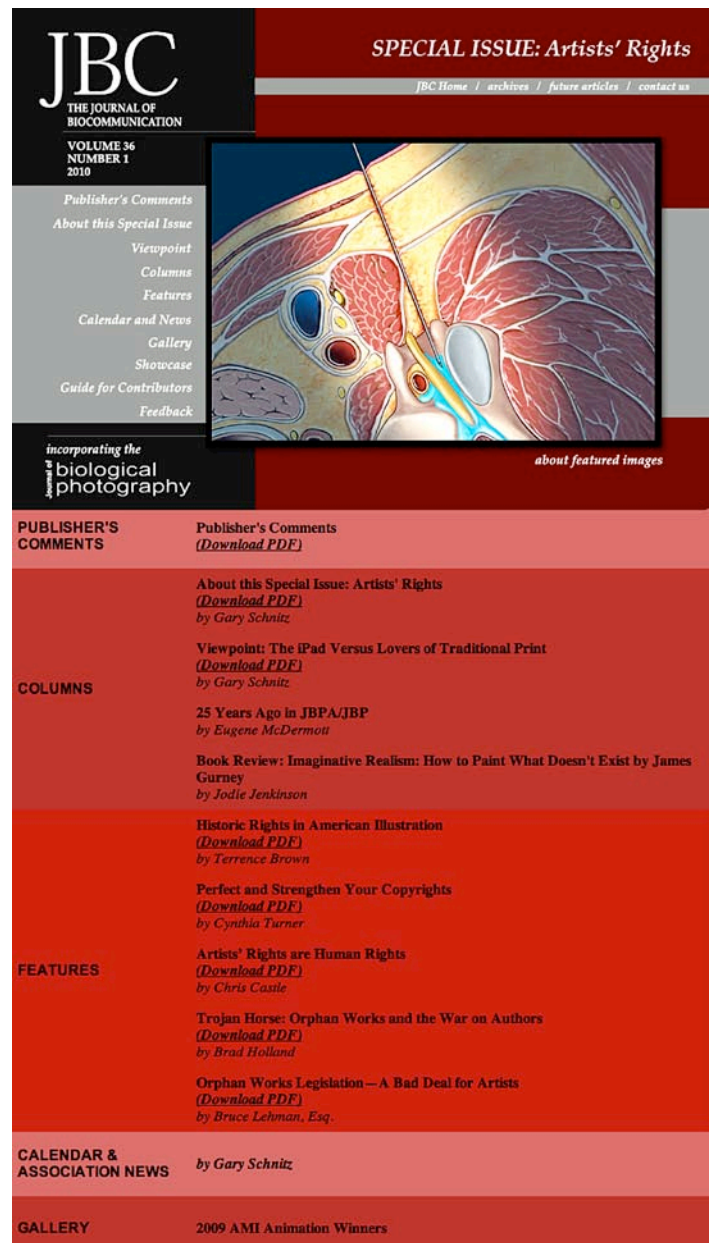
The second *JBC SPECIAL ISSUE* was *JBC* 19-3 published in September 1992. This issue was titled *Special Issue: Imaging* and included articles on the subjects of visualization, medical imaging databases, and the use of optical technology in simulators. Robin Sandefur was *JBC*'s Guest Editor for this issue. Thank you Robin for your commitment.

Our current *SPECIAL ISSUE* focuses on aspects of artists' rights, and broadly covers subjects of illustrators' rights during the late 1800s. We also include articles that discuss more recent issues surrounding existing copyright law, copyright registration, artists' rights, and the current U.S. Orphan Works legislation.

This issue features five outstanding articles beginning with Terrence Brown's "Historic Rights Issues in American Illustration." Mr. Brown traces the development of American illustration during the post Civil War period, as book, newspaper, and magazine publishers successfully used artists' sketches and illustrations to accompany their printed text and advertisements. These artists became more and more important to the publisher's success, and the demand for their illustrations grew. Ownership of original art and issues relating to secondary usage rights culminated in the formation of the Society of Illustrators in New York in 1901. Many historical illustrations are included as examples of these amazing illustrators.

Also included is the in-depth article titled "Perfect and Strengthen Your Copyrights" written by medical illustrator, author, and artists' rights advocate, Cynthia Turner. Ms. Turner discusses the importance of timely registration, as it may help strengthen an artist's ability to protect authorship. She describes in detail what copyright is, and how current U.S. Copyright law applies to us as creators. Cynthia also reviews the scope and limitations of U.S. Copyright law, the categories of authorship, Copyright reversion, and walks us through the process of U.S. Copyright registration.

Noted attorney Chris Castle offers "Artists' Rights are Human Rights." Mr. Castle's clients include artists, producers, motion picture and television studios, as well as technology companies. Mr. Castle's insightful article describes some of the ongoing



Cover of *JBC SPECIAL ISSUE* 36-3, 2010

Publishers Comments *continued*

efforts of large technology companies, anti-copyright authors, “hive mind” advocates, and free-culture promoters, all who lobby for the relaxation of copyright laws. Mr. Castle concludes that artists’ rights are more expansive than simple legal rights. Moreover, the human rights of artists are clearly articulated in many international laws insuring the protection *and the benefits from the protection* of the moral and material interests derived from scientific, literary, or artistic production.

“Trojan Horse: Orphan Works and the War on Authors”, written by Brad Holland, is also featured in this issue. Brad is an accomplished illustrator and author, who has written extensively about intellectual property rights, U.S. copyright, and Orphan Works legislation. The author states that if passed, Orphan Works legislation would summarily reverse the automatic copyright protection currently afforded to authors by the 1976 Copyright Act. This Orphan Works Amendment would effectively remove penalties for an infringement, if the infringer had made what is termed a “reasonable search” for the creator within yet-to-be-created image databases.

We also include “Orphan Works Legislation - A Bad Deal for Artists,” written by accomplished attorney, legislative policy advisor, and author, Bruce Lehman. Mr. Lehman currently practices law and also serves as the Chairman of the International Intellectual Property Institute based in Washington, D.C. In his article Mr. Lehman notes that in January 2006, the U.S. Copyright Office issued their “Orphan Works Report,” outlining their recommendations to Congress for changes to the 1976 Copyright Act. In its current form, Orphan Works legislation, now in Committee within the U.S. Congress, has the potential to reverse the 30-year history of copyright protection enjoyed by artists and authors in the United States.

25 years ago in *JBPA/JBP* takes a look at a hand-held photographic bracket that provides multiple electronic flash modules for lighting a variety of medical and biological subjects. This original issue of the *JBP* also describes the collaboration between a photographer and computer-imaging firm to develop an electronic system for imaging the eye. BCA member Eugene McDermott authors this retrospective column.

This issue also features a review of the book *Imaginative Realism: How to Paint What Doesn't Exist* by James Gurney. Mr. Gurney’s book, reviewed by AMI member Jodie Jenkinson, offers medical illustrators a wealth of resources for creating illustrations for both theoretical and imagined subject matter. As Jodie accurately describes, “Imaginative Realism is an impressive testament to the rich tradition of illustration. It will make you want to step away from your computer, take up your sketchpad, venture outside, and draw!”

Our *JBC* Showcase for this issue features the wonderful imagery of Andrew Davidhazy, Professor of Imaging and Photographic Technology at the Rochester Institute of Technology. One of Mr. Davidhazy’s areas of professional interest has been the “field” of photoinstrumentation including: high-speed photography, schlieren and shadowgraph photography, ballistic photography and stroboscopy. Daidhazy’s work has been featured in hundreds of individual and group exhibitions worldwide, in thousands of books, magazines, and other printed works. Mr. Davidhazy has been actively lecturing and publishing over the course of his entire career.

Our *JBC* 36-1 Gallery features the award winning animations from the 64th AMI Annual Meeting in Richmond, VA. We are featuring these animations as full motion media trailers. Congratulations to all these award-winning animators.

We also include a *JBC* Viewpoint, wherein I review and offer some comments about Apple’s new iPad Introduced by Apple CEO Steve Jobs in January 2010, the iPad has the potential to change the way we view news media, books, magazines, and new media content.

Finally, I’d like to personally thank our five feature authors for their dedication to the area of artists’ rights preservation, for their patience during the *JBC* editing process, and for their insightful and thought provoking written content. I especially wish to thank and acknowledge Cynthia Turner for her assistance in coordinating this issue. Cynthia and I corresponded for nearly one full year about the possibility of producing this Artists’ Rights SPECIAL ISSUE. We’re both extremely grateful that the topic could be presented and shared in this manner in the *Journal of Biocommunication*.



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