

# Shepard Fairey vs Associated Press



Gilles Toucas/Courtesy of Hublot  
Shepard Fairey



Shepard Fairey is a street artist, illustrator, and graphic designer. He is best known for his Andre the giant sticker campaign and is the founder of obey giant clothing line.

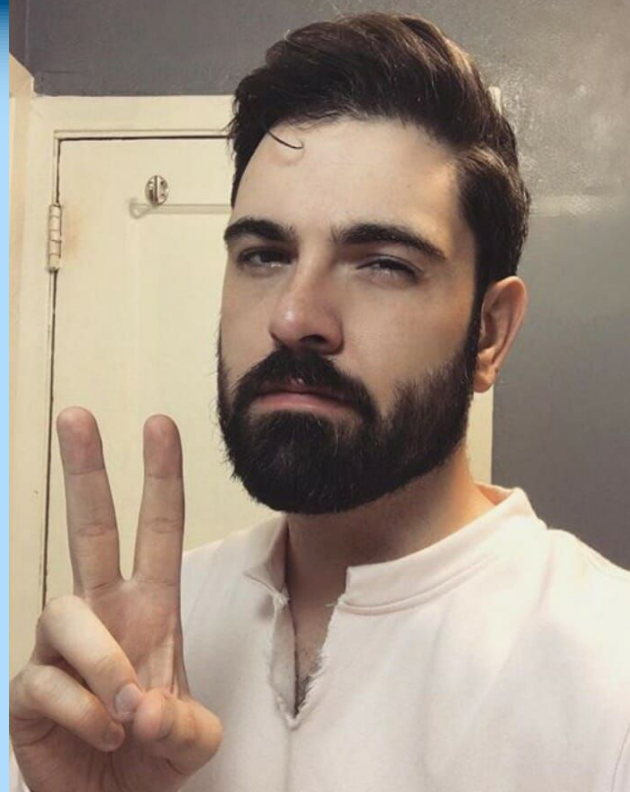
Mr. Fairey created the Hope and change poster to help Obama 2008 presidential Campaign. He sold 350 copies of the Progress Poster and 1,400 of the Hope poster and made one million. The Fairey's Obama Poster is on display at the Smithsonian.



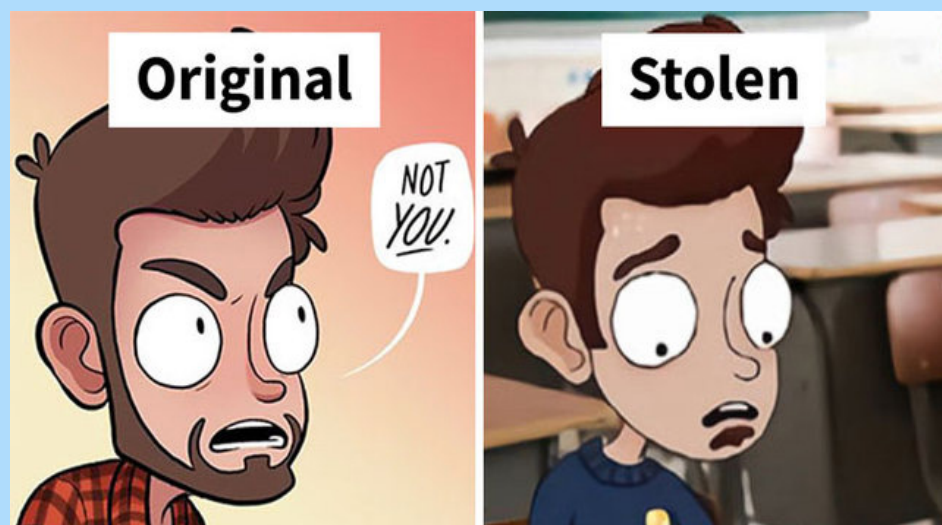
However, The original Obama image he used didn't belong to him. The real owners of the photograph was Associated Press and Mannie Garcia. AP wanted Mr. Fairey to pay them compensation for using their photo. But his lawyers file a Declaratory judgement, stating that the photo fell under fair use law. The lawsuit lasted for 4, years each side had their own view on the copyright laws.

In the end Mr. Fairey was found guilty of destroying and fabricating documents during the trial. He paid the fine and did 300 hours of community service. As an artist Mr. Fairey should have know better than to use someone photograph without permission, he could have saved all that time and money if he would have just found out who the original photograph belong to and paid for the License. What I learned from this article is not to just take images from online without giving credit or compensation to the owner.

# ColdStone Incident



Adam Ellis is an illustrator who used to work for buzzfeed, but left to work for himself. He creates funny comic and illustration that he posts weekly on Instagram. Mr. Ellis 's comics are so popular he has over million followers on Instagram. However, that doesn't stop people from trying to steal his works. He had to call out large amount people for stealing his work. Last year, Coldstone release Ads using Mr. Ellis Characters without his consent.



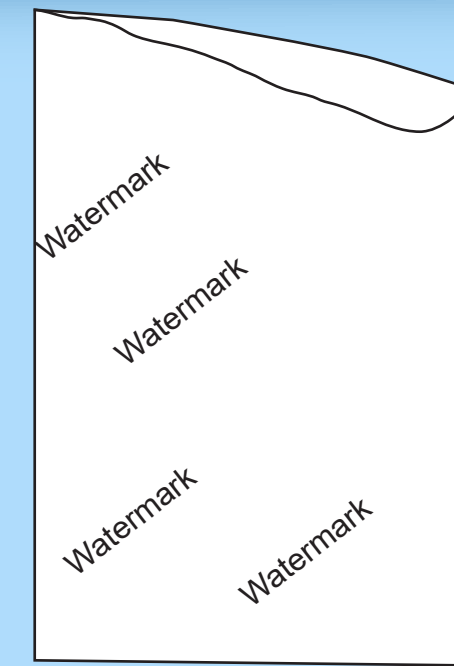
On the left is Adam original character which is seen in his weekly comics .On the right is the cold stone copy of his character



The way Mr.Ellis handle the situation was perfect , he told coldstone to donate the money to inner city arts program instand of giving it to him . And in the end Coldstone own up to they mistakes and donate 10,000 to inner city arts. Some people were not happy about that but he explains, that send a invoice would have been ignored ,but calling them out on social media and asking to donate was much better idea.

# How to protect your artwork Online

1.



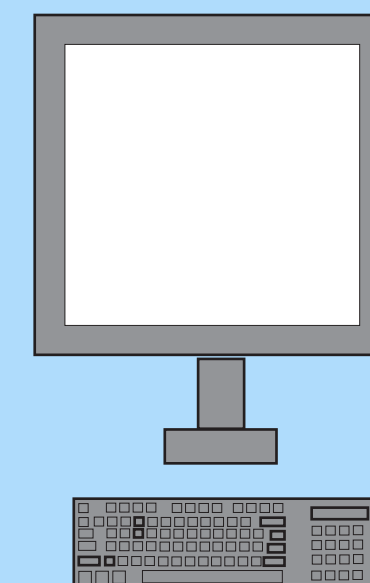
Before Posting your work online watermark it or put your signature on your piece. And if you have the Money Copyright your work .

2.

Always keep record of your work just in case, someone does steal your work you can prove that it belongs to you.



3.



If this happen find the person/company that has stolen your work fill out DMCA. DMCA - Digital Millennium copyright act passed in 1998 to protect online providers from copyright infrigment