



To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of Leo Lambiel and an art installation at his Art Museum on Orcas Island.

Mr. Lambiel was granted a Conditional Use Permit for a Greek Temple Ruin, yet SJ County has filed in Superior Court a lawsuit citing him for not getting a building permit **19 years ago**.

To many here who are artists, architects, engineers and art appreciators, there is a very clear distinction between an art installation and a building.

An **Art Installation** is [<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/installation+art>] “...art that is created, constructed, or installed on the site where it is exhibited...”

Also from Wikipedia: “**Installation art** describes an artistic genre of three-dimensional works that are often site-specific and designed to transform the perception of a space.”

Therefore, the temple ruin is a visual artwork, an installation art.

A **Building**, on the other hand, is defined as “A permanent or temporary structure enclosed within exterior walls and a roof, and including all attached apparatus, equipment, and fixtures that cannot be removed without cutting into ceiling, floors, or walls.”

[<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/building.html>]

Mr. Lambiel's Greek Temple Ruin is not enclosed, is not habitable, is without fixtures, and it does not have any utilitarian purpose. Therefore it is not a building.

The county has acknowledged that a structural engineer has designed it and that it poses no threat to public health or safety, and that 34 neighbors were interviewed and signed that they had no objections to the Temple. The entire island appreciates the Lambiel Museum, acknowledging that it is for the benefit of the public. He is a generous and very special art patron of the San Juan Islands' artists, **exhibiting in one place only San Juan artists.**

For the county to demand control over this art installation in the form of permits, fees and fines (\$1000/week), it is a travesty of justice for him, and on a larger scale, for all artists and art enthusiasts in San Juan County.

We, the undersigned, request that the County recognize the distinction between a “sculpture or architectural folly” and a “building”. We adamantly support Mr. Lambiel and his right to place an art installation on his private property, and his right to his freedom of expression without having to obtain a building permit.

In support of Leo Lambiel: Art and Justice at the Water's Edge

Date: _____

Print Name

Sign Name

Address

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____
26. _____
27. _____