



Hi!

I am Christian Sam, owner/artist of Archangel Steel, located in the Detroit area of southeast Michigan in the U.S.A.

I have been creating battle-ready, functional art designs out of steel, wood, and leather since I was 18-years old, nearly 37 years. This is all I do for a living. It is all I've ever done for my career.

My small business creates jobs for two other craftsmen and three apprentices, the numbers of which vary from time to time.

A few years ago, I came to realize that my photos, videos, and original designs were being downloaded and misused by unauthorized resellers of artists' works. I began watermarking everything I posted online after that, which did help, but some issues still remain.

- Some of these resellers simply use my photos/videos with my watermark intact.
- Some try to remove my watermarks, usually resulting in a pretty weird looking photo when they mangle the job.
- Years of my old photos, from before I began watermarking, still remain out in cyberspace.
- And then some of these resellers take my photo, without my permission have my design cheaply duplicated by a foreign factory, and then take pictures of their blatant copies of my original designs, to use on their unauthorized listings.

Thus, I am creating a VeRO Participant Page to help me address this intellectual property theft.

It harms my business and my reputation when potential customers of my work see counterfeit reproductions of my Archangel Steel designs on other sellers' accounts. Their confusion is created when they see work that is created by me, a respected American steel artist, on some random reseller's page, most often from another country.

After seeing these counterfeits on other people's accounts, people often reach out to me to ask what the difference is between my listing and that other person's listing. These bogus listings create the impression that we are *all* resellers of some mass produced work, when in fact, I am the only one who is entitled to list my work.

These fraudulent listings of my designs on others' accounts give potential victims the illusion that they can buy my work for much less of a price point than I can even create those works.

Thus, I do not authorize anybody else to use my photographs and videos and I don't give permission for anybody to create counterfeit copies of my original artworks.

Archangel Steel has joined eBay's VeRO Program.

We, and fans of our work, are dedicated to finding incidents of unauthorized use of or infringement of our intellectual property. Any listings that violate our intellectual property rights will be terminated by us under eBay's VeRO program.

Listings that violate our intellectual property rights include:

1. Listings that use our photographs and videos, downloaded from our own online accounts or from anywhere else our intellectual property may be found on the Internet or elsewhere.
2. Obvious attempts to create and sell counterfeit copies of our designs.

We have proof of ownership of every design we have ever created in our over 36 years of creating steel works and owning an American small art business. We also have proof of ownership for all of our photographs and videos we've posted online over the many years we've done online promotion and business.

Thank you for respecting the property rights of original art creators.