

For Immediate Release, 6/16/2015

# Daughters of Mercury II

*A Kickstarter toward another dozen full scale oil portraits of trans women*

by Janet Bruesselbach



[daughtersofmercury.com](http://daughtersofmercury.com)

LAUNCH: June 23, 2015

ENDS: July 26, 2015, 10:00pm

Janet Bruesselbach is a painter and curator, trained at RISD and the New York Academy of Art. She is a cis woman who has known, loved, and admired trans women before and during their recent “tipping point”, and uses the medium she knows to support them and promote their work. She hopes to mitigate the problems of representation by a cis artist by amplifying trans women’s voices.

Daughters of Mercury celebrates the beauty and personality of ordinary and extraordinary trans women. Portraits are guided by how the subject wants to be seen, and include subjects with a diversity of presentations, backgrounds, and identities. The title connects to Mercury (element, god, and planet) as the symbolic force of femininity, fluidity, communication, and better living through chemistry.

The Kickstarter is the second for this series. The first generated enough to fund 12 paintings and produce a 2016 calendar. This Kickstarter aims to fund completion of 25 paintings, a 2017 calendar, and an exhibition in late 2015. Rewards include a wall calendar with all the portraits and accompanying text by the models, high quality prints, and the purchase of an original painting. The goal is at least \$10,000, but the budget truly demands double that. Funding will go toward paying the models, travel expenses, printing, the artist’s time and materials, and exhibition expenses.

*Please release to understanding art and/or gender interested audiences.*

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