

Looking for Models! Persephone's *Sex Positivity* book project, 5/13/2024

Current Model Call (Indigenous/PoC), 5/13/2024: Commissioning Indigenous/first-nation models/models of color (e.g., Maori, Pacific Islander, Polynesian, Aboriginal, Native American, African American). I'm writing & illustrating a book on sex positivity/liberation in Gothic media and want you to be represented!

Me: sex worker, activist, doctor of the Gothic, BDSM & erotic media.  
Commonly work with GNC models

Goal: Represent/help liberate marginalized groups by negotiating labor exchanges that challenge capital thru Gothic media: drawing ppl as sexy monsters

Full tweet/samples:

<https://twitter.com/vanderwaardart/status/1790272624976617512>

**Book Details:** My name is Persephone van der Waard and I am currently writing and illustrating a non-profit book series on sex positivity and the Gothic. Made in collaboration with other sex workers (the co-writer is my partner, [Bay Ryan](#), a Maori sex worker who lives in New Zealand). The project is a four-volume set called *Sex Positivity versus Sex Coercion, or Gothic Communism: Liberating Sex Workers under Capitalism through Iconoclastic Art*. From newest to oldest, as of 5/1/2024, [my Poetry Module is live](#); as of 2/14/2024, the manifesto/instruction volume is live; as of 10/8/2023, the thesis volume is live. To access my live volumes, [simply go to my website's 1-page promo and pick up your own copies for free!](#) While you're there, you can also learn about the other yet-unreleased volumes/modules, project history, logo design/promo posters, the models/muses, and more!

**About Me:** I'm a doctor/indie researcher of the Gothic, BDSM and erotic media; I'm also a trans-woman sex worker, activist, and erotic artist who draws sex-positive Gothic artwork for my non-profit book series made with other sex workers. Follow [this hyperlink to my About the Author page](#), which sums up who I am—in an opening paragraph, but also by giving sex work and directorial samples with other models, and examples of my multimedia (collage, photobash) work, etc.

**General Project Goal:** I'm looking for like-minded collaborators; i.e., *Sex Positivity* takes a variety of intersecting theories (Gothic, Marxist, postcolonial, posthuman, game, and genderqueer) and combines them with sex-positive artistic expression

as a group effort. Normally I commission someone to do a small custom set of nude images, then draw them as a monster based on the shoot; once completed, I combine the drawing and reference material into a combined exhibit of negotiated labor exchange that I feature in my book. Numerous examples can be found in published volumes on my website, as well as my extensive gallery of sex workers: <https://vanderwaardart.com/sex-work>

**Contact:** If you want to contact me about the project, I am available across a variety of platforms: [DA](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Bluesky](#) and Discord; my username is the same on all of them: *vanderWaardart* (it's vanderWaardart86 on [Tumblr](#)). You can also use [my website's contact form](#), which puts you in touch with my business e-mail. Side note: I also accept illustrated and written commissions ([click here to see my full rates for both services](#) and various commission examples); any commission money I make is being saved to fly out to see my partner, [Bay](#), who lives in New Zealand.

## Taking Part, in Three Easy Steps!

### Step one, **Introduction**

Hi, [model/interested party]! Do you take commissions and want to be represented in my work? I'm a sex worker and writer/illustrator who has a non-profit book series about sex positivity and the Gothic; I would love to draw you and include you in the project, if that's something you'd be interested in. :)

Normally what I do is commission someone to do *a small custom set* and do *a drawing of them based on the set*. If that sounds fun, proceed to **step two!**

### Step two, **Details and Boundaries**

Read through these project details, which are designed to establish *healthy negotiated boundaries/a working relationship* between us (constituting a mutual written agreement). If they sound reasonable, please confirm the questions inside with me (see: contact details), then move onto **step three!**

First, my name is Persephone; very nice to meet you! I'm a trans sex worker and writer/illustrator who has a non-profit book called *Sex Positivity versus Sex Coercion, or Gothic Communism*. It is part of an overall project that connects sex positivity to what I call "Gothic (gay-anarcho) Communist" expression; it's essentially a hybrid between academic (Gothic, queer, game

and Marxist) theories and praxis, wherein applied theory is achieved through direct worker action and solidarity relayed through Gothic poetics: BDSM, monsters, and various kinds of kink, etc. If you're curious about the book and want to know more, the first two (and a half) volumes are available for free on my website's 1-page promo; you can also go there to learn about the remaining volumes, see the cover designs, the project history and logo design/promo posters, etc:

[https://vanderwaardart.com/book\\_gothic\\_communism](https://vanderwaardart.com/book_gothic_communism)

In other words, *Sex Positivity* consists of four volumes, two-and-a-half of which have been finalized and uploaded. The others are still being written and illustrated, including artwork that I make in collaboration with others through commission. I'd like to commission you to take part!

**How I operate:** Normally I commission someone to do a small custom set or sex tape—usually about 15 nude images or 5-10 minutes with poses chosen\* by me for ~\$40 (I'm a little flexible in terms of the number of photos, but my budget is fairly limited). I then do a drawing of them based on a photo from the set or screencap from the sex tape. I usually draw people as monsters of some kind; i.e., in a fantasy/sci-fi/horror pin up style based on their own creative output and self-expression.

*\*I normally provide a pose sheet with a variety of poses, or a storyboard with poses and timestamps. New models need to let me know if any look too difficult/awkward; then, I narrow the pose sheet down to the agreed amount according to the poses I'd want to see someone try.*

When the drawing is done, it and the reference image normally go into the book side-by-side as an illustrated exhibit; both normally go onto my website along with a small review dedicated to the model, plugging their services. Here's a link to my website gallery to let you know exactly what I mean:  
<https://vanderwaardart.com/sex-work>

**What I'll need:** Read how I operate, then confirm several details for me

**One,** let me know if you're comfortable with the idea of either a custom photo set or sex tape for the amounts described.

**Two,** I sometimes like to use commissioned photos for other things that also go in the book or help promote it, mainly collages. These collages either contain

multiple photos from the shoot to go the drawing (not just the ref image):

<https://twitter.com/vanderwaardart/status/1672961208251559937/photo/2>

or

a photo from the shoot, along with other images other than your finished drawing:

<https://twitter.com/vanderwaardart/status/1705878252349186274/photo/1>

Please let me know if that's ok, too. Bare minimum, I'd want to commission a custom photo set/video, select a single reference image/screenshot from the set/video, complete the drawing based on said reference, and post it and the reference side-by-side inside my book as an exhibit/on my website.

**Three**, let me know if you're ok having your face in the picture/references? Sometimes, people wanting more anonymity ask that their face be left out. In those cases, I do drawings where the face is covered (e.g., a mask or animal face, etc), but I do like to have the face in the reference material if possible. If you don't want your face visible, I would crop the ref image to be from the neck down when it goes into the exhibit next to your drawing.

**Four**, all of the models I work with have aliases. Usually it's their username handle on Twitter or OnlyFans, etc; but sometimes they want to be more anonymous and ask for a second alias that doesn't plug anything. Basically, if you desire additional anonymity I can accommodate you. :)

### Step three, **Commission and Storyboards/Pose Selection**

Here are some actionable details for the project, once we've reached an agreement, as well as some example pose sheets (all sheets are custom-made; these are placeholders)!

**First, disclaimer:** The OF images are from photoshoots that were taken with models I've worked with before, taken for drawings I've done of [Quinnvincible](#), [Casper Clock](#), [Blxxd Bunny](#) and Lilmisspuff ([no longer on Twitter](#)), etc, and reference material of theirs I have permission to use to direct others or am using

for future drawings. The censored photos are of people who I have worked with or featured in my work, but wish to be kept anonymous. A couple are from various Twitter artists/model's public Twitter accounts.

**Second, method and timetable:** I want to run all the possible poses I have in mind by you. They're numbered; if they're any you see that seem too tricky for you to shoot or anything that goes outside your comfort zone (I like explicit nudity and dildos, so lmk if that's ok). Just lmk what poses work and which don't and I can cross them off the list. Then, I'd pick ones for you to shoot and send you a final pose sheet on here. Do you think you can complete these in 1-2 weeks, if that's doable? I don't want you to feel rushed, but also they don't have to be picture-perfect or anything. Just fully visible and to whatever quality you'd be happy with other people seeing in my exhibits. :)

**Third, wardrobe:** The clothing options are just whatever's on hand. I like the limbs being clothed by the torso (the boobies, butt, tum and pussy/cock) being bare, so I like things like turtlenecks, stockings, leg warmers and sneakers—if you have them. If not, no worries! And if you're ok with penetration, do you have anything larger? Whatever is big but still comfortable for you to use. :)

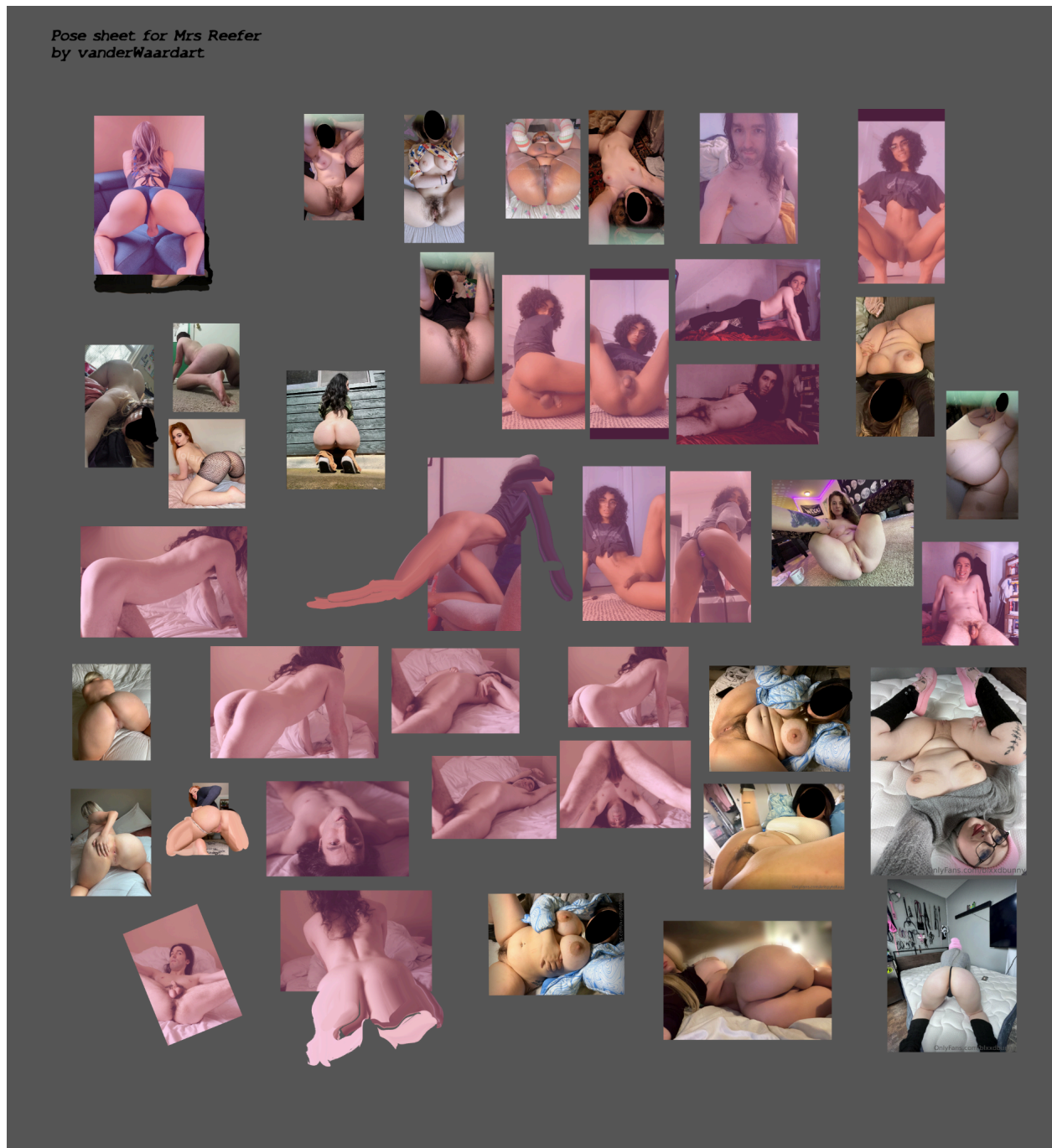
**Fourth, pose sheet examples:** These are copied into the document but also included in the project public folder:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1gq6QNvT2ZHnyO4MQnRT6NKVEau2daM4E?usp=sharing>

A sheet with AFAB poses:

Pose sheet for Mrs Reefer  
by vanderWaardart



A sheet with more AMAB poses:



Thanks for taking the time to read this. I look forward to hearing from you!

—Perse