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## **Original New Art by Chris Haberman to Grace Cover of Upcoming Street Roots Poetry Anthology**

Portland, Ore.— Celebrated Portland artist Chris Haberman has created an original piece for the cover of a new poetry anthology to be published by Street Roots, the Rose City’s flagship newspaper addressing issues of homelessness and poverty.

The poetry anthology, “I Am Not a Poet: 15 Years of Street Roots Poetry and Art,” is a vetted collection of Street Roots-published poetry tackling concepts of love and lust, addiction and recovery, street life and survival, hope and humanity. The book, available in both print and e-book form, is set to publish Feb. 27, 2014. Copies of the book will be available for purchase through Street Roots vendors, the Street Roots website and local bookstores. Advance digital copies are available to those who donate to Street Roots through Willamette Week’s Give!Guide.

Haberman is excited by the prospect of donating his time, effort and art to Street Roots, “I appreciate that Street Roots is about more than just money. They’re about giving people – folks who are often overlooked – a necessary voice in the community.”

Matching the spirit of ingenuity, sustainability and tenacity surrounding the project, Haberman utilized a number of found materials to produce the cover art. These materials include a piece of acid-free mat board, acrylic paint, pencils, pens and Speedball ink. The result: “A piece that communicates a friendly atmosphere of creativity. I hope to visually show a form of travel and expression on the cover. Many voices have left their mark on Street Roots – and I want the cover to convey the sense of a tight-knit group of people surviving together with Street Roots as their vessel for expression.”

Haberman continued, “I like to paint people and truth. The street culture is raw and without pretension, so I feel it has a lot of beauty in its honesty.”

A brief interview with Chris Haberman regarding his contribution can be found at [iamnotapoet.org](http://iamnotapoet.org).

Chris Haberman is an artist, curator, art advocate and Portland native. Haberman has been featured on OPB’s “Art Beat;” his work has been shown in galleries throughout Portland; he has sold 6,500 pieces since 2002; and former mayor Sam Adams has called him “the hardest working artist in Portland.”

*Street Roots creates income opportunities for people experiencing homelessness and poverty by producing a newspaper and other media that are catalysts for individual and social change.*

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