

## Verbal Description

### ANEW Artist Talk Series Video: Aurora Berger

**Overview:** This is a 59 minute and 5-second-long interview-style video. It features two individuals, Katie Miller, Director of Inclusive Arts Vermont, and Aurora Berger, photographer. The two share a split screen between themselves, conducting the interview remotely.

0:00 - A gray screen with the white Inclusive Arts Vermont logo. A smaller version of the logo is in the upper right-hand corner and remains there for the duration of the video. In the lower left-hand corner, a dark gray box with white text reads: "ANEW Artist Talk: Aurora Berger."

01:15 – The large logo slides out of view, and the screen splits to two women, Katie Miller (at left) and Aurora Berger (at right). The dark gray box labeling the talk remains at lower left.

Miller is a white woman in her 30s with shoulder-length auburn hair and thick black glasses. She wears a black t-shirt underneath a gray blazer. She is seen here in a portrait cropping, which includes her chest, neck, and head. She is seated. Behind Miller are two beige walls that meet in the corner, the seam of which runs behind Miller and is seen in view just above her head.

Berger is a white person in her 20s. She has long brown hair and black rectangular glasses. She wears a black tank top, and headphones in one ear. The cord of the headphones are black and have a blue earpiece and microphone piece. She is seated outdoors, at a café. Behind her is a grid of windows that reflect a blue sky and line of trees. Berger is also shown in a portrait-style crop in which we see her head, neck, chest, and upper arms.

Berger and Miller converse back and forth.

08:30 – Miller's frame remains at left, Berger is in the center. At right an image of "Knotted" emerges.

Aurora Berger

Knotted

Digital Photograph

20' x 30"

2018

This is a framed digital photograph, in color. It is 20 inches tall and 30 inches wide. The photograph is of a nature scene, in which a tree's twisted roots meet a body of water at its edge. In the center of the image, a banner presenting a black and white image of a person's back hangs from the roots.

The image on the banner is greyscale and has a white border around its edge. It does not appear to be held up by an adhesive but rather is draped by the corners on the most horizontal root. The image on the banner is a portrait of a woman from behind. Their hair is swept up off the neck, and out of the frame entirely. The frame cuts off the top of the woman's head, just above the ears. The right ear has a small hoop earring, not in the lobe but about halfway up the edge. Her shoulder blades are pronounced by the contrast of the image as if they are being squeezed together.

The banner's image is reflected in the body of water. It is unclear what the source is, but given the forest location could be a pond, stream, or river. The water is dark and has ripples that suggest it is moving. Above the water, the tree's roots cut across the center of the image, moving in twisted moss-covered and knotted lines of grey, brown, and green. In the far background of the image small green plants emerge from the leaf-covered ground.

17:05 – The website image leaves the screen, it it's now back to split between the interviewer and interviewee.

18:16 – The two women remain on the screen. All the way to the right Berger's website appears. It scrolls through the "Rural Life" series of photographs. The series features Vermont scenes that the artist describes as picturesque and postcard like. They feature bright and bold colors of red barns and autumn leaves juxtaposed with bright, green grass.

20:03 – The right pane now scrolls through "Homestead" on Berger's website. The photographs are of a rural, cabin-like structure, with dark wooden walls. The artist has recreated images from their childhood in the same places and from the same vantage points.

21:54 – The screen at right moves to the portrait section of the website. They are largely black and white and feature a variety of locations, mostly outdoors. They include both small details of the body... hands, knuckles, kneecaps, but also broader views of the entire figure, often in the nude.

22:45 – The screen at right goes back to the home page of Berger's website, featuring "Knotted" as described above. The website itself has a white background with simple black text for the headers. It comes to rest at the top of the page with two images in view. At left is a forest, viewed from below. Tall trees cover the image and one of Berger's fabric self portraits is hung in the center. At right is a blue image, a cyanotype that layers a self portrait of the artist with an image of her heartbeat.

24:32 – The screen returns to the two women.

45:00 – The screen splits into three images. The two women continue to talk. Beside them is one of the blue images from Berger's website. It is a portrait of a woman overlaid with an echocardiogram, printed via cyanotype.

46:46 – The third screen now changes to images of Berger's graduate thesis show. The screen size makes detail difficult to make out. In general, they are of an installation of photographs in a grid in a white-walled gallery. Some of the walls have text with the show's title.

50:38 – The screen returns to the two women.