**Verbal Description**

**Pride Panel**

**Artists: Liam Malone, Aurora Berger, and Shea Witzo; facilitated by Richard Elliot from Pride Center VT & Heidi Swevens and Kat Redniss from Inclusive Arts Vermont**

**Overview:** This is an hour and 42-minute panel discussion between the artists Liam Malone, Aurora Berger, and Shea Witzo; facilitated by Richard Elliot from Pride Center VT & Heidi Swevens, and Kat Redniss from Inclusive Arts Vermont.

The video begins with an introductory slide that is turquoise with color-blocked panels. At the top in white writing, it says, "Pride Panel, Vermont artists explore the intersections of queerness and disability."

Below in black writing is the text

“-What: a panel of LGBTQIA+ Vermont artists with disabilities discussing their art/life/experiences/perspectives.

-Where: Virtual via Facebook Live.

-When: June 21, 4 PM

Presented and facilitated by Inclusive Arts Vermont and Pride Center Vermont.”

And at the bottom is the access question mark symbol and text, "The event will have ASL, captioning, and verbal description.” To the right are the logos for Pride Center and Inclusive Arts. And at the far right is an image of art supplies in rainbow colors.

The video spotlights whoever is speaking in the conversation and on the bottom left of the screen, each person’s name appears in white lettering. Towards the end of the conversation, Kat shares her screen to show three artworks by Shae Witzo, three artworks by Aurora Berger, and four artworks by Liam Malone.

**Heidi Swevens:** Heidi has blue eyes and pale skin with short brown hair, and they are wearing a turquoise button-up shirt with earrings that have turquoise people, and water droplets. Behind them is an abstract painting, a rectangular painting, against a white wall.

**Kat Redniss:** Kat is a pale-skinned fat, femme, platinum blonde person. She has chubby cheeks and pink lips, and straight platinum bangs across her forehead. She is wearing a cozy oatmeal cardigan and sitting in her sunroom which has black paned windows letting in light, and there's foliage seen through the windows. There's some furniture behind her and there might be a cat that wanders into the screen at some point.

**Richard Elliot:** Richard isa relatively young light-skinned African American individual, a wearing a new colored shirt, blue bandana, clear glasses,  and a rainbow earring in the left ear. Richard’s background is a pale blue, baby blue, powder blue wall against a white wooden door.

**Liam Malone:** Liam is a fair-skinned individual with dark brown hair, dark brown eyes, and facial hair. They are wearing pink clear glasses and a sweatshirt that is baby blue and baby pink and white. Liam’s background is a blurred soft focus.

**Shea Witzo:** Shea is a fat white person with wire-rimmed glasses on and very long graying, dark brown, straight, Willie Nelson braids on. They are wearing a tan shacket, which is a combination of a shirt and a jacket and behind them, there's a bookshelf that's full of plants and cluttery knick-knacks. There is a pie safe and there's a piece of art on the wall that's from Bread and Puppet that says ‘Strategy', and it has a yellow circle with a chair and a heart and an outstretched hand on it.

**Aurora Berger:** Aurora issitting outside a coffee shop with a brick wall on one side, and a window that is reflecting like an umbrella. On the other side, there are some pillows. Aurora is a pale white woman with dark blonde hair in a bun and rectangular black metal glasses. She is wearing a black sweatshirt with a white zipper and little white strings, a black and white flower tank top, some black Bluetooth headphones, and a little silver necklace with a piece of ponderosa bark.

**Verbal Descriptions of Artwork Shown:**

**Shea:**

**Artwork 1**

“This is a photograph of me, a white person with a ukulele in hand, wearing a papier mache possum hat and a furry costume, and there are baby possum puppets mysteriously hovering above my shoulders, and I'm singing. And it's lit from underneath and the background is very dark.”

**Artwork 2**

“That’s, this is a photograph of a blue sky, sunny day, a farm landscape in the background. And two masked figures in grandma outfits and grandma papier mache masks, doing voguing poses in the front, striking a pose. And one of those masked figures is me.”

**Artwork 3**

“This is a photograph of a piece that I made. It's a gray overcast sky and a grassy landscape that's autumnal. The grass is withered and tan oatmeal colored and overgrown, and there's a figure standing in the middle of the photograph. A woman with long dark hair and a sort of sequins dark outfit and a black hat, and she's standing over something that I will describe as a blanket puppet. She's standing over like a big weird object that's like a floppy thing, mostly fabric covered in little bits of fabric, tulle, glittery texture bubbles, and pompons and stuff.”

**Aurora:**

***Fibrosis Covered in Tulle***

“This is a black and white horizontal photograph of me. Shown from the clavicle down. So you can see my shoulders and I'm sitting cross-legged on the floor against a black background, and I am wearing nothing but a whole lot of crumpled tulle. That's sort of wrapping all around my body and because the photos in black and white and the tulle is all shown in different shades of gray and white where it becomes more opaque wherever it’s overlapping on my body or overlapping on itself, and the pieces that are sort of one single layer against the black background are showing a lot darker.”

**Artwork 2**

“This is a photograph. It's a black and white photograph of my body. It's my back and all of my hair. I have like sort of long curly-ish hair and it's sort of all pulled over one shoulder. You can visibly see that one of my shoulders is lower than the other and that they're kind of curved. And I am once again naked, and I'm sort of sitting with my knees in front of me as if I'm holding my knees in a fetal position, which I probably am in that photo. And superimposed across my lower back is a white line of an EKG heartbeat taken from an EKG from when I was 9 years old.”

***Titania***

“It's a blueprint of a photograph of me lying on the ground outside with leaves, dead leaves, under my hair. It's a photo I took in the fall. I'm once again naked. And I have my eyes closed, and I have one of my hands sort of cradling my head, and the print is on a piece of white paper that you can tell because the edges are clearly, they're really irregular. They were painted on, I painted them on in the dark. And I clearly did a terrible job of covering my piece in cyanotype, because there's this huge white patch at the top that kind of curves in where my neck is.”

**Liam:**

**Artwork 1**

“This is a multimedia collage. In the background is kind of patterned pieces. There's wallpaper, floral wallpaper in the very back. There are flowers and maybe rocks in the back, crystals. And then overlaid over that are some square images. One is that image of like a living room with a sage green teal door and flora wallpaper. There's a bright red chair at the center and a lamp on a table. And then there is also a picture of foliage. In a street, there's some debris on the street, and there is coming out from the edge there is a parked trailer. Over that is a figure sitting backward in a chair layered on top of that it says, “Chapter 28. Pandemics. Reducing the distance between me and my story. Unprecedented improvement. Thank you for your patience.” The figure their eyes are covered with red and with text. And then they're wearing a white shirt. They have white pale skin. One of their hands is at the bottom of their face. And then going through towards the figure is a helicopter.”

**Artworks 2&3**

“There are two pictures here. The one on the left is a black and white painting of me in a bathtub. I'm facing backward. And there's a sink next to me. It's like an old claw-footed bathtub. It's monochromatic painted, and then laid over that is an image of a stack of cookies, their chocolate chip cookies. And then there's text over it that says ‘They were truly generous during a difficult time. Reciprocate their kindness.’

And then have that piece on the right. It started off as a collage in the back, in the back is another picture of me sitting in a folding chair. The chair is backward and wearing a white v-neck and earrings, and my arm is over the chair kind… of one hand over the other with your hand in the foreground. Then laid over that is another collage, and it, it's a bunch of images, a bunch of tiny images and the words say ‘For a moment your eyes open all the way. Explore the pleasure in taking it easy.’ ”

***End Paige***

“At the foreground on the left side is a red curtain being pulled aside.

Like a curtain of a stage curtain and a white hand is pulling it aside, and it is showing a picture of I believe this is Liam, but a figure walking away from the gaze. They're next to the water, and there are buildings around. this is overlaid faintly in the background. There's a bouquet of flowers, roses mostly yellow and pink roses, with a white flower going off to the right and at the top. And the person is in a t-shirt and pants with rolled hems and carrying a bag. And over top of it, it said, ‘But this doesn't tell the full story because they've bloomed to survive the best we could.’ ”