**Inclusive Arts Vermont**

**Verbal Description: Artist Talk with Aurora Berger**

**Featuring: Aurora Berger, Heidi Swevens, and Megan Bent**

**Overview:** This is a 52-minute discussion between Heidi Swevens, Director of Community Parternships at Inclusive Arts Vermont, and artist Aurora Berger with tech support from Megan Bent. The video spotlights whoever is speaking in the conversation. After introductions and verbal descriptions, the conversation ebbs and flows between screen shares of Aurora’s artwork and spotlighted conversation between Heidi and Aurora. 4 artworks by Aurora Berger are shared and are described below.

**Heidi Swevens (they/her):** Heidi has blue eyes and pale skin with short brown hair. Heidi is wearing plaid flannel, with orange, blues, and maroons. And behind them are some blank walls.

**Aurora Berger (she/her):** Aurora is a pale woman with pink hair wearing dark rectangular glasses, a dark purple striped shirt, with some pinks and blues in it, and a silver necklace that looks like a piece of ponderosa bark. She is sitting in her classroom, with a very colorful, neurographic mural behind her, mostly made out of reds and pinks, and some blues and greens.

**Megan Bent (she/her):** Megan is a pale woman, with blue eyes and shoulder-length, brown, and blondish hair. Megan is sitting in her apartment, which has a brick wall in the back and white walls on each side, behind her is a blue dresser with some plants on it.

**Artwork:**

***Fibrosis Covered in Tulle***

A photograph of Aurora sitting on the floor cross-legged. She has long blonde hair that is cascading over one shoulder and is clutching some tulle that's sort of been bundled up and is very layered and unruly. It has lots of interesting folds and layers of translucency and transparency. And it is covering parts of her body. You can see one of her legs and both of her arms through the tulle, but a large part of Aurora’s body is covered by it.

***Clouded***

A 24 by 32” piece of paper that is a deep indigo blue cyanotype. It's a macro photograph of Aurora’s eyeball that has a stripe of scar tissue on it. There are brush strokes from coating the cyanotype that is right where her eyebrow should be, a streakiness where the white from the paper is showing through, and very rough edges to the image.

***Cleft***

A piece of cloth that's been nailed to a wall, and the cloth is very dirty. It's got a black and white photograph of Aurora’s clavicle and my neck on it. Her neck is twisted to the side, and the lighting is very dramatic with very harsh shadows on it.

***Bleeding Out***

A 3 by 4 feet photograph printed on cotton and it is nailed to two trees that are standing parallel in a summery green Vermont forest. And then the places where the nails have been tapped into the trees, there’s this sort of like brownish sap or rust residue from the nails dripping down the sides of the photograph. The photograph is of Aurora from the back curled up in the fetal position. You can see the top of her head, and spine, and her hands gripping her shoulders.