



The following is an audio description of Liminal Beings by Saba Taj.

Liminal Beings is a 2019 mixed media painting by Saba Taj. The canvas is roughly 5 ½ feet tall by 6 ¼ feet wide. Three abstracted human forms face forward and slightly turned left, in a line, the 1<sup>st</sup> figure dominating the canvas and mostly obscuring the other two. The left contour of each figure is almost identical, giving the sense that the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> figures are echoes, shadows, or dimensions of the 1<sup>st</sup>, though each is different in texture and color. Both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> figures direct an intense gaze at the viewer with dark brown eyes that are lined in black. Since the figures are slightly turned left, the eyes look to the right to focus on the viewer.

The 1<sup>st</sup> figure is created from layers of oil and spray paint in shades of pastel pink roughly blended together. Soft patches of lavender appear in small areas, and the figure's lips, nostrils, and eyebrows are defined with lavender and gray. The septum of the figure's nose is adorned with a fine white hoop ring. The pink extends up, well beyond the top of the head, suggesting hair that is piled or styled high like a crown. The right side of the figure softly transitions to the background, painted mostly pale mint green with some areas of pale pink. The 2<sup>nd</sup> figure is painted with thick gold glitter, except for the pair of eyes that are almost identical in shape and direction to those on the 1<sup>st</sup> figure. The 3<sup>rd</sup> figure is painted with light and dark gray curling waves that suggest fur or smoke. A few drops of gold glitter extend to the left, right, and above the top of the 2<sup>nd</sup> figure, overlapping the other two. 20 bees emerge from the top of the glitter figure and fly to the left and right. Painted water droplets are spaced evenly apart on the pink figure and on the background on the left side of the gray figure. One lands under the outer corner of the pink figure's left eye, suggesting a tear. 17 tear-drop shaped appliques, red at the center, lined with silver and with an outer layer of gold, are affixed to the right 1/3 of the canvas, several of them laid on top of the pink figure.

This description was brought to you by Danica Cullinan, an audio describer with Arts Access, a North Carolina nonprofit that works to make the arts accessible to children and adults with disabilities.