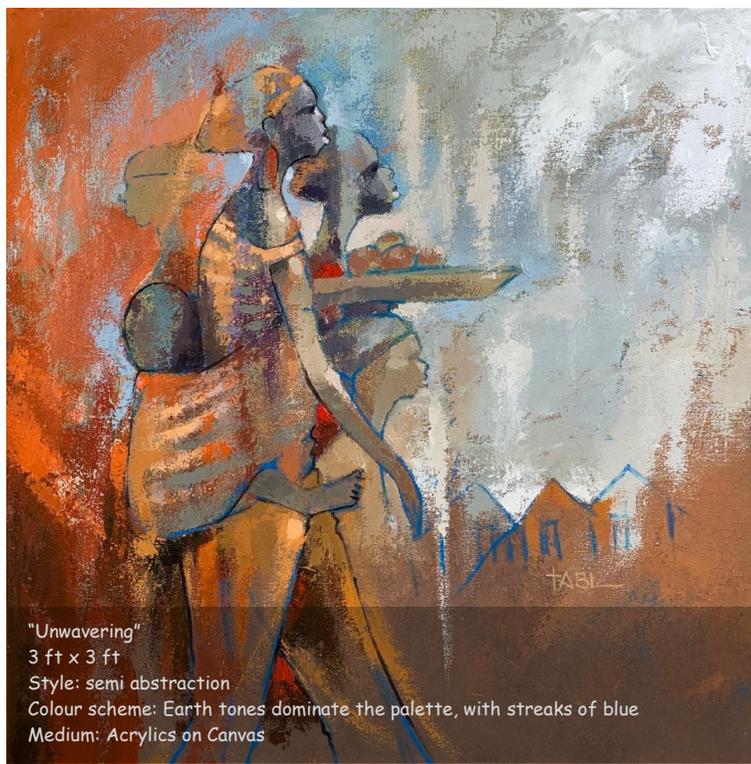




About the cover

Open
Access



"Unwavering"
3 ft x 3 ft
Style: semi abstraction
Colour scheme: Earth tones dominate the palette, with streaks of blue
Medium: Acrylics on Canvas

"Unwavering"

Artist's perspective

"Unwavering" presents itself as a study in collective resolve rather than individual portraiture. The three female figures are rendered at a monumental scale, towering above the settlement they inhabit. This elevation is symbolic, not heroic in the classical sense, but existential. They are larger because they carry more than themselves. The composition is unified by forward motion. All three figures move in the same direction, creating a visual rhythm that suggests continuity and shared purpose. There is no hesitation here. The title finds its meaning in posture rather than expression. These women do not announce strength; they embody it. Motherhood appears without sentimentality. The child is integrated into the figure's stride, an extension of responsibility rather than an interruption of agency. It is a portrayal of care that coexists with movement, asserting that nurture and progress are not opposing forces. Livelihood is addressed through the figure bearing a tray of fruit. The gesture is modest, almost understated, yet loaded with meaning. Work is presented as dignity, survival as order. The fruits are not decorative; they are currency, sustenance, proof of self reliance. The third figure remains deliberately undefined. This ambiguity is the most compelling aspect of the work. She resists attach. She resists narrative closure. In doing so, she becomes a vessel for projection. She is potential, identity in flux, the unnamed role women are still stepping into.

Take a journey through the painting and identify with the attributes. The rest of the story lies with the viewer.

The surface treatment of the portrait reinforces the theme "Unwavering." Earth tones dominate, grounding the figures in land, labor, and history, while streaks of blue introduce direction and a quiet sense of optimism. The rough, layered texture resists polish, aligning the materiality of the paint with the lived experience it represents.

"Unwavering" is not a depiction of struggle, nor is it a celebration in the conventional sense. It is a statement of presence. These women move forward not because the path is clear, but because stopping is not an option.

Editors' view

Scientific progress, much like the movement captured in *Unwavering*, is rarely the result of solitary effort. It emerges instead from collective resolve, sustained by individuals who carry responsibilities beyond their immediate work. The figures in the artwork move forward together with purpose and continuity, embodying a quiet determination that resonates with the mission of the *HSI Journal*. Research, particularly in the health sciences, advances through similar perseverance—through communities of scholars, clinicians, and public health practitioners who continue their work even when the path ahead is uncertain. The symbolism of labor, care, and responsibility reflected in the figures mirrors the realities of health research in many settings. Scientific inquiry often unfolds alongside pressing societal obligations, yet it persists because the pursuit of knowledge remains essential to improving health and wellbeing. The earthy palette and textured surface of the work remind us that research is grounded in lived realities including patients, communities, and health systems. For the *HSI Journal*, this image resonates with our ongoing commitment to steady scholarly progress. Our mission remains the promotion of rigorous, ethical, and impactful health sciences research that advances knowledge and serves communities.

How to cite

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