

## **SAQA Exploring Contemporary Art Special Interest Group**

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 1 pm ET**

**Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84935542737>**

We'll be studying and discussing **Christi Marlène Belcourt** (born 1966), a Canadian visual artist and author. She is best known for her acrylic paintings depicting floral patterns inspired by Métis and First Nations historical beadwork art and explores themes of identity, culture, place and divisions within communities.

SAQA member June Horwich selected **Christi Marlène Belcourt** and compiled the resources. Thanks, June!

**Please review the following resources before our meeting so we can have rich, interesting conversations. The list includes gallery pages, articles and videos and will take about an hour to review.**

- <http://christibelcourt.com/>  
Belcourt's website
- <https://chestertownspy.org/2025/11/20/looking-at-the-masters-christi-belcourt/>  
Article describing Belcourt's work, heritage, process and activism
- <https://youtu.be/Gktriwbs2x4?si=NzJKko5c2NuROx4f>  
10:32 Comprehensive overview of Belcourt's painting The Wisdom of the Universe, plus interview clips about influences, process and history
- <https://www.gallery.ca/magazine/artists/from-the-heart-an-interview-with-christi-belcourt>  
Q&A with the National Gallery of Canada
- <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/surreal-northeastern-ontario-artist-christi-belcourt-receives-postage-stamp-order-of-canada-1.7249914>  
News article about Belcourt's Order of Canada appointment and postage stamp
- <https://youtu.be/8WL-RB78lfs?si=yMn0wMoHxY8Gu7ml>  
10:40 Slice of life documentary including Belcourt working in her studio
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwNHNm9dw6Y>  
11:04 Belcourt discusses her painting My Heart is Beautiful
- <https://youtu.be/7GhT7X9q2EM?si=ZajXpZPDRTwomrJG>  
9:08 Interview from National Arts Centre with Belcourt about her artistic practice, community building and thoughts about National Indigenous History Month

### **Optional Additional Resources**

- <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/christi-belcourt>  
Overview of Belcourt's life from The Canadian Encyclopedia
- <https://canadianart.ca/features/walking-softly-with-christi-belcourt/>  
Deep examination of Belcourt's art and how it connects with her activism
- <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/unreserved/exploring-the-complicated-world-of-cultural-identity-1.3637394/christi-belcourt-turned-an-act-of-discrimination-into-a-work-of-art-1.3639329>  
Article exploring Belcourt's indigenous identity and intersection with her art