**SAQA Exploring Contemporary Art Special Interest Group**

Tuesday, November 24, 2026 at 1:00 pm ET
Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84935542737

Featured Artist: **Nancy Hemenway Barton**

**Nancy Hemenway Whitten Barton** (1920–2008) was an American artist, poet, and pioneering fiber artist known for her innovative, richly textured tapestries. Her signature technique, which she called bayetage, incorporated flower-dyed wool, traditional Bolivian bayeta cloth, and collage. Her tapestries were exhibited in museums internationally, and her work is held in collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago.

**Artist selection and resources compiled by SAQA member Lindsay Olson.**

**Please Review Before the Meeting**
To support a rich and engaging discussion, spend some time exploring the resources below. It should take about an hour to review these links.

- **Artist Website**
  https://nancyhemenwaybarton.com/
  Review her biography.

- **Denver Art Museum**
  https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/exhibitions/nancy-hemenway-barton
  Description and images from the exhibition Confluence of Nature

- **Fiber Art Now**
  https://www.fiberartnow.net/blog/confluence-of-nature/
  Article about the Confluence of Nature exhibition

- **Art Daily**
  https://artdaily.com/news/178271/Denver-Art-Museum-presents--Confluence-of-Nature--Nancy-Hemenway-Barton-?utm_source=mutualart&utm_medium=referral
  Article including descriptions of Barton's various bodies of work

- **Barton Archives**
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSL15t6sufw
  Video including process, inspiration and development of several Barton works

- **Art Institute of Chicago**
  https://www.artic.edu/artists/34897/nancy-hemenway-barton
  Four Barton works from their collection

- **Portland Press Herald**
  https://static1.squarespace.com/static/571a67e1c2ea518a1630b397/t/63d83baf422fc9005db547e0/1675115472786/Ahead+of+Her+Time+Review.pdf
  Art review about how Barton was "ahead of her time"

**Optional**

- **In depth essay, academic review**
  https://static1.squarespace.com/static/571a67e1c2ea518a1630b397/t/5830d92029687f2db17c69d9/1479596326804/NHB+Ben+Forgey+essay.pdf
  Essay about Barton's life and work by Washington Star art critic Benjamin Forgey