

SAQA Exploring Contemporary Art Special Interest Group

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 1 pm ET

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

We will be studying and discussing **Joan Mitchell** (1925-1992), an American abstract expressionist painter known for her large, emotionally charged canvases that use bold, gestural brushstrokes to evoke feeling rather than literal imagery.

SAQA member Carole Rossi selected **Joan Mitchell** and compiled the resources. Thanks Carole!

Please review the following resources before our meeting so we can have rich, interesting conversations. The list includes information from the Joan Mitchell Foundation, gallery pages, articles and videos and should take about an hour to review.

<https://www.joanmitchellfoundation.org/joan-mitchell/biography>

Mitchell biography from the Joan Mitchell Foundation

<https://www.joanmitchellfoundation.org/joan-mitchell/timeline>

Illustrated timeline from the Joan Mitchell Foundation

<https://www.joanmitchellfoundation.org/joan-mitchell/key-works>

images and descriptions of 11 important Mitchell paintings

<https://www.joanmitchellfoundation.org/joan-mitchell/citations/joan-mitchell-à-vétheuil>

11:46 Interview from 1976 television series American Artists in Europe offering a glimpse into the Mitchell's workspace and painting practice

<https://www.joanmitchellfoundation.org/joan-mitchell/exhibitions/joan-mitchell-tate>

2023 Tate Modern in London -- includes 21 slides from the exhibition

<https://www.davidzwirner.com/exhibitions/2025/to-define-a-feeling-joan-mitchell-1960-1965>

2025 Gallery exhibition focusing on Joan Mitchell's work from the period 1960-1965

https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/24/arts/design/joan-mitchell-david-zwirner.html?unlocked_article_code=1.DIA.vtmp.dWwn7BMMfJA1&smid=url-share

NYT review of the 2022 David Zwirner exhibition

<https://www.slam.org/exhibitions/monet-mitchell-painting-the-french-landscape/>

Virtual tour of Monet/Mitchell: Painting the French Landscape at the Saint Louis Art Museum

<https://www.artic.edu/artists/17463/joan-mitchell>

Close look at Mitchell's "City Landscape" at Art Institute of Chicago

<https://www.artic.edu/videos/27/joan-mitchells-city-landscape-art-institute-essentials-tour>

2:40 close look video of Mitchell's "City Landscape" at Art Institute of Chicago

Optional Additional Resources

<https://vimeo.com/774544252?fl=pl&fe=ti>

3:56 archival video of Joan Mitchell, in collaborations, working on lithographs

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9qLZXzR4_M

47:30 Art Institute of Chicago conversation about six Mitchell paintings from six decades

<https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-joan-mitchell-artist>

Article compiling quotes and ideas from Mitchell about how to be an artist

<https://news.artnet.com/market/four-joan-mitchell-paintings-sothebys-2472692>

Article about four career-defining Mitchell masterpieces at Sotheby auction

<https://youtu.be/KelZiFa0n7w?si=A0-6p-g4YCdi4uGg>

5:39 video of the auction in the above article

<https://www.pbs.org/video/chicago-tonight-february-04-2013-joan-mitchell/>

5:46 Excerpt from "Chicago Tonight," 2013 program celebrating the life of Mitchell

https://youtu.be/34LOWutiGBQ?si=dGjS7_KUSiShhwyV

2:22 MOMA staff member shares her insights about Mitchell's Ladybug