



## Artist's Biography: Michael Belmore

### MEET THE ARTIST

“For the Three Fires people, our teaching and our understanding comes from this place on which we build our lives. At times my work may seem disjointed, yet the reality is that together my work and processes speak about the environment, about land, about water, and what it is to be Anishinaabe.”

- Michael Belmore, Artist



Michael Belmore, Artist

Michael Belmore, an accomplished Anishinaabe artist, was selected to create the free-standing sculpture installed at the Canadian Port of Entry as one of the project's Public Art commissions. The stand-alone piece celebrates and express the heritage and culture of Indigenous Peoples in Canada, visible to travellers as they move through the Port of Entry.

Belmore hails from northern Ontario and is an internationally recognized artist with over 25 years of experience. A graduate of the Ontario College of Art & Design, he completed his Masters of Fine Art at the University of Ottawa in 2019. Practicing for over 25 years, Belmore is represented in the permanent collections of various institutions including the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the National Museum of the American Indian – Smithsonian Institute. Belmore is a member of Unsettled Ground Artists Inc and is currently involved in the creation of a multi-year public art project for four light rail stations as part of Phase 2 of Ottawa Light Rail. His exhibitions include: Every. Now. Then: Reframing Nationhood at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, ON, Shapeshifting: Transformations in Native American Art at the Peabody Essex in Salem, MA and HIDE: Skin as Material and Metaphor at the National Museum of the American Indian – George Gustav Heye Centre in New York. He was chosen for the Gordie Howe International Bridge Indigenous Public Art commission following an extensive selection process that began in 2018.