

# Nathalie Bertin

## Le cœur de Céline Céline's Heart



### Inspiration

As I started contemplating on the direction for the art on this chair, I received news that a member from my extended family had succumbed to her battle with cancer. For about 5 years, Céline, a health care professional, courageously imposed a complete therapeutic regimen on herself along with chemotherapy. Nonetheless, the cancer spread and she suffered. She left behind two children, aged 10 and 13.

### Symbolism

The leather back is for comfort and is a natural, traditional material used for its strength and enduring qualities.

The flowers painted on the leather are the standard Métis flower (in the centre, representing traditional knowledge), from which spring abstract representations of branches of Yew, Lavender, Daisies and Red Clover. The Lavender and Daisies were Céline's favourite flowers. Both Lavender and Daisy have a long history of medicinal use, especially in France. The Yew and the Red Clover are traditional plants used by First Nations in cancer prevention. The flower patterns continue on the arms and seat of the chair. Also represented on the chair is the Bloodroot flower - another plant used in the prevention of cancer by First Nations.

### Materials

The supplied Muskoka chair is made of Pacific Red Cedar.  
Leather hide and lacing.  
Polyester batting (hypo-allergenic, mildew resistant).  
Double-strength polyester thread.  
Two coats of Red Cabernet Varathane Stain.  
High pigment M. Graham acrylic paint.  
One topcoat of clear Varathane.

### For more information:

#### Nathalie Bertin Studio & Gallery

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