

In the article *Listening to and Looking at Ai Weiwei* by Charles Molesworth, he discusses how Ai Weiwei, a famous Chinese artist and dissident, creates art as a way of social activism. Molesworth also talks about how Weiwei globalized art have both enhanced his reputation and made him a target of governmental repression. Weiwei strongly opposes the Chinese government's denial of human rights and its means of maintaining power, therefore facing many repercussions, such as experiencing police brutality and being taken into "detention". There is much cultural value within his art, such as the complicated history of his sculpture "Circle of Animals" representing the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. Since this public artwork was displayed in New York City, it was perceived through a Western point of view and many viewers may not have understood the historical meaning behind it. Molesworth also brings attention to the hypocrisy of the Chinese government in prioritizing the repatriation of looted Chinese artifacts while only understanding these "traditions" superficially.

Why do you think his demonstrative art has such a huge impact and influence on people around the world? Would his work still have the same impact if he used a more traditional style rather than mondialisation? How could viewers step out of an Americanized/Westernized viewpoint when looking at contemporary art from different countries?