

Ai Weiwei Quotes

*People, Thinking, Art, Government, Artist, Chinese, Cities, Mean, Years, World,
Culture, New York, China, Expression, Rights, Country, Responsibility,
Independent, Care, Ideas*

Your own acts tell the world who you are and what kind of society you think it should be.

~Ai Weiwei

A small act is worth a million thoughts.

~Ai Weiwei

Creativity is part of human nature. It can only be untaught.

~Ai Weiwei

The art always wins. Anything can happen to me, but the art will stay.

~Ai Weiwei

The world is not changing if you don't shoulder the burden of responsibility.

~Ai Weiwei

Maybe being powerful means to be fragile.

~Ai Weiwei

Everything is art. Everything is politics.

~Ai Weiwei

I think art certainly is the vehicle for us to develop any new ideas, to be creative, to extend our imagination, to change the current conditions.

~Ai Weiwei

I think optimism is whether you are still exhilarated by life, whether you are curious, whether you still believe there is possibility.

~Ai Weiwei

The purpose of art is the fight for freedom.

~Ai Weiwei

I always want people to be confused, to be shocked or realize something later.

~Ai Weiwei

We have to give our opinion, we have to say something, or we are a part of it. As an artist I am forced to say something.

~Ai Weiwei

Liberty is about the right to question everything.

~Ai Weiwei

Choices after waking up: To be true or to lie? To take action or be brainwashed? To be free or be jailed?

~Ai Weiwei

Stupidity can win for a moment, but it can never really succeed because the nature of humans is to seek freedom. Rulers can delay that freedom, but they cannot stop it.

~Ai Weiwei

If there is no freedom of expression, then the beauty of life is lost. Participation in a society is not an artistic choice, it's a human need.

~Ai Weiwei

Being an artist is more of a mindset, a way of seeing things; it is no longer so much about producing something.

~Ai Weiwei

Once you've tasted freedom, it stays in your heart and no one can take it. Then, you can be more powerful than a whole country.

~Ai Weiwei

Imagine one day, the hateful world around you collapses. And it is your attitude, words and actions that put an end to it. Will you be excited?

~Ai Weiwei

If my art has nothing to do with people's pain and sorrow, what is 'art' for?

~Ai Weiwei

I have to respect my life, and free expression is part of my life. I can never really silence myself.

~Ai Weiwei

If there is no free speech, every single life has lived in vain

~Ai Weiwei

Creativity is the power to act.

~Ai Weiwei

No state or society can claim to have established human rights once and for all.

~Ai Weiwei

Art should live in the heart of the people. Ordinary people should have the same ability to understand art as anybody else. I don't think art is elite or mysterious.

~Ai Weiwei

I think everybody deserves freedom. Freedom is such an abstract word, but it's all we need.

~Ai Weiwei

No outdoor sports can be more elegant than throwing stones at autocracy; no melees can be more exciting than those in cyberspace.

~Ai Weiwei

I wouldn't say I've become more radical: I was born radical.

~Ai Weiwei

The tragic reality of today is reflected in the true plight of our spiritual existence. We are spineless and cannot stand straight.

~Ai Weiwei

I am very much interested in the so-called useless object. I mean, it takes perfect craftsmanship, beautiful material carefully measured and crafted, but at the same time it's really useless.

~Ai Weiwei

Every day I'm learning something new from the practice. It's very rewarding.

~Ai Weiwei

Life is never guaranteed to be safe, so we better use it while we are still in good condition.

~Ai Weiwei

The so-called culture nowadays is only a fake one with a superficial front. It is an empty lie.

~Ai Weiwei

Self-censorship is insulting to the self. Timidity is a hopeless way forward.

~Ai Weiwei

This so-called contemporary art is not a form, but a philosophy of society.

~Ai Weiwei

I think by shattering it we can create a new form, a new way to look at what is valuable – how we decide what is valuable.

~Ai Weiwei

If human rights are supposed to have any meaning, then they have to be discussed openly.

~Ai Weiwei

I think art is a very important weapon to achieve human freedom

~Ai Weiwei

During the days in detention, I thought most about the moon.

~Ai Weiwei

I want people to see their own power.

~Ai Weiwei

Everyone of us is a potential convict.

~Ai Weiwei

I'm an artist who is always looking for what is possible. I'm always looking to extend the boundaries.

~Ai Weiwei

To call yourself a Chinese artist or woman artist or African artist reflects a certain kind of condition. To me, that is not necessary.

~Ai Weiwei

I think by not letting young people be fully informed, how can they have energy and passion and the right picture of the world? I think that's the true crime.

~Ai Weiwei

Everyone wants an iPhone, but it would be impossible to design an iPhone in China because it's not a product; it's an understanding of human nature.

~Ai Weiwei

Politics is like air and water. And you know if there is bad politics. Everyone is polluted. Everyone is unhealthy. See the people walking on the street: how they act.

~Ai Weiwei

By participating in the society we live in, we understand our conditions and the way we relate to the world.

~Ai Weiwei

Liberty is about our rights to question everything.

~Ai Weiwei

Say what you say plainly, and then take responsibility for it.

~Ai Weiwei

The American experience influenced my understanding of individuality, basic human rights, freedom of expression and the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

~Ai Weiwei

Without freedom of speech, there is no modern world, just a barbaric one.

~Ai Weiwei

I think it's a responsibility for any artist to protect freedom of expression and to use any way to extend this power.

~Ai Weiwei

To express yourself needs a reason, but expressing yourself is the reason.

~Ai Weiwei

A nation that has no music and no fairytales is a tragedy.

~Ai Weiwei

Everyone thinks the Chinese government selected me. Never ever. I was selected by Herzog and de Meuron.

~Ai Weiwei

In the end, I think, the state's rigidity is a function of its own insecurity, its indecisiveness.

~Ai Weiwei

I think of art as coming from daily life, daily experience. I think it's very important not to have it become work for some kind of elite circle.

~Ai Weiwei

There are many cases and layers of racist behavior in the US - from police treatment to the issues of education and job opportunities. In America, however, such cases are being discussed publically.

~Ai Weiwei

I loved New York " every inch of it. It was a little bit scary at that time, but still, the excitement was so strong " visually and intellectually. It was like a monster.

~Ai Weiwei

Overturning police cars is a super-intense workout. It's probably the only sport I enjoy.

~Ai Weiwei

In a society like this there is no negotiation, no discussion, except to tell you that power can crush you any time they want " not only you, your whole family and all people like you.

~Ai Weiwei

These are nonviolent people who have lost their freedom simply because they expressed their ideas. In truth, they are heroes of our time.

~Ai Weiwei

The Internet changes the structure of society all the time â€” this massiveness made of individuals.

~Ai Weiwei

I have people working together, doing different things: architecture, art installation, photography, publishing, and curatorial works and design.

~Ai Weiwei

The misconception of totalitarianism is that freedom can be imprisoned. This is not the case. When you constrain freedom, freedom will take flight and land on a windowsill.

~Ai Weiwei

Today, we jump into this globalization of the economy and the internet age.

~Ai Weiwei

Even if I have hundreds of things to do, the disconnected feeling is still there because it is very hard to find a real purpose of life.

~Ai Weiwei

Had I to create a name for these times, I'd say it is the age of craziness

~Ai Weiwei

This world should be much more open and should be much more free, so the young people would have the chance to exercise the quality of their lives.

~Ai Weiwei

I call on people to be 'obsessed citizens,' forever questioning and asking for accountability. That's the only chance we have today of a healthy and happy life.

~Ai Weiwei

As a human being, member of society, you must clearly state your mind. It's a responsibility. It is the way you identify yourself otherwise you don't know who you are and why you are here.

~Ai Weiwei

The media is the message. It carries the full intention and the meaning. Once you change it...it's very disturbing.

~Ai Weiwei

Warhol influenced me because of his writing. If I had never read his writings and interviews, I would never have understood his work.

~Ai Weiwei

I saw [Allen Ginsberg] more as an old man who liked poetry and who had a lot of physical and emotional problems. We liked our time together.

~Ai Weiwei

We are living in a popular culture where everything is overexposed.

~Ai Weiwei

When human beings are scared and feel everything is exposed to the government, we will censor ourselves from free thinking. That's dangerous for human development.

~Ai Weiwei

The Internet is uncontrollable. And if the Internet is uncontrollable, freedom will win. It's as simple as that.

~Ai Weiwei

Destroy or build. Crazy or noncrazy. I'm not nostalgic about the old city. I don't enjoy it that much.

~Ai Weiwei

Hopefully, other successes aren't like me. It carries much more meaning to other people; my success story is irrelevant. It doesn't make any sense.

~Ai Weiwei

I hope that my work expresses my worldview and encourages people to exchange ideas.

~Ai Weiwei

I have to find a place for my own. I have to search for my own happiness.

~Ai Weiwei

Life is art. Art is life. I never separate it.

~Ai Weiwei

Dictatorship is a story about death of others who turn out to be you coincidentally.

~Ai Weiwei

...photographs are facts, but not necessarily true... The present always surpasses the past, and the future will not care about today.

~Ai Weiwei

This so-called fame or being better off doesn't really attract me at all.

~Ai Weiwei

The practice of photography is no longer a means for recording reality. Instead, it has become reality itself

~Ai Weiwei

I don't think there is a distinct change, because in the West I'm not a

person who can serve his purpose.

~Ai Weiwei

I was an illegal alien for many, many years. I couldn't move. If I moved I could not even get a visa back.

~Ai Weiwei

In my life, I often make so-called major decisions by very quick, immediate responses.

~Ai Weiwei

Man has a tendency to try to give clear reasons to be rational, but often you can see how all those reasons are not convincing and turn out to be a big nonsense.

~Ai Weiwei

I think it's more important to show your work to the public.

~Ai Weiwei

[Cultural department] understand nothing but bureaucratic daily affairs. They don't care about culture.

~Ai Weiwei

If civil society has nobody who protects the law, then what kind of society is that?

~Ai Weiwei

This is a very general understanding of art in China, that being an artist can make you money and turn you into a star.

~Ai Weiwei

If I look at it, I would laugh. I don't know how I became successful.

~Ai Weiwei

To the media, I have become a symbolic figure, critical of China. According to the government, I am a dangerous threat.

~Ai Weiwei

Democracy, material wealth, and universal education are the soil upon which modernism exists.

~Ai Weiwei

If artists cannot speak up for human dignity or rights, then who else will do it?

~Ai Weiwei

For me, it is OK as long as I can breathe, as long as my heart is pumping, as long as I can express myself.

~Ai Weiwei

Expressing oneself is like a drug. I'm so addicted to it.

~Ai Weiwei

Related Links:

- People Quotes
- Thinking Quotes
- Art Quotes
- Government Quotes
- Artist Quotes
- Chinese Quotes
- Cities Quotes
- Mean Quotes
- Years Quotes
- World Quotes
- Culture Quotes
- New York Quotes
- China Quotes
- Expression Quotes
- Rights Quotes
- Country Quotes
- Responsibility Quotes
- Independent Quotes
- Care Quotes
- Ideas Quotes