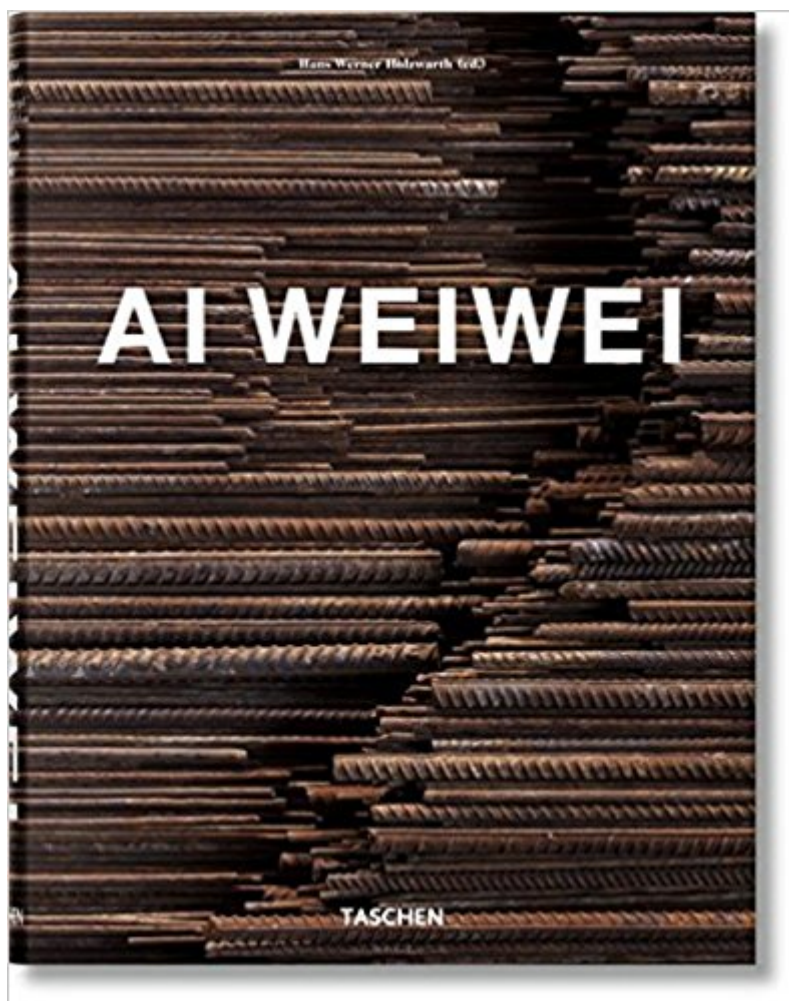


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Ai Weiwei



Synopsis

Life of Ai: The artist activist As his personal circumstances move in constant flux, Ai Weiwei remains a cultural magnet. Renowned for his political activism and social media activity almost as much as for his social interventions, contemporary approach to the readymade, and knowledge of Chinese traditional crafts, Ai's fame extends throughout and beyond the art world. Drawn from TASCHEN's limited Collector's Edition, this monograph explores each of Ai's career phases up until his release from Chinese custody. It features extensive visual material to trace Ai's development from his early New York days right through to his recent practice. Focus moments include his international breakthrough in the early 2000s, his porcelain Sunflower Seeds at the Turbine Hall of the Tate Modern, his response to the Sichuan earthquake of 2008, and his police detention in 2011

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"It's this type of character, the bold and rebellious artist, that TASCHEN is honoring with Ai Weiwei, the first comprehensive monograph of Ai's life and work. - Architectural Digest, New York "What Picasso was to the 20th century, Ai Weiwei is to the 21st, and if our century is to be the Chinese Century, then it's fitting that the greatest artist of the age is Chinese. TASCHEN's new book, meticulously edited and lavishly produced, is the closest you're going to get to an appreciation of Ai's work without actually attending one of his exhibitions. - Kyoto Journal, Kyoto

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