

New York

China's Ai Weiwei debuts public artwork in New York

Ai Weiwei will unveil his first public art work in Manhattan's Central Park in Grand Army Plaza on May 2. Consisting of 12 Chinese zodiac heads, the public work will stay until July 15. As reported by *ARTINFO*, each imposing head weighs around 800 pounds (roughly 350 kilos) and is inspired by an 18th-century fountain from the reign of Emperor Qianlong.

After the Central Park showing, organized by the Chinese contemporary art organization AW Asia and the city of New York, the sculptures will travel around the world in a tour. Besides New York, the sculptures will travel to the LA County Museum (LACMA), the Warhol Museum of Art, and the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, according to *Art Review*.



Ai Weiwei's bronze *Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads*