



Royal Academy of Arts **Ai Weiwei**

ROYAL ACADEMY ANNOUNCES UK LEGO COLLECTION POINT FOR AI WEIWEI PROJECT

The Royal Academy of Arts will become the UK Lego Collection point for a new international art project by Ai Weiwei. A second-hand BMW 5 series sedan will be placed in the Royal Academy's Courtyard, and visitors are encouraged to donate Lego blocks through the vehicle's sunroof. The car will remain in the Royal Academy's Courtyard from Friday 30 October until the end of November 2015.

Ai Weiwei's studio announced the following statement on Instagram: *"In September 2015 Lego refused to sell Ai Weiwei Studio a bulk order of Lego bricks for Ai's artworks to be exhibited at the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne on the basis of the works' "political" nature... Numerous supporters offered to donate Lego to Ai. In response to Lego's refusal and the overwhelming public response, Ai Weiwei has now decided to make a new work to defend freedom of speech and "political art"."*

Other international collection points include Ai Weiwei's studio in Beijing, The Martin-Gropius-Bau in Berlin and the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne. Ai Weiwei will be announcing further Lego international collection points.

Lego donations can also be made by post to Ai Weiwei Lego Project, Lisson Gallery, 52 Bell Street, London, NW1 5BU.

Ai Weiwei runs at the Royal Academy of Arts until 13 December 2015.

AI WEIWEI EXHIBITION DATES AND OPENING HOURS

Open to public:	Saturday 19 September – Sunday 13 December 2015 10am – 6pm daily (last admission 5.30pm)
Late night opening:	Fridays until 10pm (last admission 9.30pm)

ADMISSION

£17.60 full price (£16 without Gift Aid donation); concessions available; children under 16 and Friends of the RA go free. All tickets include a multimedia guide.

TICKETS

Tickets for *Ai Weiwei* are available daily at the RA or visit www.royalacademy.org.uk. Group bookings: Groups of 10+ are asked to book in advance. Telephone 020 7300 8027 or email groupbookings@royalacademy.org.uk

SOCIAL MEDIA

Sign up to Royal Academy of Arts social media channels.

[@royalacademy](https://www.twitter.com/royalacademy) #AiWeiwei

www.facebook.com/royalacademy

ABOUT THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

The Royal Academy of Arts was founded by King George III in 1768. It has a unique position in being an independent, privately funded institution led by eminent artists and architects whose purpose is to be a clear, strong voice for art and artists. Its public programme promotes the creation, enjoyment and appreciation of the visual arts through exhibitions, education and debate.

For public information please print 020 7300 8000 and www.royalacademy.org.uk

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