



THINK 151



ASIAN PERSUASION

Contemporary Chinese Art

All our literature and art are for the masses of the people, and in the first place for the workers, peasants and soldiers; they are created for the workers, peasants and soldiers and are for their use.

Mao Tse Tung, May 1942

As this year's Olympic flame slowly, and somewhat controversially completes its global tour, the world breathes a sigh of anticipated relief. The event hasn't passed without a fracas or two; the contested flame, flanked by a battallion of menacing, tracksuit clad minders, has deeply maddened and provoked as it tentatively circled a self-righteous planet. It's difficult, however, to avoid feeling that such a defiant public display could only be a show, viral-marketing on a grand scale, the likes and audacity never seen before at this level. If this were true, it could only possibly be a ruse concocted by the world's most contentious and 'blooming outrageous' super-power!

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