

Badiucao

Badiucao is one of the most popular and prolific political artists from China, and he confronts a variety of social and political issues head on in his work. He uses his art to challenge censorship and dictatorship in China and beyond.

He believes history is constantly being unified and tampered with — and can even be forgotten, especially when free speech and democracy are absent. His art is a record of his personal perspective on social issues to challenge the official record. He believes art and the internet has the power to deconstruct the arrogance and authority of dictatorship as a building block of individual awakening, freedom and independence.

His first graphic novel, YOU MUST TAKE PART IN REVOLUTION, a work of near future speculative fiction, co-authored with acclaimed American journalist Melissa Chan was released in March 2025.

Website

www.badiucao.com

Representation

United Talent Agency | Beverly Hills and New York | literary / publishing

Employment

2022 - present Editorial Cartoonist | The Age / The Sydney Morning Herald

2018 - 2019 Graphic Designer and Assistant to Ai Weiwei | Berlin

Solo Exhibitions

2023 “Tell China’s Story Well” | Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw

2022 “We Are the Last Generation” | EU Parliament, Brussels

2022 “MADe IN CHINA” | DOX Contemporary Art Center, Prague, Czechia

2021 “China Is (Not) Nearby” | Museo di Santa Giulia, Brescia, Italy

2020 “No, I Can Not. No, I Don’t Understand” | Melbourne Street Art Festival, Australia

2018 “Gongle” | Hong Kong

Group Exhibitions

2023 “Line of Duty” | Prometeo Gallery, Milan

2022 “Missing Time” | Hunar Symposia, University of Technology Sydney 2017

“Home Thoughts From Abroad” | praxis ARTSPACE, Adelaide, Australia 2016

“Divine Interventions” | Nexus Arts, Adelaide, Australia

Awards / Grants / Residencies

2025 30th Quill Awards, Cartoon

2023 Walkley Award, Cartoon

2023 Australia Council for the Arts, grant for graphic novel

2021 The Amnesty International Australia Media Awards, Cartoon

2021 Residency | Art in Protest / Gray Area Foundation for the Arts, San Francisco

2020 Václav Havel International Prize for Creative Dissent

2019 Courage In Cartooning Award

Theatre

2021 “Enlightenment” | stage art | Joe Paradise Lui and Elbow Room, Melbourne 2016

“You and Me and the Space Between” | live illustrator | Terrapin Puppet Theatre

Education

2017 Victoria College of Art, Melbourne

2016 Adelaide Central School of Art, Adelaide

2011 MA, University of South Australia, Adelaide

2009 BA, East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai

Press Coverage

2025 “Watched, followed, threatened. Now an impostor is claiming to be me” | The Age
<https://www.theage.com.au/interactive/2024/watched-followed-threatened>

2025 “Velshi Banned Book Club: ‘You Must Take Part in Revolution’ by Melissa Chan and Badiucao” | MSNBC

2025 “Chinese Artist Badiucao’s Dissident Work Pulled From Hong Kong Billboards” | ARTNET
<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/badiucao-work-censored-hong-kong-milan-gallery-2631927>

2024 “Is China silencing artists in Australia?” | Al Jazeera
<https://www.aljazeera.com/program/101-east/2024/8/26/is-china-silencing-artists-in-australia>

2024 “Badiucao’s art of resistance” | ABC (Australia)
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=414396560952357>

2023 “The Big Interview: Badiucao” | MONOCLE (podcast)

<https://monocle.com/radio/shows/the-big-interview/189/>

2023 “Critics of Beijing Face Increasing Impersonation Attacks” | Index on Censorship / New Lines Magazine

<https://newlinesmag.com/reportage/critics-of-beijing-face-increasing-impersonation-attacks/>

2023 “68th Walkley Awards winners announced” | The Walkley Foundation

<https://www.walkleys.com/68th-walkley-awards-winners-announced/>

2023 “China Tried to Block Australian Artist’s Exhibition Critical of Beijing, Gallery Says” | Bloomberg

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-06-13/chinese-diplomats-tried-to-stop-critical-art-show-gallery-says>

2023 “China Has Once Again Tried—and Failed—to Cancel One of Dissident Artist Badiucao’s European Shows” | Artnet

<https://news.artnet.com/art-world/china-censor-badiucao-poland-show-2318182>

2022 “Chinese artist Badiucao: Drawing truth to power” | CBS News 60 Minutes

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/badiucao-60-minutes-2022-07-31/>

2021 “The Show Goes On, Even After China Tried to Shut It Down” | New York Times

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/12/arts/design/badiucao-brescia-china.html> 2021

“‘Chinese Banksy’ hits Miami streets” | The Art Newspaper

<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2021/11/29/chinese-banksy-hits-miami-streets>

2019 “China’s Artful Dissident” | Documentary | ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation)

<https://www.abc.net.au/contentsales/programsandgenres/chinas-artful-dissident/13910146>

2019 “Chinese dissident artist Badiucao reveals his identity” | CNN

<https://www.cnn.com/style/article/badiucao-documentary-reveals-identity-intl/index.html>

2018 “Dissident cartoonist cancels Hong Kong show after China ‘threats’” | Reuters

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-hongkong-china-cartoonist-idUSKCN1N71EHhttps://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-27/badiucao-new-melbourne-exhibition-street-art-festival/11995456>

2017 “Badiucao: A Chinese political cartoonist reinvents himself in Australia” | CNN

<https://edition.cnn.com/style/article/badiucao-chinese-artist/index.html>