



THE NEFERTITI BUST was found by a German archaeologist on the floor of a storeroom in 1912. It was taken to **BERLIN**, with the permission of the Egyptian authorities. Today, thousands of people travel to see it each year in the **NEUES MUSEUM**.

Since 1925, Egypt has **ASKED FOR THE NEFERTITI BUST TO BE RETURNED**. The bust of Nefertiti is one of many works from the African continent (in particular) that were taken and brought to Europe during the **COLONIAL ERA**.

In this **RELIEF SCULPTURE**, you can see Akhenaten and Nefertiti in a tender scene, holding their young daughters. The three girls all touch their parents as they sit beneath the rays and protection of **ATEN, THE SUN GOD**.

Little is known for sure about Nefertiti's life. Some say she took over as Pharaoh after her husband and that one of her six daughters eventually became the **WIFE OF PHARAOH TUTANKHAMUN**.

AKHENATEN AND NEFERTITI WITH THEIR CHILDREN, 1340 BCE

1350 BCE

GIZA, ANCIENT EGYPT

KEY ARTIST: THUTMOSE

THE REMARKABLE ANCIENT KINGDOM OF EGYPT LASTED FOR THREE THOUSAND YEARS: THAT'S FAR LONGER THAN THE TIME BETWEEN THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST AND TODAY. IT BEGAN WHEN MAMMOTHS STILL WALKED ON OUR EARTH. THE EMPERORS OF THE OLD KINGDOM BUILT THE PYRAMIDS. THE ENORMOUS PYRAMID OF KHUFU AT GIZA WAS ORIGINALLY AN EXTRAORDINARY 147 METRES IN HEIGHT AND WAS THE TALLEST HUMAN-BUILT STRUCTURE FOR 3,800 YEARS! OVER TIME, THE OLD KINGDOM GAVE WAY TO THE MIDDLE KINGDOM AND THEN, AROUND 1570 BCE, TO THE NEW KINGDOM. THE FIRST DYNASTY OF THE NEW KINGDOM (THE 18TH DYNASTY OF EGYPT) WAS THE ONLY ONE BELIEVED TO HAVE WOMEN RULERS: HATSHEPSUT AND NEFERTITI. AROUND 1350 BCE, EGYPTIAN ART ADOPTED A NEW STYLE, A NEW RELIGION AND A NEW CAPITAL CITY UNDER THE RULE OF AKHENATEN AND NEFERTITI.

NEFERTITI BUST, 1350 BCE

This beautiful head is thought to have been carved by **THUTMOSE**, the **COURT SCULPTOR** of the Ancient Egyptian Pharaoh, Akhenaten.

Nefertiti's long neck, high cheekbones, elegant eyebrows and **HINT OF A MYSTERIOUS SMILE**, have made her one of the most admired faces in art.

Surprisingly, she only has **BLACK QUARTZ** in one eye. Some think this means the head was actually a **MODEL** rather than a finished work for display.

This work was carved from **LIMESTONE** and covered with a layer of **PLASTER** so that the artist could achieve more detail and a softer final effect. The **NATURAL COLOURS** add character and suggest movement making the sculpture still fascinating today.



450 BCE

ATHENS, GREECE

KEY SCULPTOR: PHIDIAS

THE ARTISTS AND ARCHITECTS WHO BUILT THE TEMPLES AND STATUES OF ATHENS SET IN MOTION IDEAS OF BEAUTY AND HARMONY THAT WE STILL ADMIRE TODAY. HAVING DEFEATED THE PERSIANS, THE CITIZENS, LED BY THEIR RULER PERICLES, WANTED TO CELEBRATE THEIR SUCCESS AND GIVE THANKS TO THEIR SPECIAL GODDESS, ATHENA. THE EARLIER TEMPLE ON THE HIGH ROCKY SITE HAD BEEN BURNED DOWN BY THEIR ENEMIES, SO REBUILDING A BIGGER AND BETTER ONE WAS VERY IMPORTANT. THE FIRST IMPORTANT VICTORY OF THE GREEK FORCES AGAINST THE PERSIANS WAS THE BATTLE OF MARATHON WHICH GAVE ITS NAME TO THE FAMOUS LONG-DISTANCE RUNNING RACE. THE BIGGEST BUILDING, THE PARTHENON, IS ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS EVER.

The Parthenon cost **469 SILVER TALENTS**. One talent was the fee to build one trireme: the most advanced warship of the era – so the building came at a price of more than an entire fleet of ships.

Athens was famous for its **DEMOCRACY** and **EVERY CITIZEN HAD A VOICE** and vote in how the city was ruled. The sculptor Phidias and his team carved more than 300 of his people in a long procession on the walls of the temple. He also carved pictures of the legendary battles between the **ANCIENT GREEKS** and the **CENTAURS**.

VARVARKEION ATHENA, 2ND CENTURY CE

Although the Athena statue from inside the Parthenon no longer exists, the Varvakeion is a **ROMAN COPY** of it.

Built of around **20,000 TONNES OF PENTELIC MARBLE**, the Parthenon must have sparkled under the brilliant blue skies. It was visible from many kilometres away and showed off the **STRENGTH OF ATHENS** as a warning to anyone wanting to invade.

The Parthenon housed a gold and ivory **STATUE OF ATHENA**. It was more than **12 METRES TALL!** The people of Athens admired her from the outside, from the hill of the Acropolis.

THE PARTHENON, 442 BCE

Each **COLUMN** of the temple is slightly fatter in the middle than at the top and bottom, so that it looks **PERFECTLY STRAIGHT** from far away. We still don't know how they managed to work this out!

THE SCULPTURES OF ATHENS were made by **PHIDIAS** – the most famous of all Greek sculptors and today there is an asteroid named after him.

The bronze Athena might remind you a bit of **THE STATUE OF LIBERTY IN NEW YORK**, but this figure was made more than **2,500 years** earlier!

Outside the temple, there was another figure of Athena made from **BRONZE**. This 9-metre statue stood on the site for 1,000 years until it was taken away to Constantinople by the Romans. We are not sure what she held in her hand. What do you think would make a good symbol of power?





Ai Weiwei made this **HUGE SCULPTURE** called **LAW OF THE JOURNEY** in 2018. When he showed it in Prague in the Czech Republic, it made people think carefully about **HUMAN DIGNITY** and **HUMAN RIGHTS**. The anonymous figures symbolise the millions of **REFUGEES** who have **ESCAPED DANGEROUS PLACES** by a risky sea journey.

Ai's **70-METRE BOAT SCULPTURE** carries more than **300 FIGURES** a bit like **A MODERN NOAH'S ARK** (a story from the bible and the Qur'an). The boat hangs overhead, making the viewers in the room feel that this problem is enormous and **OVERSHADOWS US ALL**.



THE BUILDING that this work is in is important too. It was once used to celebrate international trade in 1928. But during the **SECOND WORLD WAR**, thousands of **CZECH JEWS** were held here before they were deported on a different unwanted journey, to the nearby concentration camp at Terezin.



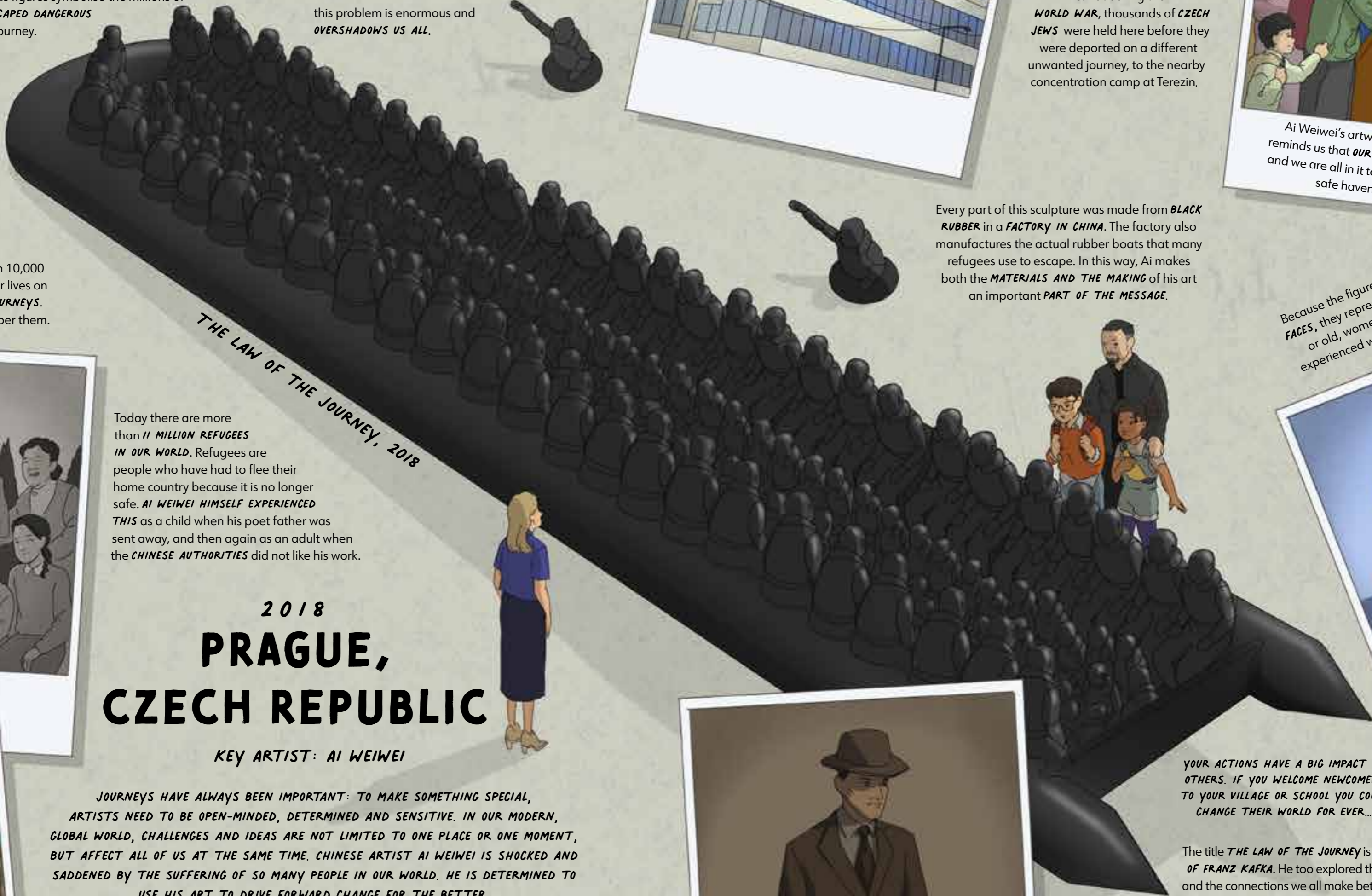
Ai Weiwei's artwork is powerful because it reminds us that **OUR WORLD IS INTERCONNECTED**, and we are all in it together. Everyone deserves safe haven and safe travels.



Tragically, more than 10,000 people have lost their lives on these **DANGEROUS JOURNEYS**. Ai helps us to remember them.

Every part of this sculpture was made from **BLACK RUBBER** in a **FACTORY IN CHINA**. The factory also manufactures the actual rubber boats that many refugees use to escape. In this way, Ai makes both the **MATERIALS AND THE MAKING** of his art an important **PART OF THE MESSAGE**.

Because the figures have **NO NAMES OR FACES**, they represent **ALL PEOPLE**, young or old, women or men, who have experienced war and being displaced.



THE LAW OF THE JOURNEY, 2018

Today there are more than **11 MILLION REFUGEES IN OUR WORLD**. Refugees are people who have had to flee their home country because it is no longer safe. **AI WEIWEI HIMSELF EXPERIENCED THIS** as a child when his poet father was sent away, and then again as an adult when the **CHINESE AUTHORITIES** did not like his work.

2018 PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

KEY ARTIST: AI WEIWEI

JOURNEYS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IMPORTANT: TO MAKE SOMETHING SPECIAL, ARTISTS NEED TO BE OPEN-MINDED, DETERMINED AND SENSITIVE. IN OUR MODERN, GLOBAL WORLD, CHALLENGES AND IDEAS ARE NOT LIMITED TO ONE PLACE OR ONE MOMENT, BUT AFFECT ALL OF US AT THE SAME TIME. CHINESE ARTIST AI WEIWEI IS SHOCKED AND SADDENED BY THE SUFFERING OF SO MANY PEOPLE IN OUR WORLD. HE IS DETERMINED TO USE HIS ART TO DRIVE FORWARD CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.

YOUR ACTIONS HAVE A BIG IMPACT ON OTHERS. IF YOU WELCOME NEWCOMERS TO YOUR VILLAGE OR SCHOOL YOU COULD CHANGE THEIR WORLD FOR EVER...

The title **THE LAW OF THE JOURNEY** is a reference to the **WRITING OF FRANZ KAFKA**. He too explored the importance of journeys and the connections we all make between start and end points as well as the unexpected detours that often happen.

