

I WILL TELL YOU ABOUT THE EXHIBIT OF PORCELAIN SUNFLOWER SEEDS BY AI WEI WEI.

At first you think they are real seeds,
but these are porcelain sunflower seeds
each painted by hands that have touched

centuries of pottery in this small town.
Their beauty is unexpected,
you walk among them, rake them,

hold one in your palm, while you consider
how many people held this particular seed,
how old the hand that held the paint brush;

there is even something mysterious
about the fact that the seeds
were found to release a toxin

so that the museum goers were no longer
allowed to play among them, but only
to stand behind a rope and gaze at them.

Art is dangerous, after all.