

## Politics and the Political

*Jin-Me Yoon – Clip 6*

I think I have a very large idea of the political. And in some ways I am of a generation that's been informed by the feminist adage *The personal is political*. However, thinking about the political, to me [it] is important not to reduce everything to the personal. And the political should not be so abstracted that it doesn't have anything to do with our daily, embodied lives. So in that way my work is political. And my ambitions are political in the sense that I'm not an ideologue. However, I would like to think that art has an important place - not in an instrumental way, that has an end result, or a direct result - but that art in fact can bring new possibilities into being. New ways of knowing into being. So in that way, if politics has to do with the way that we organize ourselves as human beings, I would say my work is political. But I wouldn't call myself an activist artist per se. I think that I respect activism, tremendously, in artists that use their work to that ends. It can be very powerful. And there'd be certain circumstances in which that should happen. However, I believe in the end, because of the consciousness I hold in terms of the twentieth century and the way that it's played itself out, a kind of certain instrumentalism in art can lead to a kind of ideological hardening, which I think ultimately is not good for opening up new ways of being, and thinking,

and experiencing, and creating what we know as, what we call, reality.