**Quotes from artists in support of Liu Xia**

"I chose to add my name to this campaign because artists who are free to speak must do so on behalf of other artists whose voices are being stifled.”

**Khaled Hosseini, author of Kite Runner**

"I hope that our action will contribute to shaming the Chinese authorities into letting Liu Xia go."

**JM** **Coetzee, awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.**

"Liu Xiaobo was one of the most courageous men in the world. He gave his life in the cause of freedom. And now his wife is carrying the torch, and we must support her in every way we can."

**Paul Auster, author of The Brooklyn Follies and The New York Trilogy**

“Liu Xia and Liu Xiaobo learned a lot from each other and their political ideology and artistic styles became more and more alike. From Liu Xia, Liu Xiaobo learned about art and about women – it added a layer of tenderness, kindness and peacefulness to his understanding of our society. They influenced each other, and expressed each other’s thoughts – this is the beauty of their relationship.”

**Ma Jian, author of Red Dust: A Path through China / Friend of Liu Xia and Liu Xiaobo**

“I live in a time and place which causes me to take freedom of expression for granted. Liu Xia's horrific story wakes me up from my slumber.”

**Alec Soth, Photographer**

“I’m very proud to participate in this project for the poet Liu Xia.

“The writer Andrew Sean Greer in his recent novel Less, which just won the Pulitzer Prize, writes that a poet is like a canary in the coal mine of political oppression. The forces of oppression of political power always come first for the poets. And thus it is our obligation to rush to our defence whenever we can.

“In order to work hard to achieve a just and equitable society, we must protect those canaries in the coal mine, we must protect the poets first.

**Ayelet Waldman, writer**