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### **Art and Ammunition**

Abandoned industrial complexes are increasingly utilized in popular culture, typically serving as a stage for cultural purposes. This paper aims to discuss the effect of the juxtaposition between art and ammunition in the Chinese art district, Beijing 798 Art Zone. This area emerged in the setting of an old ammunition factory which provided the Chinese army with equipment during the cultural revolution. The factory represents an important part of Chinese history and provokes emotions in both Chinese and western visitors. The plant was finally closed in the 1980's and since the late 1990's it has gradually developed into a dedicated art district. It is now a cultural hybrid in both time and function. Based on a semiotic approach this paper will, through analysis of the collaborative conceptual blending, illustrate how the blend between art and ammunition can add another dimension to the area and influence the authenticity of the place.