



Chinese protester disrupts CATO gala

Posted By [Josh Rogin](#) ■ Monday, May 7, 2012 - 2:25 PM ■ [+](#) Share

Hundreds of CATO Institute members, friends, and guests who attended the think tank's May 4 gala dinner event got quite a surprise when a Chinese protester ran through the event screaming to protest Chinese economist **Mao Yushi**.

Mao **was speaking** after dinner in the ballroom at the Washington Hilton hotel to accept the \$250,000 **Milton Friedman Liberty Prize** for his advocacy for "an open and transparent political system." Shortly into his remarks, a man ran down the center of the ballroom yelling in Chinese and holding up two cardboard signs that had Chinese and English writing on them. The English writing said, "Mao Yushi is a puppy of the U.S.A."

The Cable captured this **exclusive video** of security dragging the man out of the ballroom as the crowd booed and one attendee shouted, "You commie pinko!"

Mao didn't break stride and continued on with his remarks. You can watch his **entire speech here**.

Also speaking at the event was New Jersey governor **Chris Christie**, who got a warm reception but **erred by calling** the CATO audience "committed conservatives." The libertarian crowd, which dislikes being referred to as "conservatives," audibly groaned.

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