

## Significance of Emotional Expressions for Oil Painting Creation

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**Abstract:** Oil painting is a form of painting from the West, it has strong expressive force and aesthetic feeling, so it is loved by the public. In this study, the importance of emotional expression in oil painting creation was elaborated, and a detailed analysis of emotional expression in oil painting creation was made by the way of illustrating famous paintings, including using color, lines and composition to express emotions, then the effective angle of self-emotional expression in oil painting creation was studied. Artistic creation requires the creator to show his emotions, to objectify his subjective thoughts, and to experience and reflect deeply in the process of creative practice, so as to present a good oil painting.

### 1. Introduction

The charm of oil painting doesn't lie in whether the picture is realistic, but comes from the emotional factors conveyed by oil painting. The artist's oil painting creation process is actually the emotional release process, and this process is the value of an oil painting. Oil painting as a carrier of emotions, the key to understand its connotation is to be able to experience the artist's real feelings when creating. Therefore, emotional factors are the support and motivation of oil painting creation and the soul of oil painting memory. In order to make oil paintings have strong appeal and expressive force, oil painters should use line, color and material selection factors to integrate their thoughts and feelings. A good work of art needs not only a rational image, but also the soul of the work and the rich emotional expression of the creator. Because emotional expression is the primary motive force of all artistic creation, artistic creators should firmly grasp this main line and better carry out artistic creation. On this basis, emotional expression can better establish the soul resonance bridge between the creator and the viewer, and realize the realistic value of the works of art.

### 2. Importance of Emotional Expressions in Oil Painting Creation

Oil painting, as a way of expressing the author's self-feelings, with its unique charm and abundant expressive techniques, is unique and loved by people under the contention of hundreds of schools of thought in today's art form. The reason lies not only in the wide plasticity of its material itself, but also in the sincere and rich emotions expressed in its pictures [1]. Emotionality is a characteristic of artistic creation, and emotion is the basis of all arts. Emotional expression and oil painting creation are inevitably linked. Oil painting containing strong emotions can enhance the external aesthetic feeling and internal quality of the work, and make it more vitality. On the contrary, without emotions, oil paintings are bare in appearance and can't really touch people's hearts, and will soon be forgotten by others [2]. Thus, emotional expression plays a very important role in oil painting creation. Emotion is the soul of oil painting works and the source of power for oil painting creation, and runs through the whole painting creation. In the process of oil painting creation, the creator should place his emotions on the brush, and use the brush, lines, colors and composition to stimulate and express his inner feelings, so that the audience can experience the same emotions, this process is called artistic creation.

### 3. Emotional Expressions in Oil Painting Creation

#### 3.1. Use color to express emotion

Color is the soul of painting and the symbol of emotion, and the change of color corresponds to human's emotion. It is precisely because of the rich expressive force and dynamic emotional tension of color that it can build a bridge between the creator and the viewer's soul. Therefore, color is a unique means of plastic arts for artists to express their thoughts and feelings. With the help of color, artists express their inner emotional knowledge and give life to their works [3]. Different colors have different symbolic meanings, such as red for passion, excitement and vitality, orange for dependence and creativity, yellow for authority, domineering, self-confidence and willpower, green for peace, harmony, blue for depression, purple for wisdom, nobility, mystery, and black for depression. It can be seen that the use of color is particularly important in the whole process of oil painting creation. The reason why Van Gogh's oil paintings can impress the audience is that the color in his paintings is flowing from the artist's heart, which can stimulate the audience's emotions, and can also stimulate people's subconscious desire for movement in the life of ordinary people. Just as Van Gogh's oil painting Sunflower, the color of sunflower contrasts strongly with the background of the work, and the simple yellow color not only shows the unbridled growth of sunflower, but also reflects Van Gogh's love for life and painting [4]. From this point of view, color occupies an important position in the creation of oil paintings, which endows the works with rich emotions. In oil painting creation, the creator should fully tap the symbolism and expressiveness of color, use different colors to express feelings, so as to make the objects depicted have symbolic significance and arouse the emotional resonance of the viewers.



Fig.1. Van Gogh's oil painting Sunflower

#### 3.2. Use lines to express emotions

As an important part of oil painting creation, lines constitute the overall framework of oil painting. Specifically, the shape of lines is different, and different lines bring different feelings to people. For example, a straight line gives a crisp and straightforward feeling, a curve makes a person feel light, graceful, slow and smooth, while a broken line gives a person a feeling of uneasiness, fluctuation, entanglement and wandering. Any work can't be separated from the use of the basic elements of points and lines, points and lines can be continuously densely distributed, and different densities show different effects [5]. However, plane is different, because the expression of plane is intuitive, and plane is not as delicate as points and lines, which is also divided into regular and irregular, regular plane looks simple and orderly, while irregular plane looks complex and disorderly. In oil painting creation, the creator should integrate his own feelings into different lines, and convey them through his works, so as to shock the audience. For example, Sleeping Venus is a successful work of expressing emotions with lines. In this work, Venus, who falls asleep in front of the natural scenery, shows a kind of artistic beauty, his body is graceful and gentle, and his body

stretches proportionately, which echoes with nature [6]. This kind of soft line is not to give people a sensual stimulation, but to show the unity of beauty between the human body with vitality and the pure mind, which is a kind of beauty creation full of humanistic spirit.



Fig.2. Sleeping venus

### 3.3. Emotional expression of composition

In order to express the theme of the work, the artist needs to make a reasonable composition and artistic processing of the position and relationship of the people and objects in the picture. Composition, as the external expression of emotions in art works, can reflect the painter's inner feelings such as understanding and perception of real life, and reflect the artistic sentiment and aesthetic feelings of the painter [7]. In oil painting creation, based on the accumulation, reflection and rigorous thinking of life experience, the artist uses the formal rules of beauty to arrange and layout the formal language of midpoint, line, surface, volume and space in the picture reasonably to express the thoughts and feelings. Different compositions often convey different feelings of the creator. For example, Leonardo Da Vinci's classic portrait masterpiece Mona Lisa uses the orthogonal triangle composition, the pyramid shape highlights the dignity and stability of the characters [8]. Mona Lisa in the oil painting is healthy, noble and optimistic, and integrates rationality, which integrates rationality and profoundly expresses the Renaissance humanism and the painter's real feelings.

## 4. Effective Angle of Self-Emotional Expression in Oil Painting Creation

### 4.1. Selection of subjects for emotional creation

The real emotion needed in oil painting creation comes from life. Therefore, before oil painting creation, it is necessary for the author to take daily life or society as the source of inspiration, so that the author can develop the spark of inspiration in a certain segment of life through long-term learning and concise summary, so as to blend into the actual oil painting creation, and let the audience trigger wide associations [9].

In Luo Zhongli's oil painting *My Father*, the theme of his painting is derived from the author's personal experience. On New Year's Eve, when Luo Zhongli returned to his hometown in the countryside, the first thing he saw was his father, who was bent over by farm work and squatted in a corner smoking, such a picture filled the author's heart with feelings of guilt, pity and indignation, then, the author painted with his father as the theme [10]. Although the composition and dot-line shape of the painting are not the best choice, the audience can always feel a strong sense of intimacy on the ordinary rural father at the first sight after seeing *My Father*, which is also the best expression of human feelings.



Fig.3. Luo Zhongli's oil painting My Father

#### 4.2. Cognition and creation of emotional material

One of the value of oil painting creation is that the creator uses painting techniques to artistically process the real experience and express a real and illusory effect. However, there is a common misconception that life is art in the art circle of our country, most oil paintings record too much of the pictures of life, and on the contrary, which will create a vulgar illusion. Therefore, in the collection of materials, the creator needs to seriously think, feel and experience, so as to make the oil painting different through the way of second conception creation.

#### 4.3. Emotional integration of artistic expressions

With the development of the times, the emotional experience of the painter in oil painting creation can improve the artistic value of the painting invisibly, which is also the principle that the post-Impressionist masters have always respected. However, compared with the general art works, oil painting has inherent deficiencies in form compared with music, film and other forms, which requires the creator to pay more attention to the expression of inner feelings in the creation, and then produce inner emotional resonance with the audience. In addition to the influence of painting skills and styles, emotional expression is also very important for good oil paintings, this requires oil painters to observe life and experience life carefully in the process of creation, and to express their rich inner feelings by applying the elements of color, line and shape, so that the works created by this way can be called a good oil painting.

### 5. Conclusion

The source of artistic creation is emotion, and the ultimate purpose of creating artistic image is to convey artistic emotion and express the implication of works. Artists often put the full emotions accumulated in their hearts into paintbrushes to express their inner feelings with the help of works of art. Only on the basis of fully expressing the emotional implication can the works of art acquire aesthetic value. Therefore, the expression of emotion is a main source of artist's thought, and the way of expression of emotion is various. In the creation, the emotion runs through the determination of the subject matter, the completion of the collection of material, and the gradual improvement of the work, which makes the work more vitality, the creator's inner feelings are also expressed, while allowing the viewer to have emotional resonance in the appreciation of the work.

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