The Value of Color Elements to Emotional Expressions in Oil Painting Creation

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Abstract: In the process of oil painting creation, color is an important way for artists to express inner feelings and ideological connotations. Colors and emotions echo each other, and good oil painting works are the fusion of colors and emotions. From the perspective of emotional expression in oil painting creation, the role of color in oil painting creation was summarized, and the emotional expression of color in oil painting creation was analyzed, then the expression of emotional color in oil painting was deeply analyzed and the skill and importance of rational use of color to express emotions were indicated, so as to inspire the current practice of oil painting creation in China.

1. Introduction

Color plays a very important role in human production and life, and has a far-reaching impact. In the oil painting art, color is also an indispensable element. Oil painting art is an art that needs to use color to shape the body, and color is its important language and main means of expression. Good painters pay great attention to the color in painting, the color effect of an excellent work is bound to be excellent, which can embody all kinds of emotional elements of the creator in color, so that different people can get multi-dimensional experience from color and understand the emotional sustenance of the author, which makes color become a way and carrier of communication. In other words, color is the soul of oil painting. In addition, with the development of modern oil painting art, artists began to attach great importance to the perfect expression of personal emotions, and the carrier of expressing artists' personal thoughts and feelings is color. Therefore, the role of color in the emotional expression of oil paintings has become increasingly prominent, and its means of expression and means of expression have become increasingly diverse.

2. Role of Color in Oil Painting Creation

Color is the carrier of artists' emotions and ideas, the main means of expression of oil painting creation, and the important artistic language of oil painting. As the life and soul of oil painting art, color element is the most visual impact part of oil painting art, it plays a very important role in transferring the meaning of the picture, the main spirit and the appeal. Although the appeal of oil painting can be achieved by many means, the way to express the theme of the work appropriately and perfectly is still color, because the aesthetic feeling produced by color can realize the connection between the viewer's psychological function and the artists' emotional expression. The quality of an oil painting depends to a great extent on whether the use of its color is brilliant. No matter how the artists use color, they are absolutely inseparable from the use of color to express their emotions in oil painting creation. The oil paintings they create with their own color can bring people different aesthetic feelings and emotional experience [1]. From the point of view of the history of oil painting development, whether it is the use of impressionist color in the realistic period or the use of oil painting color in the baroque period, or the use of Abstract color and the use of color in the expressionist period, painters all regard color as an important painting language to express their inner thoughts and feelings [2].

Excellent oil paintings are bound to have the author's inner emotional pouring. Only by using color to express the author's inner emotions can such works have artistic charm. In order to endow the soul of oil paintings, artists must be good at the flexible transformation of color and emotion [3]. It is not enough just to express the inner feelings, artists should be able to effectively transform the
color emotions in paintings. There is a subtle connection between color and human psychology. Excellent artists tend to perceive the relationship between color and human emotions when creating oil paintings. They also need to be good at transforming color into emotional color, so that color can fully express their hearts and guide viewers to feel the world through their works, this is the soul of oil painting [4]. Therefore, it is necessary to study the role of color in oil paintings and its effect on emotional expression of paintings. Color is one of the most important elements in oil painting creation, the emotional expression of works and even the soul presentation of works are basically based on the color expression of paintings [5]. Excellent artists should make color emotional, and effectively carry out color and emotional transformation, so as to endow oil paintings with the inner soul.

3. Emotional Expression of Color in Oil Painting Creation

3.1. Emotions and colors in oil painting art

Color can’t be regarded as an objective thing in nature only, the color itself has no emotion, but the painter can reflect his happiness, sadness, anger, melancholy and other emotions on the color to express, and then integrate into his artistic creation, such oil paintings can bring strong visual impact, and bring different people different emotional experience [6]. Emotion, as a psychological form, is a subjective reflection of an individual's external objective living environment. From a psychological point of view, emotions refer to people's attitude towards whether the objective things around them conform to their own inner needs [7]. The process of oil painting creation is that the creator uses various painting languages, especially color to express his personal feelings. In this process, color mainly exists for emotion and mainly serves the painter's inner feelings.

3.2. Artistic emotion

The artistic emotion in oil painting is mainly the true feelings revealed by the oil painter through the color, which is the result of the creator's inner perception of many phenomena in the real society. Rich personal emotions are the fundamental value of an oil painting and the motive force for the artists to create oil paintings [8]. But oil painting belongs to visual art, if a painter wants to truly express his inner feelings, he must rely on visual impact to complete, and the best artistic carrier to express vision is color. A good oil painting requires not only rich colors, but also real emotions. That is to say, only when the color and the author's emotions are perfectly blended can the works created have more artistic charm [9]. In addition, the color of oil painting is the emotional sustenance of the painter, when oil painting artists create oil paintings, they must understand the knowledge and rules of color. The purpose of the painter's use of color is to fully express his thoughts and feelings about objective objects and his true inner experience.

3.3. Transformation of color and emotion

Excellent oil painting artists can transform objective objects and subjective emotions freely, and are very good at discovering the inevitTable relationship between color and human psychological feelings [10]. Therefore, in oil painting creation, the creator should not only stay at the level of the physiological and psychological reaction of color, but also conscientiously perceive color and human emotions, and then turn color into emotional color. Only in this way can the oil painting work be endowed with immortal soul.

4. Expressive Way of Emotional Colors in Oil Painting

4.1. Classical color

Classical color is the expression of classicism. During the Renaissance, the basic system of Western classical painting was formed. These painting systems pay attention to meticulous observation, careful perspective observation of painting, and also pay attention to creating a sense of light, color and shade, and the practicality is far greater than the aesthetic feeling of the picture.
Taking the representative work of Michelangelo Merisi Da Caravaggio, The Entombment of Christ, as an example, this work is full of light and shadow, and uses uniformly distributed and opaque darkness as the background, what people see is Christ in the center of the picture, while others' colors are not very bright, such use of color highlights the author's sense of sacred worship of Christ and the obvious contrast between the shadows, and the way of color treatment enriches the artistic conception of the picture with distinct layers, which are the expression of the writer's emotions. Because the painter is full of admiration for these sacred characters, he focuses on using the spotlight to draw, with a very expressive painting language [11].

![Fig.1. The entombment of Christ](image)

4.2. Conditional color

In the past, western paintings paid more attention to form than color. After impressionism, western paintings abandoned the traditional concept of color and began to pursue the instantaneous change of color, they paid attention to color and light and shadow, and brought unique aesthetic effects through the relationship of contrast, conditional color and complementary color. Taking Monet's Water Lotus as an example, the creator often use pure color to express the object. In these paintings, viewers can't see very specific water lilies, only mottled spots, alienated lines and non-hierarchical spatial perspective. From the real and concrete form at the beginning to the illusion of floating light and shadow at the end, each color seems very soft individually, but their whole is strong [12]. Monet's emotions are extensive, he want to express the first impression at a glance rather than a single static object and strengthen the relationship between light and shade by changing the color of light and shade, so as to express his love for natural scenery, the work is appealing and impact, and the emotional experience is obviously different from other works.

![Fig.2. Water Lotus](image)

4.3. Expressive color

Expressive color, apart from other light source color, environmental color and inherent color,
only pays attention to the color noumenon, expresses inner feelings and emotions, and it emphasizes that the aesthetic feeling of the picture is not important, but its own color mood is important. In this respect, the representative is the Fauvism, the color of the pictures in this kind of works is extremely bold and strong, with a strong sense of boldness. In this kind of oil painting creation, the artist pursues his own feelings and deep understanding, and relies on his understanding of color for subjective creation, so as to express his feelings for the characters through color.

4.4. Image color

In recent years, Chinese painters don’t emphasize the objective reproduction of objects, but more use of image color, which makes the color in the performance of painting with a strong subjectivity and symbolism. In this respect, Zhao Wuji, a Chinese-American painter, is representative. His pursuit is a splashing ink style of Chinese painting, the brush stroke is smooth and strong, the picture is full of life melody, and the color of large areas shows a feeling of momentum and magnificence. The viewer can appreciate the true feelings of the traditional philosophical spirit and cultural spirit in detail. Influenced by Taoism, his paintings are the real understanding of nature, but everyone has his own views on the unpredictable evolution of space and time in the universe, with a certain subjectivity. He describes the passion of that time with his own emotional expression, which is a unique Chinese-style perception of art philosophy, a mysterious and elusive experience of that realm, this also makes the color casual and full of tension.

5. Conclusion

With the development of modern oil painting art, artists began to attach great importance to the perfect expression of personal emotions and feelings. The carrier of expressing artists' personal thoughts and feelings is color. Therefore, the role of color in the emotional expression of oil painting works has become increasingly prominent, and its means of expression and techniques have become increasingly diversified. Artists rely on their true feelings and life experience in color. It has become a trend to improve the level of oil painting art through the emotional expression of color, and the use and interaction of emotion and color has become more and more subtle. After nearly 300 years of hard experience in Chinese oil painting, we hope that more people will pay attention to this field, and also look forward to the future development of Chinese oil painting.

References


