

## Discussion on the Aesthetic Features of Modern Oil Painting Art in China

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**Abstract:** Oil painting is an art form transmitted from Western countries to China. With the passage of time, oil painting has different artistic characteristics in different periods under the influence of Chinese local culture, which combines China's unique national characteristics and become an important part of Chinese culture and art. The concept of oil painting art has been continuously developed, showing different aesthetic characteristics at different stages. Under the background of multicultural integration, modern oil paintings have new forms of development, richer content, more aesthetic sense and diversiform value orientation.

### 1. Introduction

The oil paintings have been introduced into China for hundreds of years. The oil painting creators have gradually combined with the characteristics of China's aesthetic culture with traditional western oil painting to make it nationalized. Since the beginning of the last century, oil paintings have shown a diversified development direction, especially in the information age of the new century. The development of cultural diversity has enabled China's modern oil paintings to have a broad space for development. In art creation, beauty is the first, and oil painting art is no exception. With the change of modern aesthetic concepts, oil painting art also has new aesthetic characteristics.

### 2. The development and characteristics of Chinese oil painting art

#### 2.1. Development

After the introduction of oil painting art into China, it has experienced a long accumulation and gradually developed into a part of Chinese painting art. The true introduction of oil painting into China can be traced back to the end of the Qing Dynasty. The painters of this period gave high praise to oil paintings. However, influenced by traditional Chinese painting art and aesthetic concepts, Western oil painting art was not widely accepted by public while technology is widely accepted in the meantime. After accepting the influence of the West in material terms, culture and art gradually gained recognition. In the 1930s, some painters began to learn the art of Western oil painting. The artistic style and oil painting techniques of Western oil paintings were introduced into China. Gradually China's unique oil painting system was established and constantly changing [1]. Oil painting entered China and was accepted by the public. It was mainly because oil painting gradually adapted to China's culture. The absorption and melting of Chinese culture gradually changed it and made it an art with Chinese national characteristics.

#### 2.2. Artistic characteristics

China's oil paintings are characterized by individuality and nationalization. With the blending of Eastern and Western cultures, culture and art are more complicated. Chinese oil painting creators pay attention to constructing national cultural characteristics in their creation. In the process of individualization of Chinese painting and the nationalization of oil painting, different oil painting creators have formed their own unique styles, for example, Wu Guanzhong emphasizes the form beauty of artistic conception and Su Tianci pays attention to the use of simple techniques to paint and emphasizes the expressive power color composition. Under the premise of nationalization, China's oil paintings are diverse and individualized, too.

The creation of oil painting comes from life and requires the life experience of the creator to make the oil painting works rich in the characteristics of the times and the atmosphere of life. Most of the modern oil painters in our country have life experience at lower class, paying attention to the things in their lives, paying attention to people's spiritual life and real life conditions, expressing their lives through oil paintings, or criticizing modern life. In the feudal society, Western oil painters were very creative. In the new social life in the new era, Chinese oil painting artists dare to explore and try, and pay attention to seeking simple beauty in life. On the basis of expressing the reality of life, they add the critical nature of society to their works.

Every change in society will bring new changes to people's aesthetics. People's aesthetic perspectives will become more realistic and more standard. With the development of pluralistic culture, tradition and reality, others and self are closely combined, creating a unique cultural psychology. In the social transformation, the collision of art creators' ideas, art culture and ideological and moral resistance were stimulated. The creation of modern oil painting artists has gradually become a true reflection of their own existence. Artists use art works to create another world, to truly reflect the existence of individuals, to pursue the truth and self, to explore the mysteries of life and to maintain people's emotional connections. The historical function of art come into full play [2]. In addition, China's oil painting art pays less attention to the principle of perspective, and is accustomed to using flattened expressions. There are no projections, light, shadows, and other techniques to become a law of creation. The creative concept of plane consciousness pays more attention to the freedom of creative techniques and the modern connotation of oil painting. The creators of modern oil painting art in our country tend to create three-dimensional space.

### **3. The new form of modern Chinese oil painting art development**

#### **3.1. Internationalization**

Over the past 30 years of reform and opening up, China's exchanges and integration with the world have gradually deepened, not only in the political economy, but also in culture and art. The artistic style of oil painting is connected with international art and continues to deepen. Although oil paintings come from the West, Chinese artists continue to integrate Chinese and Western cultures, actively explore the way out of Chinese oil paintings, and make the world understand China through the characteristics of Chinese oil paintings and feel the culture and art of China [3]. In the creation of oil paintings, artists continue to get rid of the positioning of Western art forms, actively introduce the aesthetics of national subjective values, reflect the characteristics of the times, and express China's unique artistic charm. At the same time, in the art of oil painting, face the expression of desire, change the shackles of the body's ethics and morality, and make it transition to a perceptual aesthetic, break the tradition and restore the essential attributes of the body.

#### **3.2. Imagery**

Under the influence of fast-paced life and new culture, people's pursuit of sensory aesthetics is getting higher and higher, not only the sensory desire based on reality, but also the sensory pursuit of satisfying spiritual enjoyment and transcending life. In the pursuit of sensual pleasure, the aesthetic requirements are transformed into the visual pursuit of external colors and forms, and the pursuit of image symbols is gradually highlighted. Image symbol is a fast aesthetic tool that can quickly attract the public's attention, and more intuitive image, breaking through the cognitive aesthetic difficulties brought about by the abstraction of words. In oil painting creation, artists began to make full use of image elements, such as public images, photographic photos, etc., and produced many oil paintings with an image orientation. Graphical oil painting has become a trend and is on the rise.

#### **3.3. Cartoon**

The development of art is closely related to the development of the times. Any change of art

form is related to the changes of the times. The changes in social structure promote the changes of people's lives, thus forming a new aesthetic reality, and the art is also new feature. In the information age, digitalization is full of people's lives. Games, animation, cartoons, etc. are constantly developing. People's aesthetic culture has changed. Cartoon oil paintings and creator have appeared, and a wave of enthusiasm has emerged. Cartoon oil paintings grow in the era of peace and individuality, filled with small emotions and bright colors, and are virtual, usually with abstract self-representation. Oil painting artists reinvent themselves and change themselves in fictional situations.

### **3.4. Three-dimensional space**

The development of science and technology has not only changed people's lives, broadened people's horizons, but also brought about new changes in people's aesthetics. Nowadays, 3D TV can enter ordinary families and 3D movies bring people a visual pleasure. People are visually The requirements are getting higher and higher, and a single art form can no longer meet people's needs [4]. In the creation of oil paintings, artists continue to explore and adapt to the needs of the development of the times, and create three-dimensional oil paintings to enhance the image of oil paintings. Without the need for 3D glasses, they can deeply feel the depth of the picture in oil painting. In the art of oil painting, artists began to seek to combine painting and other materials, to transform the language of painting, and create a new concept.

## **4. The aesthetic image in modern Chinese oil painting**

Although modern oil painting inherits the essence of Western aesthetics, in the exchange and integration of Eastern and Western cultures, modern Chinese oil painting pays more attention to the expression of local culture. Chinese artists attach importance to the use of Chinese classical aesthetic elements, inherit and develop the concept and aesthetic orientation of classical aesthetics. On the basis of the way of thinking and traditional symbols, more emphasis is placed on the connotation of the realm. The formation and development of classical imagery in China has experienced a long history of accumulation. It requires specific factors such as scenery, scenes and moods. Different scenes convey different information in different situations, and the creators' expressions are also inconsistent. In our classical aesthetics, the emphasis on aesthetic imagery is the ontology of art and is centered on it. The most prominent idea of Western aesthetic imagery is Sartre's thought. Imagery has a strong supervisory color and strong objectivity. It emphasizes the standard of objective reality in the creation of oil painting. Modern Western art has produced many schools. The unified characteristics of these schools are abstract consciousness, which has had a profound impact on the creation of oil painting in China.

Modern Chinese oil paintings combine the aesthetic image of the East and the West, not only influenced by the aesthetics of Western expressionism, but also by the classical aesthetics of China. China's oil painting art has been criticized by many people and there is a big controversy. They think that Chinese oil paintings have no unique representative works. However, after the introduction of Western oil paintings into China, it was deeply influenced by China's aesthetic concept, and with the continuous changes and innovations in the concept of aesthetics, China's oil paintings have been rooted in the cultural soil of our country, and have been recognized and loved by the public. In the development of oil painting, artists continue to learn, constantly explore, respect Western art, and respect the history and culture of our country, and continue to enrich the creation of oil painting. In the creation, the artists pay attention to the expression of form and spirit, attach importance to the expression of natural beauty and sentiment, and pay attention to improving the aesthetic quality of oil painting works.

## **5. The aesthetic characteristics of modern Chinese oil painting**

### **5.1. The tradition of realism**

In the traditional oil painting art of the West, realism and reappearance are the internal needs and

expressions of their own culture. They are closely related to the aesthetic culture of the West, and more expressions are conceptual things. The realism of oil painting in China is different and is not limited to the level of aesthetic value. Realism contains many aspects, not only technology and ideas, but the expression of a more inclusive aesthetic. Modern Chinese oil paintings have more transcendence to reality in realism, realistic abstraction, more diversified technical means and language styles, and constitute a unique aesthetic feature in spatial composition, subject matter and theme formation. Due to people's new pursuit of beauty in the new era, the themes of oil painting are more abundant and their forms of expression are more diverse [5]. In terms of composition, modern Chinese oil painting not only inherits the traditional methods and composition principles, but also integrates into the local style, embodying the cultural psychology of Chinese oil painting in the composition. On the basis of traditional oil painting, modern oil painting selectively inherits, pays more attention to the plane space, and changes from two-dimensional to three-dimensional, reflecting the visual aesthetic pursuit of the public.

### **5.2. Diversity and complexity**

The pursuit of aesthetics is based on the changes of the times. In the changes of the times, the art of oil painting in China is constantly changing, the aesthetic form is constantly changing, and under the multicultural background, modern oil paintings in China are more diversified and complex. The concept and language of oil painting show great differences, and they are inclusive and coexist. Each of them has stable audiences in different aesthetic forms. In modern cultural life, complex and pluralistic modalities have not caused serious contradictions or conflicts. The new generation of artists attaches importance to humanities and aesthetic thoughts, draws on reality in artistic creation, expresses the real situation in a close-up way, and the spiritual appearance of the content of the work. At the same time, the art of irony also transforms the aesthetics of the masses. While embodying the spirit of culture and aesthetic thinking, modern realism is also transforming the aesthetics of pragmatism. In the age of information, there have been many creators creating in virtual space, gradually formed a new artistic genre and aesthetic imagery.

### **5.3. Artistic beauty, natural beauty and ideal beauty**

Although the early Chinese oil paintings were mere imitations, the oil paintings of our country have their own characteristics. The free fusionism of modern oil paintings is more obvious. Artists still pays attention to the space and artistic conception of our country in the term of imagery, and has a new perspective on concepts and language with humanistic care. Landscape painting pays more attention to artistic conception and becomes an important expression of oil painting art. It reflects the style fusion of traditional Chinese paintings and expresses the connotation and value of the works through artistic conception. The art of oil painting has profound richness and authenticity. The artist has unique emotions in his creation, expresses the natural beauty of oil painting, and gives people an aesthetic experience through the fusion of color, shape and material [6]. Ideal beauty is a high-level summary of the artist's natural beauty, with subjective colors, and obeying the public's aesthetic will, with the changes of the times and the differences of artists. In modern Chinese oil paintings, it is more sensitive to the beauty of real life, more emphasis on micro-practice, expressing aesthetic power in the details of life and externalizing art.

## **6. Conclusion**

In short, after years of development, China's oil painting art has a unique artistic style. With the changes of the times, the art of oil painting is constantly enriched. In the context of multiculturalism, modern oil paintings in China have appeared in many new forms of expression, which are more diverse and complex in aesthetic characteristics, giving the public different aesthetic experiences.

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