

Critical Comments On The Statement From Tan Weiwei's Agency

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Abstract: On November 7, On December 5, 2015, in the dragon TV program, Tan Weiwei sang a rock song "Give You Some Color" with artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County, which shocked the whole audience. Shortly after it was widely praised, the plagiarism scandal came. On the evening of December 16, 2015, Tan Weiwei's agency issued a statement in response to the public's concerns. Instead of appeasing social doubts, the statement triggered new public opinion. In this paper, we try to make comments on the statement from the perspective of critical thinking, and revealed the internal reasons why the statement is not accepted by the society.

1. Introduction

On December 5, 2015, in the dragon TV program, Tan Weiwei sang a rock song "Give You Some Color" with artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County, which shocked the whole audience. She won the champion of the competition of the day, and was awarded the title of "the hottest rock" by the recording society of China in the final. In less than a week, it received tens of millions of hits online. In responses to questions from netizens and journalists, Tan weiwei said that it was the haze that inspired her creation and that the lyrics were also written by her. However, shortly afterwards, the lyrics of the song were accused of plagiarizing eight lines of the "GuanZhong Ancient Song" poem by Lu shujun, a member of the ShanXi writers' association, only a few words were modified, and the some parts of the lyrics with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County in the song were partly derived from Chen zhongshi's "The Round Sun and Curved Moon in the Sky".

On the evening of December 16, 2015, Tan Weiwei's agency issued a statement in its official weibo "T.H Entertainment", said that the "give you some color" really quoted 8 lines from the poem "GuanZhong Ancient Song" created by Mr. Lu Shujun. When the program was broadcasted, Mr. Lu's co-signature did not appear in the author column as it should have, this is a serious dereliction of duty, again beg Mr. Lu's understanding, they understand and appreciate Mr. Lu's value for his work and his pride as a writer, and take that as a warning.

The statement also said that after the incident, Tan Weiwei shouldered all the responsibility, didn't conceal or evade, and or blame the team's negligence. At present, the signing company is trying to communicate with the major video websites to correct the signature, and solemnly declare that lyricists of tan weiwei "give you a little color" are: Chen Zhongshi, Lu Shujun, Tan Weiwei.

This statement came out, not only did not appease public opinion, but also triggered controversy again. This paper intends to make critical thinking comments on this statement and reveals the fallacies in it.

2. The Main Thinking Fallacies in The Statement

2.1 Egoistic Attribution Bias

The so-called egoistic attribution bias refers to the fact that people generally attribute good behavior or success to themselves and bad behavior or failure to external situations or others. For example, people attribute their success to internal factors, such as their ability and efforts. But failure

is more likely to be attributed to external factors, such as not doing well on a test. Common attributions are that the problem is too difficult, time is too tight, or the grade is too strict.

One reason for this attribution bias is emotional need. Because success and good behavior are always associated with feelings of pleasure and pride, while failure and bad behavior are always associated with pain and sadness. Because of their emotional needs, people tend to keep success for themselves and let the situation or others take the failure away. The second reason is the need to maintain self-esteem and good image. Because success reflects and preserves your own worth, your self-esteem, and makes a good impression on others.

The statement said as follows:

Tan Weiwei conceived the idea of cooperating with artists after watching the performance of "Guanzhong Ancient Song" by artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County.

Grafting and Creation on the basis of the numerous public performances of the "Guanzhong Ancient Song" version Huayin old tune with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County, the new song "Give you some color" was produced. Whether it is the work team or tan weiwei himself, this is the inheritance for of folk songs by artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County because of inertial thinking. Whether it is the work team or tan weiwei himself, because the default thinking is huayin old cavity artists inherit folk songs.

Here, the statement beautified "plagiarism" as "inheritance", meaning inheritance and development, which was a good thing, and attributes this kind of "inheritance" to inertial thinking and numerous public performances the "Guanzhong Ancient Song" version Huayin old tune with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County, that is to say, it is not Tan Weiwei's subjective intention, and Tan Weiwei originally wanted to cooperate with artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County. In short, the responsibility for this incident lies in the numerous public performances of Guanzhong Ancient Songs and the inertial thinking of many people, Thus the responsibility of tan weiwei completely shirked out. This is the typical egoistic attribution bias. Therefore, the statement committed the thinking fallacy of false analogy.

2.2 Distract attention

If you introduce a topic in a conversation that distracts from the original point, especially if the purpose of introducing a new topic is to distract the conversation, you are diverting attention. This is a logical fallacy of forcing irrelevant topics to change the original ones.

The statement said as follows:

The artist is responsible for creation, and the working team is responsible for affairs. No matter what the cause is, our company did not carry out relevant copyright examination and corresponding processing after the song was created. This is a serious dereliction of duty, which brought unnecessary harm to both Mr. Tan Weiwei and Mr. Lu, which could have been avoided. We appealed for Mr. Lu's understanding twice.

In response to the plagiarism case of Tan Weiwei, the statement did not respond positively to whether Tan Weiwei had plagiarised or not, and said what kind of responsibility Tan Weiwei should take, but claimed that the artist was responsible for the creation and the work team was responsible for the business processing. Its purpose is to induce the public to think that artist is only responsible for artistic creation. Whether the result of creation is infringement or plagiarism is the work of the work team, which has nothing to do with the artist. This is to shift the problem to the responsibility of the work team when talking about Tan Weiwei's responsibility in the plagiarism incident, discard Tan Weiwei's responsibility, remove Tan Weiwei's responsibility from the incident, and blame the responsibility on the work team. Tan Weiwei is not only not responsible, but also the victim.

In this plagiarism incident, the work team is certainly responsible, but Tan Weiwei is the main responsible person.

The statement attempts to shift the focus of the problem, confuse the public and achieve the goal of protecting Tam Weiwei and minimizing the loss of corporate interests. Therefore, the statement committed the thinking fallacy of distract attention.

2.3 False Argument

False argument is a logical fallacy based on false opinions or wrong facts. The method of false argument is to distort the original truth or fact first, and then use the unreasonable reason or untrue fact after distorting as the argument to deduce the wrong conclusion. Argument is the basis of argumentation. The authenticity of argumentation depends on the authenticity of the argument. If there are false arguments, the argumentation can not be established, and the conclusion inferred from it is unacceptable.

This kind of logical fallacy refers to the violation of the rule that arguments must be known to be true, and the use of fabricated so-called "authoritative theory" or feigned facts as arguments to prove the wrong conclusion. Some of the false arguments in the argument may be caused by the speaker's lack of common sense, while others are deliberately fabricated by the speaker. For example, fabricated facts, figures and famous sayings. The sophistry of "being out of nothing" is usually inferred by the users according to their subjective needs with fabricated theories or fabricated facts. Its essential characteristics are to reverse right and wrong, confuse black and white, substitute false for true and specious.

The statement said as follows:

"Give You Some Color" cooperated with artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County is the beginning of Tan Weiwei's in-depth cooperation with Chinese folk music. It will also be an important branch of Tan Weiwei's future music. Despite the shortcomings of this time, it also encourages Tan Weiwei to promote the exploration of mainstreaming folk music.

Here, the statement first distorted the fact that Tan Weiwei copied Lu Shujun's "Guanzhong Ancient Song" and Chen Zhongshi's "The Round Sun and Curved Moon in the Sky", instead of cooperating with Lu Shujun and Chen Zhongshi, and then beautified the so-called "cooperation" that did not exist as "the exploration of promoting the mainstreaming of folk music". It tried to confuse people with distorted facts and move people with noble motivation that can not be verified, so as to prove the legitimacy and rationality of plagiarism. Therefore, the statement committed the thinking fallacy of false argument, and also committed the thinking fallacy of appealing to motivation.

2.4 Advanced Tarnishing

"Advanced tarnishing" is a popular word on the internet, which means praise on the surface, and the result is to tarnish and be pitted miserably. Of course, the motivation of the initiation here is sometimes intentional, sometimes unintentional.

This kind of advanced tarnishing not only misleads the public, but also in many cases becomes the scene of a car accident where public opinion is turned over by adding confusion, smearing, tearing, distorting, making enemies, creating negative issues in a positive form, finding nothing, finding a sense of existence, exerting too much force and giving people a handle.

The statement said as follows:

The mental and physical efforts spent by artists and creators on creating are not worth talking to people outside. Every word, every note is very precious.

This paragraph is intended to express Tan Weiwei's painstaking efforts in the creation of "Give You Some Color", which can be said to exert all her strength and wisdom, every word, every note is very precious

We should really cherish Tan Weiwei's creation, greatly praise Tan Weiwei very much, how can we afford to criticize and blame her? Since you, tan weiwei, know how hard it is to create, and how precious every word and note is, you should cherish the creation of others more than ordinary people. However, how can you directly copy other people's creative achievements, but do not know to cherish other people's creative achievements?

Before been exposed, Tan Weiwei said in response to questions from netizens and journalists that it was the haze that inspired her to create, and that the lyrics were also written by her, as if everything was her original creation.

After been exposed, she did not make a statement and apologized publicly on Weibo until her agency issued a statement, but said that "whether it is the misunderstanding of plagiarism or the fact that the the quotation of the work was not signed", she continued to deny the act of plagiarism with "the misunderstanding of plagiarism", and concealed the fact of plagiarism with "the quotation of the work was not signed".

There is a kind of tarnishing called "advanced tarnishing", which means using advanced, civilized and humorous language to tarnish something in the world. It means to praise on the surface and to satirize in the fact, but the object of praising is not the same with the object of satirizing, but to satirize the object to be criticized with the help of the praised thing. This paragraph is precisely advanced tarnishing Tan Weiwei's personal character and conduct.

The statement ended with another "advanced tarnishing". The statement ended with the following:

Finally, thanks Mr. Lu, Mr. Chen Zhongshi and artists with Laoqiang Opera of Huayin County, as well as more folk artists who Tan Weiwei will cooperate with in the future. It is your traditional art rooted in the land and rivers that has nourished a girl who is out of the ordinary way, and make Tan Weiwei's music to be more possibilities, make more people to see Tan Weiwei's different colors.

On the surface, this paragraph is very polite and modest, showing that Tan Weiwei is a young artist with a positive image who knows how to be grateful and works hard. But from the inside, it's funny and ridiculous. First of all, Tan Weiwei copied the works of Mr. Lu and Mr. Chen Zhongshi. If copying someone's works can be regarded as cooperation with that person, then the concept of cooperation really needs to completely change its definition. Secondly, we don't know what the specific meaning of "not taking the ordinary way" is. It is a really "not taking the ordinary way for Tan Weiwei to take "copying" as a means to forcibly "cooperate" with others. However, cooperation should follow the normal path according to the routine. "plagiarism" is always "plagiarism", and it will not become "cooperation" just because you claim not to not take the ordinary way. This is just a "advanced tarnishing", because of compliment on the surface but satire in fact. Once again, the statement committed the thinking fallacy of advanced tarnishing.

2.5 Nonsense Fallacy

The nonsense fallacy is a kind of verbal fallacy. Its main feature is to say some seemingly reasonable but essentially nonsense sentences, resulting in misleading effect. Common types of nonsense are logical constant true sentence, logical constant false sentence, logical contradictory sentence and incomprehensible sentence. Logical constant sentences and other nonsense always seem to be correct and reasonable, but these sentences do not help us to understand the world further, and have no information or practical significance.

For example, "don't be too arrogant, but also don't be too modest." since "too" itself contains the meaning of "inappropriate" and "shouldn't", the meaning of this sentence is equivalent to "Being a man should not be arrogant to an undesirable degree, also should not be modest to an undesirable degree". This is a known fact that must be true.

In fact, we must know to what extent arrogance should not be, modesty to what extent should not be, otherwise, we will not be able to guide our practice, and the above statements do not explain, so it is nonsense.

However, if the context has clearly stated the standard of "too" , it is not nonsense. For example, doctor tells hypertensive patient: "blood pressure should be well controlled, not too high or too low". Because there are already medical standards for too high or too low blood pressure, or the doctor has told the patient before what range of blood pressure should be controlled, so the above sentence can guide practice, and it is not nonsense.

The statement said as follows:

Tan Weiwei and the old artists are enthusiastic and devoted in the creative process. Tan Weiwei respects and esteems the old artists, the old artists are happy and full of joy. Our whole team is deeply moved by them.

This passage described how Tan Weiwei and his old artists worked actively and harmoniously when they created "Give You Some Color", but it has nothing to do with whether Tan Weiwei

plagiarized or not. It is not helpful for the public to judge whether tan weiwei's behavior of directly "quoting" others' achievements without asking is "cooperation" or "plagiarism". This is a classic nonsense fallacy.

We must also point out that the "old artists" here are not Mr. Lu and Mr. Chen, who did not participate in Tan Weiwei's creative process, but were simply plagiarized.

3. Conclusions

The statement of from Tan Weiwei's agency contains many thinking fallacies, some of which are even very low mistakes. The existence of these thinking fallacies greatly reduces the credibility and acceptability of this statement. As Tan Weiwei's brokerage company, facing the public's doubts, if its primary task is not to be frank and clear up the facts in order to restore the event as it is, but to try to make subtle words and evasions in order to reduce losses and lower risks, this egoistic idea will be ridiculous and full of lies, thus further losing faith in the public.

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