Discussion on the Value of Applying Traditional Chinese Elements to the Teaching of Meticulous Figure Painting

Quan Guo

Woosuk University, Wanju-gun, South Korea.

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Corresponding author: Quan Guo, Woosuk University, Wanju-gun, South Korea.

Abstract

Gongbi painting is one of the important forms of traditional Chinese painting. With its meticulous, neat, rich, and elegant characteristics, this art form has become a treasure of Chinese culture after thousands of years of development and is unique in the world of art. Especially in the field of character portrayal, detailed figure painting has demonstrated its distinctive artistic allure and cultural essence. In the process of creation and teaching, incorporating traditional Chinese elements not only imbues the work with cultural heritage spanning thousands of years but also infuses it with profound connotations and emotions. The purpose of this paper is to explore the value of traditional Chinese elements in the teaching of meticulous figure painting and analyze specific application methods in teaching practice for reference.

Keywords

Chinese traditional elements, Meticulous figure painting, Teaching application, Cultural inheritance, Artistic innovation

Meticulous figure painting, as a kind of painting with the longest history in traditional Chinese painting, has developed into an independent art form since the rock paintings and painted pottery patterns in the ancient period. In the long history of traditional Chinese painting, meticulous figure painting has always played an important role, and its strict standard system and unique artistic style have run through the entire development process (Liu Yize, 2023). In the teaching of meticulous figure painting, how to integrate Chinese traditional elements effectively is not only related to the improvement of students’ skills, but also related to the inheritance and development of national culture. With the acceleration of the process of globalization, the trend of cultural diversification is becoming increasingly obvious. How to maintain and carry forward the characteristics of traditional Chinese culture in the teaching of meticulous figure painting has become an urgent problem to be solved.

1. The cultural connotation of traditional Chinese elements and the aesthetic characteristics of meticulous figure painting

Traditional Chinese culture is the precious wealth of the Chinese nation accumulated over thousands of years of history. It not only embodies the nation's spiritual pursuit and values, but also profoundly affects people's lifestyle and behavior norms. The basic ideas of Chinese traditional culture include vigorous and promising, virtue utilization and harmony between heaven and man. At the same time, it emphasizes the inner cultivation of individuals, pays attention to moral
Chinese traditional elements can be divided into material elements and spiritual elements. In terms of material elements, it involves many aspects such as customs, art, patterns, utensils, etc., which can be seen everywhere in life. In terms of spiritual elements, it includes the inner spiritual pursuit, values and thinking habits of the Chinese people. These elements have been continuously inherited and developed in the long history, providing rich connotations and profound deposits for the cultural accumulation of the Chinese nation. Among the elements of traditional Chinese culture, Chinese characters, traditional auspicious patterns, religion, and folk art are all representatives of great significance (Zhang Lei, 2021). For example, calligraphy in Chinese characters is not only a way of expression, but also an art form, reflecting the Chinese people’s pursuit of beauty and spiritual realm. Traditional calligraphy works such as ancient steles, gold and stone inscriptions, calligraphy and painting all show the unique charm of traditional Chinese culture. In the art of calligraphy, not only the pursuit of neat and dignified ink, but also pay more attention to the emotion and connotation of calligraphy works. Through the writing of Chinese characters, calligraphy artists express their perception of life, nature and human feelings, so that their works have more cultural connotation and aesthetic characteristics; Traditional auspicious patterns are usually auspicious and auspicious as the theme, such as dragon and phoenix, bats, Ruyi, etc., implying auspiciousness, happiness and well-being (Shi Yufei & Zhang Haihong, 2023). These patterns not only appear in Chinese art works, but also are widely used in daily life decorations, gifts and other aspects, adding happiness and beauty to people's lives; In terms of religion, Chinese traditional elements embody people's exploration of faith and the spiritual world. Whether it is Taoism, Buddhism or Confucianism, they all play an important role in traditional Chinese culture and influence people's behavior, belief and value orientation. Religious beliefs and rituals, religious buildings and sculptures are all indispensable and important components of traditional Chinese elements. Religious elements not only reflect people’s exploration and yearning for the mysterious and unknown world, but also reflect the Chinese people's thinking about the meaning and value of life. As one of the important forms of expression of Chinese traditional culture, folk art carries rich folk culture and life interest. Folk art is not subject to court culture, but comes from common people's life, so it has a strong folk color and local characteristics. For example, dragon and lion dance, paper cutting, shadow puppetry, etc. are all representatives of Chinese folk arts. They show rich and colorful characteristics in art forms and expression techniques, adding irreplaceable charm to traditional Chinese culture.

The diversity of Chinese painting techniques and the richness of subject matter make it a pluralistic and comprehensive art system. Among them, meticulous figure painting, as an important form of Chinese painting, carries profound cultural heritage and unique aesthetic characteristics. Fine brushwork figure painting pursues fine and neat brushwork and decorative expression, emphasizing the use of lines and the inheritance of freehand brushwork. The painter often takes the idea of “writing the shape of God” as the guide, and pays attention to convey the expression and temperament of the figure when expressing the image of the figure. Such meticulous depiction and exquisite skills make Gongbi figure paintings of high artistic value and appreciation (Huang Huan, 2023). The artistic expression techniques of fine brushwork figure painting include white painting, light color, heavy color, etc. The application of these techniques enriches the expression form of the work and enhances the artistic charm of the work. In the process of creation, the painter not only pays attention to the overall composition and color coordination, but also describes the details of the characters in detail to reflect the texture, rhythm and clarity of the work. At the same time, meticulous figure painting, as one of the traditional Chinese art forms, is deeply influenced by Chinese traditional elements. In his works, painters often use traditional Chinese elements, such as clothing, artifacts, architecture, etc., to enrich the cultural connotation of his works and enhance the aesthetic characteristics of his works. This application and innovation of traditional elements make meticulous figure painting not only have the unique charm of traditional Chinese culture, but also show the era and personality of modern art.

In short, Chinese traditional elements, with their rich cultural connotation and unique aesthetic characteristics, have deeply influenced the life and artistic creation of the Chinese people. These elements not only reflect the rich and colorful traditional Chinese culture, but also provide valuable cultural resources for the development of modern society. At the same time, the historical and cultural accumulation of traditional Chinese elements also provides rich creative inspiration and expressive materials for painting art. Through the application and innovation of traditional Chinese elements, painters not only give their works unique cultural connotation, but also make their works more artistic and expressive. In particular, meticulous figure painting often integrates traditional Chinese elements, making the works more profound cultural heritage and artistic charm (Liu Xinna, 2022). In the creation of meticulous figure painting, painters use traditional Chinese elements in the form of artistic symbols. Through appropriate exaggeration, deformation and subjective modification, painters combine traditional Chinese elements with modern aesthetic requirements, giving their works a stronger sense of The Times and modern atmosphere. This way of creation not only enriches the artistic connotation of the works, but also enables the inheritance and development of traditional culture.
2. The application value and current situation of traditional Chinese elements in the teaching of meticulous figure painting

2.1 Application value

The application of traditional Chinese elements in the teaching of fine brushwork figure painting not only helps students better understand and master the techniques and artistic characteristics of fine brushwork figure painting, but also has important practical significance for inheriting and developing Chinese traditional culture and promoting the teaching practice of fine brushwork figure painting. On the one hand, by integrating traditional Chinese elements into the teaching of meticulous figure painting, it is conducive to students' inheritance and development of traditional culture. Meticulous figure painting is an important form of traditional Chinese painting, and its teaching practice is not only the inheritance and development of techniques, but also the inheritance and promotion of traditional Chinese culture. Through teachers guiding students to apply the composition, shape, color and line of traditional Chinese elements to the creation of meticulous figure painting, students can more deeply understand and experience the charm of traditional Chinese culture, and inherit and carry forward the excellent traditional culture of the Chinese nation. On the other hand, applying traditional Chinese elements to the teaching of meticulous figure painting is conducive to promoting the development of the teaching practice of meticulous figure painting. Meticulous figure painting, as an ancient and elegant form of painting, still has important artistic value and aesthetic significance in modern society (Xu Mengqi, 2022). Through teachers guiding students to flexibly use traditional Chinese elements in teaching, students can better understand and grasp the characteristics and charm of meticulous figure painting, create works with more traditional Chinese artistic characteristics and modern aesthetic concepts, and promote the development and innovation of meticulous figure painting. In addition, the application of traditional Chinese elements helps to promote the combination of fine brushwork figure painting teaching and social needs. Under the background of diversified economic development, meticulous figure painting, as a traditional art form, needs to be combined with the needs of modern society in order to better develop and inherit. Teachers can integrate the market demand and development trend into the teaching content, and guide students to create works with both traditional characteristics and modern aesthetics, so as to improve students' social adaptability and market competitiveness.

Therefore, in the teaching practice of meticulous figure painting, teachers should pay attention to the in-depth study and application of traditional Chinese elements, guide students to draw artistic inspiration and creative motivation from them, constantly explore and practice, and create meticulous figure painting works with more traditional Chinese cultural characteristics and modern aesthetic significance, so as to make due contributions to the inheritance and development of traditional Chinese culture.

2.2 Teaching status

In the teaching of meticulous figure painting, although the application of traditional Chinese elements is of great significance, there are still some problems to be solved. First, some teachers tend to teach traditional painting techniques in the design of teaching content, while ignoring students' understanding of market demand and training of practical experience. As a result, students lack the sensitivity and understanding of market demand in creating detailed figure paintings, making it difficult to align their works with current trends. This situation impacts the artistic value and market competitiveness of their creations. Second, some teachers pay too much attention to students copying excellent works of ancient Chinese painting in the teaching process, and lack understanding and guidance of the contemporary art market. Although this teaching method is helpful for students to learn and master traditional painting techniques, it ignores the demand and changes of the current market for meticulous figure painting, making students lack a grasp of contemporary aesthetic trends when creating works, resulting in a disconnect between the artistic expression of works and the market demand (Xie Fanglan, 2023). Third, some teachers do not fully integrate traditional Chinese elements into the design of teaching content, resulting in a lack of close fit between teaching content and market development needs. Traditional Chinese elements are an indispensable part of meticulous figure painting, but in teaching practice, some teachers only pay attention to the inheritance of traditional techniques, but ignore the application of traditional Chinese elements in the works, resulting in a disconnect between the teaching content and market demand.

3. The application strategy of traditional Chinese elements in the teaching of meticulous figure painting

3.1 Copying ancient fine brushwork figure paintings and integrating traditional Chinese elements

In the teaching process of meticulous figure painting, copying is an important means to learn techniques and understand
artistic language. By copying excellent ancient meticulous figure paintings, students can not only master the use of fine lines, accurate modeling ability and rich color expression, but also deeply understand the use of traditional Chinese elements in the painting. In teaching, teachers can select some representative ancient meticulous figure painting works, such as Gu Kaizhi’s Luo Shen Fu, Zhou Fang’s Ladies Wearing Flowers, etc., and ask students to carry out systematic copying and research. In the process of copying, teachers can guide students to observe and understand the composition, line use, color matching and other features of the work, as well as the traditional Chinese cultural elements incorporated in it, such as historical stories, literary allusions, traditional aesthetic concepts, etc. By copying ancient meticulous figure paintings, students can gain an in-depth understanding of traditional painting techniques and artistic expression techniques. They can not only imitate the line use and color processing of ancient painters, but also try to understand their aesthetic taste and cultural connotation (Gao Beibei, 2021). For example, students can learn Gu Kaizhi’s smooth and majestic lines, and Zhou Fang’s vivid and emotional shapes, from which they can draw inspiration and inspiration for painting. At the same time, the copying process is also an opportunity for students to think deeply and understand traditional Chinese elements. In teaching, teachers can guide students to analyze the historical, cultural and philosophical connotations contained in the works, as well as the aesthetic ideas and artistic realm embodied in them. Through discussion and communication with students, we can help them better understand and grasp the application of traditional Chinese elements in meticulous figure painting and artistic effects. In general, copying excellent ancient meticulous figure painting works is an indispensable part of the teaching of meticulous figure painting. Through copying, students can master painting techniques, understand artistic language, and deeply think and appreciate the unique charm of traditional Chinese culture in meticulous figure painting, so as to improve their painting level and cultural literacy.

3.2 Guide students to have an in-depth understanding of traditional culture and stimulate creative inspiration

In the teaching of meticulous figure painting, teachers should guide students to have a deep understanding of China's rich traditional culture, so as to stimulate their creative inspiration. In teaching, teachers can organize students to participate in the research project of traditional culture, so that they can learn and experience the charm of traditional art in practice. For example, teachers could arrange students to study the works of Zhang Xuan, a painter of Tang Dynasty, and analyze how the use of lines and colors represented the mental state of characters and the texture of clothing in Lady Guo State's Spring Parade. By studying these details in depth, students can learn how to use similar techniques in their own works to express the emotions of the characters and the background of the story. In addition, teachers can invite modern practitioners and researchers of meticulous figure painting to the school to give lectures and share their creative experience and understanding of traditional culture with students. Such interaction not only broadens students' horizons, but also enables them to learn from practice how to combine traditional cultural elements with modern aesthetics to create works with a sense of The Times. In order to further stimulate students' creative inspiration, teachers can also organize students to visit history museums and art exhibitions, so that they can observe and feel the charm of traditional meticulous figure painting up close. During the visit, teachers can guide students to focus on various traditional elements in the paintings, such as clothing, architecture, artifacts, etc., and encourage them to think about how to use these elements creatively in their own works. Through these activities, students can not only gain a deeper understanding of the essence of traditional Chinese culture, but also find unique artistic expressions in their creations. This teaching method helps to cultivate students' innovative thinking and artistic practice ability, so that they can continue to explore and make progress in the future artistic road (Dong Yisi & Wang Zhi, 2022).

3.3 Combining modern aesthetics and market demand, innovating the teaching of meticulous figure painting

In the teaching of contemporary meticulous figure painting, teachers need to combine the modern aesthetic trend and market demand, and integrate traditional Chinese elements into innovative practice to better guide students in grasping the pulse of the times. On the basis of traditional teaching, teachers should also guide students to pay attention to the aesthetic trend and market demand of modern society, and encourage students to innovate on the basis of inheriting the tradition. In the teaching process, teachers can guide students to try to combine traditional Chinese cultural elements with contemporary urban life elements to create works, so as to show the living conditions and emotional experience of modern people. For example, students can choose urban women as the theme and use meticulous figure paintings to show the diversity and richness of their life, work and emotions in the city, so as to better resonate with modern audiences. This kind of creation not only conforms to the contemporary aesthetic trend, but also has great market potential. In addition, teachers can also encourage students to use digital painting software in painting, combining modern technology with
traditional meticulous brushwork techniques. In this way, students can express their creative ideas more flexibly and complete their works more efficiently.

4. Conclusion

In general, integrating traditional Chinese elements into the teaching of meticulous figure painting not only helps to inherit and develop traditional Chinese painting culture, but also promotes the all-round development of students, cultivates their aesthetic taste and creativity, and provides a beneficial exploration path for the in-depth practice of art education. It is believed that in the integration of tradition and modernity, the teaching of meticulous figure painting will radiate new vitality and charm, and inject more vitality and vitality into the cause of art education.

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