

Analysis on the Visual Characteristics of the Traditional Patterns of Guangxin Paper Cutting

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Abstract: *As one of the most popular folk arts in China, paper-cut can be traced back to the sixth century. Paper cutting is the product of small-scale peasant economy, which is produced in the life of the working people and is an important branch of Chinese folk art. Guangxin's paper-cut patterns are rich in shapes and connotations, highlighting the rich paper-cut cultural characteristics. This paper looks forward to the continuous innovation of Guangxin paper-cut patterns in terms of its historical culture, categories, visual characteristics and other aspects, which are more in line with modern aesthetics, so as to be more widely inherited and disseminated.*

Keywords: *Paper-cut Pattern, Visual features, Tradition culture*

1. Introduction to traditional paper-cutting

The paper-cut is one of our country most ancient traditional art, it has a long history, it is the world paper-cut art source. Guangxin paper-cut has a long history, and its traditional patterns are all-inclusive. People use some specific patterns and colors to express their good wishes, showing the regional characteristics of southern paper-cut culture. Based on the research on the types and characteristics of the traditional culture patterns of Guangxin paper-cut, this paper analyzes the visual characteristics brought by the traditional patterns of Guangxin paper-cut.

2. The history and culture of the development of paper cutting

Guangxin paper-cut has a strong southern cultural connotation and a long history of inheritance. Guangxin paper-cutting began in the Tang Dynasty and is one of the representatives of the southern school of Chinese paper-cutting. With a history of more than 1200 years, it is the representative school of Southern paper-cutting in the southeast region. It is deeply influenced by the art of traditional Chinese paper-cutting, and because it is located in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River, it is also influenced by ancient Wu Wu culture, Taoism culture and She culture. There are rich themes, such as festivals, weddings, birthdays, prayers, funerals, religious rituals, ethnic customs and many other themes, among which festival lighting is the main theme. After because of the influence of witchcraft culture, the late Qing Dynasty increased the theme of many festivals. In addition, the special natural and social environment attracted many literati to stop and combine folk customs with ideas and paper-cutting techniques with painting techniques, forming paper-cutting works both elegant and popular. It is also related to the local tourist areas, and the paper cutting is also dominated by the unique architectural characteristics of Hui style. This integration with classical architecture culture enriched the content of Guangxin paper-cut.

Modern Guangxin paper-cut has a complete variety, mainly divided into eight categories:

(1) Traditional paper-cutting (monochrome single-layer paper-cutting): It can use the technique of Yin and Yang thread, with cutting as the main and carving as the supplement, to cut and carve the works vividly. Both the south of the beautiful and bright, and the north of the coarse thick; Traditional folk paper-cut flavor, combined with modern art concept, formed a unique art style.

(2) Fine grain paper-cut: fine grain paper-cut is to gather many patterns together, carefully compile them, carve them very carefully with homemade special tools, need patience and perseverance, and can only be completed by touching hands.

(3) Realistic paper-cut: It is to record the usual see, realistic color. The daily production and life of

the common people as the theme, with rich imagination and unfettered nature; Therefore, in the works, we can often see the freedom of custom and the pure emotion of the farmers.

(4) Multi-layer paper-cut: By a number of different colors of paper after carving multi-layer superimposed paper-cut painting, the need for exquisite workmanship.

(5) Single-layer color paper-cut: It is the main manuscript of monochrome paper-cut engraved on the paper set off with other colors, and there is a color effect of color print.

(6) Multi-layer dyeing paper cutting: is the multi-layer cutting good works to be rendered in color. Make the paper cut look more realistic.

(7) Multi-layer color paper-cut: the main manuscript of single-layer color paper-cut is generally black, and the multi-layer color paper-cut is to choose the color according to the specific performance. The key of multi-layer color paper-cut is to use color.

(8) Multi-layer color three-dimensional paper-cut: Multi-layer color three-dimensional paper-cutting is the peak art in today's paper-cutting works. Special paper is selected, rigorous dyeing technology and pasting technology are integrated into each process. Each process is interlinked and key step by step.

3. Wide letter paper-cut traditional patterns of the category

The patterns of Guangxin paper-cuts are all-encompassing, such as flowers, animals, religious beliefs, etc. The harmonious connotations of these features are all ways for local people to express their good wishes and convey their spiritual support. It is not only the expression of image language and daily decoration, but also the stage for us to show the culture handed down from China. Through the artistic expression of paper cutting to inherit and express people's good wishes.

Blessing auspicious category: dragon and phoenix Chengxiang (dragon, phoenix composition pattern, in people's hearts the dragon makes sacred, auspicious festival god. Phoenix symbolizes beauty and peace, so that the incarnation of auspicious beauty, auspicious birds. Meaning auspicious auspicious, peace and happiness. Golden jade Full hall (goldfish playing in the fish pond or auspicious flowers and trees with goldfish to form a pattern, goldfish sound like "gold jade", Mantang sound with "full hall" meaning a happy family).

Love and marriage: Mandarin duck in the water (Mandarin duck refers to a kind of water bird, the use of mandarin duck, flowers and flowers composed of patterns. Mandarin duck is a kind of male and female birds that live together and fly together. It is said that if they lose their mate, they will never match again. It is often used as a symbol of love loyalty. Childhood sweethearts (a metaphor for the pure love between a young man and a young woman who depend on each other for life).

Life reproduction: Lotus birth and Noble Son (The image of a child sitting on a lotus leaf is combined with lotus, lotus seed, osmanthus and sheng to form a pattern, "lotus" with "Lian", "sheng" with "sheng", "GUI" with "GUI").

Historical events: Because Jiangxi is the revolutionary base where the Red Army originated, it has a strong red culture, including many former memorials. Therefore, paper-cutting artists will be influenced by local culture and create paper-cutting art of red culture, such as commemorating some historical events or heroes. Therefore, most of the paper-cuts here are mainly colored to commemorate historical figures, with red as the main color.

Landscape painting category: Because the Guangxin area is located in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River. With long geographical history and culture, beautiful and colorful natural scenery and rich and diverse tourism resources, there are three 5A scenic spots, namely: Sanqing Mountain Scenic spot, Wuyuan Jiangwan Scenic spot and Yiyang Gufeng Scenic Spot; Other 4A scenic spots include Poyang Lake National Wetland Park, Wuyuan Huangling, Leadshan Gexian Mountain, Guangxin Lingshan, Guangxin Wufu Mountain, Guangfeng Fairy Lake and so on. Combining paper-cutting with scenic spots creates the first combination of folk paper-cutting artists and tourism culture.

4. The characteristics of the traditional pattern visual design of Guangxin paper-cut

Stereoscopic characteristics

The distinguishing feature of Guangxin paper-cut from other paper-cuts is that it is a three-dimensional artistic depiction. By using multi-layer color three-dimensional paper-cutting, emphasizing thematic creation and visual language, selecting special paper, integrating rigorous dyeing technology and sticking technology, each process is linked and key step by step, boldly using multi-layer color overlay production method, so that the plane paper-cutting art can produce three-dimensional effect. After picture creative processing, layering, painting, smoking, engraving, mounting and other more than 30 procedures to complete. For example, Figure 1 shows the three-dimensional figure paper-cut works of Master Ye Qingsong. It is not difficult to see that three-dimensional carving works are made by using flat paper-cut. Use black, white and gray to make the whole work become three-dimensional. Among them, the key part of "image processing method" and manual "dyeing paper" technique are very important links of color multi-layer three-dimensional paper cutting technology. Characteristics of paper carving: "Yin engraving see color, Yang engraving see knife, according to the shape of objects, with the class of color", with "full composition, vivid modeling, gorgeous color, unique technology" and other characteristics; Especially in the aspect of portrait, more traditional paper-cut incomparable unique artistic techniques.



Figure 1: Three-dimensional character paper-cut design (work of Teacher Ye Qingsong)

Decorative feature

In Chinese folk, decorative paper-cut is the most common paper-cut, widely used in various customs. Guang Xin paper-cut more or as a kind of daily window decoration. Such as window cut, window side, window skirt, window top, door flower, wall flower and paper-cut couplets are common decorative paper-cut. Decoration of paper-cutting culture on the circle fan is also a major feature of southern paper-cutting, and also a stage to display paper-cutting technology. For example, the handmade ball fans in Figure 2 are decorated with paper-cut patterns to make them look more delicate. The ball fans have different styles, and each pattern represents the user's personality. At first, the ball fans could only be used by noble women in the court, and only pictures of ladies could be drawn on the fans. Later, when the ball fans were widely used, some paper-cutting artists combined paper-cutting art with the ball fans, and placed the beautiful wishes of women in the fans. The decoration of brilliant paper-cut works needs more attention. The composition and sense of picture should pay more attention to the expression of techniques and emotions, so that the paper-cut patterns are beautiful and generous. The application of lines and colors pays attention to the use of overlapping, contrast, deformation, exaggeration and other decorative techniques, so that the layers of paper-cut patterns are more rich.



Figure 2: Group fan paper-cut pattern display

Regional characteristics

After long-term practice of paper-cutting, each region has formed its own principles of formal beauty of subject matter, shape and composition. Although there is no summary of practical and theoretical works, there are their own rules of form in the mind of each craftsman. For example, the north of our country paper-cut is rough atmosphere, while the south paper-cut is detailed and beautiful artistic performance characteristic is already printed in all regions. Guangxin area depends on the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River and has a long history of geography and culture. Therefore, the art of paper cutting is also influenced by the ancient witchcraft and Taoist culture, combining the immortals thought, Taoism theory, ghosts and gods sacrifice together. There are also many 5A tourist attractions due to superior geographical location, paper-cutting artists combine paper-cutting culture with landscape painting. For example, Figure 3 shows the scenery of Sanqing Mountain, a 5A scenic spot in China. The local scenic spots are promoted through paper-cutting, which greatly improves the artistic level of Guangxin paper-cutting. Not only enrich the paper-cutting culture but also play a role in promoting the local tourism culture.

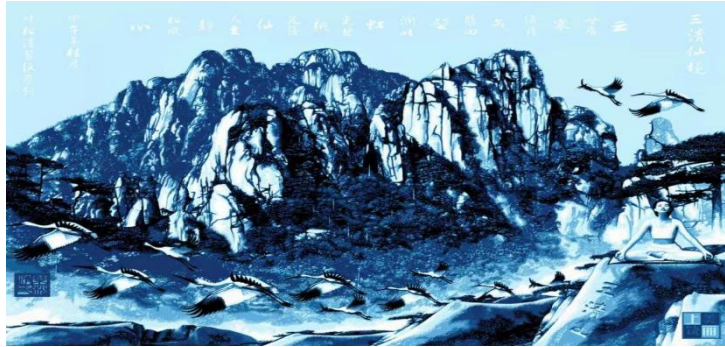


Figure 3: *Miqing Yukyo* (Works by Teacher Ye Qingsong)

Allegorical characteristics

In the traditional Chinese culture, the nation for change hidden in the deep heart activities. Most of the time, it is expressed through imaginative patterns. Folk paper-cuts are always attached to things, integrating things, meaning, feeling and interest together. "Tubi intentionally" and "Yi Biji" place beautiful, auspicious, blessing and prayer on paper-cut patterns, forming a kind of materialized spiritual support. It uses the creation of artistic conception in aesthetics, using "meaning by image" and "conformation by meaning" to shape, and "meaning by image" and "meaning by sound" to express. For example, Figure 4 summarizes some widely used paper-cut patterns, which not only represent the beautiful meaning of the leaves' thoughts. Pictographic meaning is to use the image known by people to express their own innermost good wishes, such as the meaning of "many children" on the pomegranate, the meaning of "longevity" on the peach, the meaning of "happy event" on the magpie, the other is to sound pictographic, Such as persimmon and ruyi symbol "everything goes well", magpie and plum blossom symbol "happy eyebrows", plum orchid bamboo chrysanthemum symbol four seasons peace".

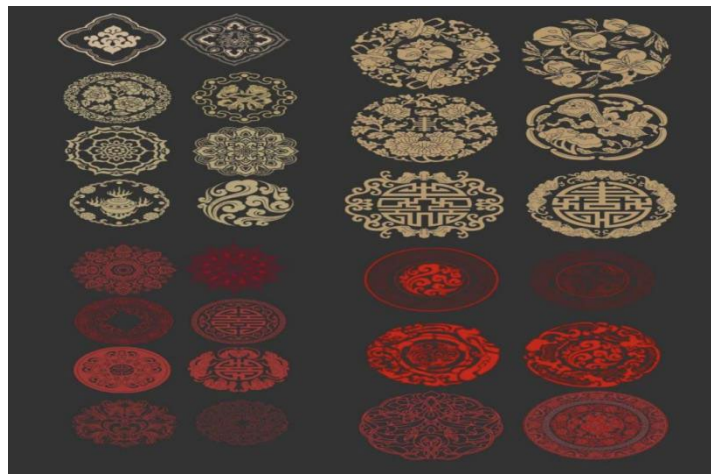


Figure 4: *Paper cutting pattern summary*

5. Conclusion

The folk inheritance represented by paper-cutting presents a diversified trend. On the one hand, with the improvement of rural living environment and the improvement of social productivity, paper cutting is increasingly fading, and only exists in festivals and life etiquette and other occasions; On the one hand, paper cutting has gradually changed from the content of life that villagers are accustomed to to the local cultural symbol and part of the national culture. The inheritance of modern Guangxin paper-cuts is not the product of individuals, but the crystallization of generations of cultural inheritance and collective consciousness of the public. Today's Guangxin paper-cut is a living fossil of art, folklore and history studies, and a "wonderful work" maintained by ancient traditions. It and the world paper-cut change, together to create the prosperity of this traditional art. Paper-cut works are full of concept beauty, symbolic beauty, polysemy image, give people with special charm. It shows the ideology and culture at that time, including theory, culture, religious ethics and morality. These cultures exist in social and cultural psychology, historical and cultural traditions and national cultures.

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