

Appreciation of Luo Hanlei's *A Xing*

Shuang Liu*

Sichuan Minzu College, Kangding, 626001, China

*Corresponding author

Abstract: "A-Xing" won the "Gold Award" at the Baijia Jinling Art Exhibition in 2011, and is a representative work of contemporary painter Luo Hanlei. Through careful observation and experience of daily life, she chose an ordinary character scene to vividly represent A Xing, a girl who lives by cultivation. This paper studies the work "A-Xing" in terms of the content of the picture, the topic selection, and the creation of artistic conception, so as to understand the painting style and artistic characteristics of Luo Hanlei's meticulous figure painting.

Keywords: Luo Hanlei, meticulous figure painting, A Xing

1. Introduction

In contemporary society, with the development of science and technology, people spend a lot of time on online media, and pay more attention to wealth, heroes and celebrities, but pay little attention to the real society, lack of Ordinary people's recognition of values. However, in this impetuous society, Luo Hanlei was able to persist in herself and calm her mind. She created "A-Xing" with the language of fine brushwork, expressing her concern for the people at the grass-roots level. Humanistic significance and practical value, this is a very rare piece of work.

2. Creation background

Luo Hanlei accepted the influence of her father and the influence of art since she was a child. After she was successfully admitted to the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, she specialized in Chinese painting. She has a solid aesthetic foundation and solid writing skills. Of course, she is so excellent that she has also put more effort behind her back. Good modeling foundation and thread use need to be achieved through diligent practice. Luo Hanlei copied the ancient painting "Han Xizai Night Banquet Picture", with white plain as the base, with flexible and smooth lines, and painted with various composite colors as the base. In addition, she copied traditional line drawing figure paintings such as "Eighty-seven Immortals" and "Water Margin Leaves". The lines are elegant, vigorous and powerful, and the work is not stagnant, thin but not weak, which also makes Luo Hanlei's line drawing skills getting deeper and deeper [1].

Most of Luo Hanlei's meticulous figure paintings depict women at work, and women in contemporary life are the main themes in her works. The women in her brushes mostly use simple tones to express sophistication. The inspiration for "A Xing" is mainly based on Luo Hanlei's careful observation and experience of daily life. She has a pair of eyes that are good at discovering beauty. A-Xing reminded her of her poor life as a child and the strong optimism of the women in her hometown, which moved her. She conveys her thoughts and feelings through her depiction of A Xing, and at the same time expresses her admiration for the working women at the bottom.

3. Screen content

Luo Hanlei's work "A-Xing" depicts a beautiful girl sitting on a wooden stool concentrating on mending shoes. There are tools for mending shoes scattered around Ah Xing, as well as various styles of shoes and shoes to be mended. And the tools are very realistic. A-Xing was wearing a white T-shirt on top, blue jeans on the bottom, and a pair of simple flip-flops on her feet. The sleeves of her top and the lower trouser legs were rolled up to facilitate the operation of mending shoes. She smiled and stared intently at the shoes on her legs. A pair of hands sewed the shoes skillfully, her left arm gripping the shoe on her right leg, and her right hand holding a threaded needle ready to penetrate the shoe. The

whole picture is simple, elegant and full of life.



Figure 1: "A-Xing" Luo Hanlei, meticulous figure painting

4. Smooth lines

Line is the most important modeling technique in Chinese painting. It seems to be a simple line, but it is all-encompassing and rich in connotation. In Chinese painting, lines are not only used to describe the physical structure, but also used to express the texture and spatial volume of things, and are also an important means for the author to express his personal emotions and artistic thoughts. Luo Hanlei once wrote in "Bone Technique Using Brush - Fine Brush Line Drawing": "Line is actually a brushstroke, and the line in Chinese painting elevates the formal beauty of the brushstroke to an absolute height, paying attention to the formal beauty and abstract beauty of the line itself. In addition to the reactive description, it is also the embodiment of the author's subjective aesthetic tendency [2]."

In the painting "A Xing", Luo Hanlei perfectly expresses the delicacy of the lines. The characters' hair and facial features are round and full. The expression method of hair is mainly grouped rendering, the facial features are outlined with ochre and ink, which is very expressive, and the lines of the skin are natural, vivid and realistic. The top is a white T-shirt, with uniform and smooth lines, rich in changes. In particular, the treatment of clothing lines is very flexible and vivid, showing the soft texture of the white T-shirt. The lines of the jeans are outlined with iron lines and combined with rubbing to highlight the firm and elastic texture of the jeans fabric. She uses a dry brush to rub to produce dry lines to express wood, metal, leather and other objects. Therefore, the lines used in the whole painting are delicate and smooth, full of changes. Luo Hanlei integrates traditional and modern lines, and brings the beauty of line drawing to the extreme on the basis of rigorous modeling, making the image of the character A Xing more vivid and natural.

5. Light colors

Luo Hanlei Luo Hanlei has a unique view on color. Most of her works are fresh and elegant, simplifying and weakening colors, reducing the contrast between cool and warm colors, and replacing complex colors with three colors of black, white and gray, which is very general. The color of the picture has been subjectively processed, and the overall color use is harmonious and clear. In the painting "A-Xing", she chose the traditional Chinese black and white as the main color for coloring, giving people a deep and calm atmosphere [3]. The depiction of the face is only sub-stained with eosin on a black basis, and ochre is used to render the excess of the structure. The center of the face is dyed with ochre and ink, and the facial features are clearly structured, especially the coloring of the lips. The structure is dyed with ochre and ink. The highlights are left blank, showing chapped and pale lips,

highlighting Ah Xing's hard and laborious life. Hands and feet are mainly sub-stained with a little eosin to make the skin more delicate and rounded. The top is mainly dyed with white powder for the bright part, the dark part is dyed with light ink, and the jeans are dyed with cyanine and ink, showing a very realistic texture with a unique mechanism. A lot of black is used in the whole painting. The metal tools for shoe repair, the shoes to be repaired and the stool are all expressed in black and light strong contrasting visuals. Luo Hanlei likes to use mineral pigments with subtle changes, and uses a lot of colors; and in order to make the colors appear dense and thick, she uses a unique color spray technique to form a special color effect.

6. Original texture

With the progress of society and the rapid development of science and technology, many new painting materials have been produced. On the basis of traditional techniques, meticulous figure painting is also constantly innovating, presenting a variety of picture effects. Texture has become an indispensable expression technique in the creation of meticulous figure paintings, which can distinguish the relationship between objects and images, and usually express the painter's subjective emotions, with personal life experience and aesthetic concepts.

In Luo Hanlei's creation, she used her original texture production method. She is good at rubbing and weaving to create textures with real objects, and handles texture effects in a flat way to create unique hand-woven textures. In terms of texture creation, Luo Hanlei has tried different methods. For example, the effect of denim pattern is printed on corduroy cloth, and the texture of leather and linen is expressed by spraying dots from an autonomous nozzle pot. It is not simple for these different techniques to present vivid and natural effects in the picture, and it takes more time and energy to scrub and modify in the post-processing, which is not a one-time success.

In the work "A Xing", A Xing's jeans, slippers, shoe repair tools, leather, and wooden stools are all textured by rubbing, spraying and rubbing, which highlights the texture of objects and further enriches them screen content. In addition, among Luo Hanlei's texture production methods, the most common one is the weaving of mesh. Often weaving a serigraph with an irregular outline as the background of the main character, this is a unique expression technique she created, and it has also become a symbol with personal characteristics. When weaving, she determined the general structure of the picture with the sparse warp and weft, and then used short lines to splicing, multi-layered, coherent and orderly. If you look closely at the lines, there are radians intermittently. In fact, when they are used as the background, they show fine verticality. Luo Hanlei is more fascinated by the effect of reticulated patterns. The reticulated patterns she weaves and draws will change according to the different themes of the painting. Some of them have different depths and shapes, resulting in a changing sense of rhythm, thus emphasizing the theme of the painting. The net threads she weave seem to be broken and disconnected, and the details such as the drawing at the edges of the net are damaged and scorched, adding a sense of time, complex and fascinating. The background in the work "A-Xing" is also represented by reticulated patterns. The colors are lighter, the lines are dense and coherent, and the shades of the net pattern in the entire background are different, and the unity is full of changes, which implicitly sets off the theme of the picture. The iconic expressive techniques and visual effects of her paintings are the use of this texture. However, any materials and techniques are the result of painstaking efforts to spend time and effort in constant exploration, so as to achieve the unity of the picture according to the requirements of the picture.

7. Earthy image

Mr. Zong Baihua said: "Empty and fulfillment are the two elements of artistic spirit[4]." In Luo Hanlei's works, he uses the position of "white and black" to present the full, inner and free life of objects and images. She combines simple naturalism with ethereal and profound artistic beauty, and endows ordinary and shallow characters with a sense of indifference and artistic conception.

"A-Xing" shows the artistic charm of the image with a simple expression technique. In the painting, A Xing wears simple clothes. The wooden benches, drills and leather knives beside her are incompatible with modern fashion clothes. The protagonist A Xing is also completely different from the current bright and fashionable young people. In Luo Hanlei's pen, this is a woman who relies on herself. A hard-working and down-to-earth girl with both hands, in the face of a difficult life, she chooses to treat her with a smile and a firm and optimistic attitude. Her firm face and skilled

movements reflect her dedication and confidence in life. He earns money by his own craftsmanship and works in obscurity. This is exactly what the painter wants to reflect on the thousands of ordinary laborers. They exist at the grassroots level of society and are neither humble nor arrogant. They work hard and face life optimistically. Luo Hanlei conveys people's thoughts and reflections on real life through the pictures, conveys an open-minded and optimistic attitude towards life and an attitude of loving life, and also praises the glorious and selfless dedication of laborers. Chen Lvsheng commented on "A Xing" that "it is a slice of the times, a reflection of reality, a kind of care for society, and a kind of conscience of art. This era needs such works [5]."

8. Conclusion

As one of the representative contemporary female meticulous painters, Luo Hanlei draws inspiration from everyday life, reflects the characteristics of the contemporary era, and uses the artistic language of meticulous brushwork to express her inner emotions. Her works convey positive warmth. The contemporary atmosphere reflects the concept and heart of his creation. Luo Hanlei's "A-Xing" shows people an unknown, hard-working, optimistic and open-minded girl. Although she lives at the bottom of the society, she does not complain, but relies on her own craftsmanship to serve more people and obtain what belongs to her. This is a positive attitude towards life. Contemporary painter Lu Yanguang said in an interview with "Art Weekly": "The achievements of Fang Chuxiong and Luo Hanlei have surpassed the peak of Fang Rending, but the next generation should surpass Fang in terms of fine brushwork. Chu Xiong and Luo Hanlei are very difficult, unless they reach another extreme [6]." Luo Hanlei dared to integrate different painting concepts and techniques from China and the West, constantly trying and pursuing, and truly showing the process and perception of his exploration. Pure, I moved and admired.

Today, we are in an era of change, change and diversification. Different cultures and arts are intertwined and collided. Luo Hanlei's meticulous figure painting has given great inspiration to the Chinese painting world, especially the young painters and students. We must continue to innovate and explore on the basis of inheriting the tradition, maintain our original intention in exploration and practice, and find a suitable one for ourselves path.

References

- [1] Shen J. *Research on the creation of contemporary female painter Luo Hanlei [D]*. Zhejiang: Jiannan University. 2017.06.
- [2] Wang J Y. *Looking at the lines in contemporary meticulous painting from the works of Luo Hanlei [J]*. *Chinese Writers and Artists*, 2018.06.
- [3] Mao Y. *Exploring the artistic language of contemporary female new gongbi artists: Taking Xu Hualing and Luo Hanlei as examples [J]*. *Beauty and the Times (Part II)*, 2019.08.
- [4] Zong B H. *Anthology of Zong Baihua's Aesthetics and Art—Chinese Library • Art [M]*. Wang Desheng, Selected. Zhengzhou: Henan Literature and Art Publishing House, 2009.
- [5] Chen L S. *A red apricot came out of the wall---"A Xing" by Du Luo Hanlei [J]*. *Chinese Painter*. 2011.11.
- [6] *Fine brushwork is difficult to work, is fine brushwork more difficult than freehand brushwork?* https://www.sohu.com/a/202348296_201909.