

Innovative Expression of Humanistic Theme in Contemporary Art

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ABSTRACT. *Firstly divide the scope and concept of humanistic themes, that is, to explore what is humanistic. explores the new form and performance of the human theme of contemporary art innovation. The presentation mode of “human” theme in contemporary art is described from four aspects. Finally, it is concluded that insisting on the diversification of “human” expression is beneficial to the development of contemporary art more possibilities, to explore the most subtle human emotion and the use more kinds of artistic expression, is the contemporary art on the “human” theme of innovation.*

KEYWORDS: *Essence, Contemporary art, Humanistic care*

1. Introduction

The development of Chinese and western arts seems to be related to the change of the Presentation of Human nature Theme. The expression of human nature is the same in the change of the times. From the cow totem in the Altamira Grottoes in Spain as a record of people's life, to as a religious painting of the expression of human beliefs in the Middle Ages, After that, the Renaissance really put people “naked performance”, Then to the contemporary art of “people” more delicate thinking. The theme expression of “humanity” reflects the continuous awakening of human self-consciousness and the change in the evolution of human civilization, which is the result of “humanistic theme” and “conscious expression”.

2. The Cognition of the Scope and Concept of “Humanity” in Art

With regard to the understanding of “human”, only according to Marx's practical way of thinking can get logical and comprehensive interpretation,” human is the highest nature of human being” is the most basic principle to understand human being, that is, the “class characteristics” as well as the dual life attributes of human beings.[1] In reality, all social relations, including the human community and social relations between people, and the unique social essence of individuals, manifested in art is naturally the concern for human spirit and culture, including dignity, values, ideals, and personality. There are some nuances in the understanding of Chinese and Western arts. The west pays more attention to humanism, humanitarianism and the natural relationship between people and people, and the understanding of human beings as an object. The core is people-oriented, furthermore, attaching importance to the realization of people's values and ideals, “the spiritual need to move forward is its fundamental spirit.”[2] Is the pursuit of people to reach the realm of freedom. but In the eastern culture, the relationship between subject and object is mainly discussed. Human refers to humanity, that is, various cultural phenomena in human society. As a symbol of socialization, human is a general term for values. that is, various cultural phenomena in human society. As a symbol of socialization, human beings are a general term for values. The basic connotation of “human” is divided into two concepts. On the one hand, the arts express the pursuit of dignity and happiness in human life, which is the desire for humanitarianism in human nature. On the other hand, the arts seek truth by reason process, by means of scientific methods to examine one's own process, in order to obtain a deeper transcendence, to complete the purest and most miserable expression of the spiritual care, respect human values, explore human meanings. From this point of view, the theme of “human” is a very broad concept in the works, so that it covers all the scope that art can express.

The prehistoric frescoes show “Free consciousness activity” or “quasi-nature” in “human nature”. This conscious activity of praying for the unknown of praying or recording life shows the characteristics of human beings that are different from other animals: The uniqueness of human life. In the Middle Ages, art, as an auxiliary tool for religious propaganda, depicted the “salvation” of death by religion, led people to heaven, and presented limited cognition and fear of death in the pictures. It was also a detailed description of the social attribute of the dual attribute in the theme of “human”. Art confirmed the essence of human from its own

perspective, which is the content to be expressed by religion. With the continuous awakening of humanistic consciousness, Humanism becomes mainstream. Meanwhile, artistic works of the same period reflected the liberation of human personality and freedom, also praised the free development of human personality, human nature and life became the subject of praise. The promotion of human status also affirms human value and creativity, such as Sandra Botticelli, Michelangelo Buonarroti, Leonardo da Vinci and other artist show the dignity of human nature and the freedom to defend rights. "human" theme is reflected in the selection of works of material changes: from simply reflecting the nature of human labor to reflecting on people's own thoughts, even to challenging people's right to life, also the awakening of self-rights awareness in contemporary art. It can be seen that as long as the theme of "human" is expressed, it cannot escape from the general scope that already covers the content and form of artistic expression, and the development of contemporary art lies in how to continue to fill this range and make it more diverse.

3. "Humanity" in Contemporary Art

As contemporary art gradually moves towards independent consciousness, the expression of human themes is more mature, we also find that a large number themes are related to the unique social essence of a single person, that is, the innovation point of contemporary art lies in discovering the individuality of human beings from commonness, at the same time of Think independently while gradually weakening the picture. Prior to this, when expressing "human", art rarely involved consideration of "self-made art creation" and "artistic conscious meaning", mostly from a macro perspective also adopting a relatively single approach. Therefore, it is impossible to express the individual, However, in contemporary art, including the Dadaism, conceptual art, pop art, video, performance art, and other art forms that are not only constantly developing in movement but also changing in evolution, People's themes have a different look than before,

Specifically, there are the following points. The first point is that contemporary art uses more materials to show the thinking of "humanity". In Anselm Kiefer's installation work "*Cleaning the Ruins of Women*", dirty skirts are used to place in ruins. This kind of material is useful for directly feeling the scene of Germany at the time after World War II--the economy and politics have been destroyed, the whole country is on the verge of collapse, also a large number of men have died in the war. The proportion of female population reached 55% after the war, and the dusty skirt in the work symbolizes the women in this battle to rebuild Germany, representing their difficult situation. From this, it seems that the diversity of materials is beneficial to the direct reflection of "humanity" in contemporary arts.[3]

The second point is that the scope of human themes in contemporary art is closer to real life. As Marcel Duchamp said, "If you want to look at my art, my art can be alive: every minute, every second, every breath. It's a work that doesn't leave a trace, it is an invisible and unimaginable work. It's a feeling of happiness. "[4]This represents a more delicate and perceptual emotion explored by contemporary art. Therefore, contemporary arts need audiences to feel the connotation with mental thinking, because the works directly use dialectical and rational views to reflect the inherent contradictions and laws of development of "human beings". "*Spring*" reflects the artist's experience of putting "human" into real life and moving life experience into art, to achieve the goal of equal status between art and life. Marcel Duchamp brought "people" in contemporary art into a more free and broad situation, no longer the previous traditional meaning of the works, directly bring life into, with simple forms to help the audience understand the concept of "people", so that "people" more appropriate to reality.[5]

The third point is that the way people are presented in contemporary works is more direct, which increases the audience's understanding challenge. Piet Cornelies Mondrian's work "*Composition of Red, Yellow and Blue*" is that red, yellow and blue are separated into rectangular squares and squares by six black lines, excluding curves and diagonal lines, also refining the picture to only vertical lines and horizontal lines, as well as the three primary colors of red, yellow and blue. The outward expression of the work is a simple color block stitching, but the simple form contains extremely pure human spiritual connotation: looking for the internal balanced world through the form, this stability is more like an ideal Utopian life, this new order of art space contains the desire for a better world, namely, the harmony and peace of the human world. At the same time, Mondrian tried to comfort the broken inner world of mankind with this inspirational way, and in this cold abstract way to restore the world to the most basic state.

Concern for human spiritual and material world is an eternal theme of contemporary art and even the whole art history. Whether in the eastern world or western philosophy, changes in real life will cause changes in social spirit. Mr. Zhu said: "China's politics, economy and culture are the starting point of our reality. Artists can't live without this social environment and historical background. Western artists are also inseparable from their own cultural roots and historical social background." [6] The theme of "human" in contemporary art should be consistent with the historical background and social demands of this era. Therefore, artistic creation emphasizes

that the embodiment of “humanistic spirit” and the profound thinking of the social spirit should conform to the requirements of the times, and “people” constitute social relations as part of the social group. With the rapid development of society, the humanistic spirit is increasingly showing its unique characteristics. This will instruct contemporary art to actively explore the uniqueness of “humanistic spirit”, express metaphorical and symbolic characteristics of human nature, and express the current conflicts between material and spirit, express the vision of the free world in human nature. Some arts ignore the reality and cater to the market one-sided approach is undoubtedly to give up the belief that “beauty comes from life”. Without thinking and paying attention, contemporary art will form a gap between art and life. At the same time, it is impossible to use the theme of “human” and humanistic care. For contemporary art, the exploration of this era and social human nature, seeking to solve conflicts at the material and spiritual levels, digging up the secrets of human nature, reflecting the social emotions with complex and rich human factors, expressing the most subtle emotions of human beings with works, and expressing a spiritual experience beyond the material in more artistic ways. It is the innovation of contemporary art to the theme of “human”.

References

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