

## A brief exploration on artistic conception of traditional Chinese painting art

Shujing Zhao\*

Nanjing Media Institute, Nanjing 210013, Jiangsu, China. E-mail: banglia2@163

**Abstract:** Traditional Chinese painting, as a kind of bright artistic presentation in the Chinese traditional culture, has experienced nearly thousands of years of history. Up to now, we can still feel the unique beauty of rhythm and artistic conception existing in Chinese traditional culture through traditional Chinese paintings. As a kind of painting method of expressing mood and conception by specific things, traditional Chinese painting tries to make people perceive the beauty in the fantasy created by brush and ink so as to produce spiritual resonance. Therefore, traditional Chinese painting is more like a certain artistic conception than a painting, which contains all spirits of traditional Chinese painting. This paper will explore the deeper connotation of traditional Chinese painting by analyzing the artistic conception of traditional Chinese paintings.

**Keywords:** Traditional Chinese Painting Art; Artistic Conception; Painting Method

### 1. Introduction

Different from western oil paintings, Chinese paintings, especially traditional Chinese paintings, prefer to present the deep artistic conception of things by means of copy space and simple outlines. The expression of traditional Chinese painting art is greatly influenced by many factors such as history and culture, and the ideological state and life experience of the creator will also add color to it. The expression form always carries the artistic thinking of the artist, and is a way to show the artist's thinking, understanding and life state. Therefore, the most important thing for appreciating a piece of traditional Chinese painting is to perceive the artistic conception and connotation in it.

### 2. The brush and ink used in traditional Chinese painting

The brush and ink are of great importance in creating traditional Chinese paintings, which is the basic element of creation. Brush and ink is just like the style of calligraphy, such as Yan style and Liu style. Accordingly, one can form his own style by his brush and inks when painting. If the author wants to truly express the imagery picture in his heart, he needs to keep practicing and refine the painting techniques continuously, so as to express the mood by certain form. In order to make his works full of vivid ideological level and perfect artistic characteristics, the author needs not only to refine his painting skills, but also constantly enhance his artistic conception so as to make his works more charming.

In addition, lines are important ways to present works in traditional Chinese paintings. To perfectly present the author's ideological appeal and artistic conception, it is necessary for the author to have a good mastery of using different lines. All those requires flexibility and accuracy and at the same time, the characteristics of the times and individual elements.

### 3. Creation of artistic conception

#### 3.1 Perceiving the artistic conception of tradition Chinese painting

Artistic conception is a word constantly appeared in the traditional culture of our country, and this is

because Chinese people tends to lay much emphasis on the connotation, implicitness, spirit and charm when creating artistic works. The artistic conception of traditional Chinese painting is to produce artistic beauty created by the combination of cultural accomplishment and spiritual appeal in a vivid scene. It aims to fully express the author's own thoughts and aesthetic pursuit in the painting, and create an atmosphere with superb painting skills to highlight the artistic appeal. This is the cultural core and essence of the work.

### **3.2 The historical origin of the artistic state of traditional Chinese painting**

First of all, artistic conception, as an important part of traditional aesthetic art, was developed together with Chinese Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism. Art comes from life and philosophy. Thereby, with the improvement of people's ideological realm, their pursuit for artistic conception in life was inspired. Ancient poems and articles also pay attention to artistic conception. Many poets are fond of combining scenery and things with their thoughts, just as a famous ancient Chinese poem goes that "the sky, cloud, mountain and water are all white, completely integrated in the white snow".

### **3.3 The historical changes of the artistic conception of traditional Chinese painting**

The changes of artistic conception expression techniques are mainly reflected in the following aspects. One is the use of lines beginning from the Eastern Jin Dynasty. Gu Kaizhi, a master of traditional Chinese painting in the Eastern Jin Dynasty, employed skillful lines to create artistic conception in his works, which improved the charm of traditional Chinese painting. The other is the use of color ink. Ink painting is one of the representative forms of traditional Chinese painting characterized by blending of water and ink, with an extended and mysterious artistic conception, which can fully inspire our association with nature.

## **4. The expression of artistic conception of traditional Chinese painting**

### **4.1 Proficiency in using brush**

As we all know, the colors in traditional Chinese painting are usually only black and white. Therefore, if the author wants to show different shapes and characteristics of things in his works, he must be proficient in using brush to sketch different things with different gradation and textures. Thus, the picture can vividly convey the artistic conception that the creator wants to express. Only in this way can he describe the shape of things he desired to express.

### **4.2 Proficiency in inking**

Another foundation of traditional Chinese painting is the application of ink painting. In traditional Chinese painting, fine line sketches and rich inking are used to make the picture full of gradation and more vivid, thus expressing different thoughts of the author by different shades of colors. Therefore, inking plays an important role in expressing the author's artistic conception of the painting.

### **4.3 Exquisite composition of picture**

The artistic conception of traditional Chinese painting is also reflected in the spatial composition of picture. Only when the traditional Chinese picture is in coordinated composition, can the ink and lines be filled on this basis, and the paintings with exquisite composition will have more artistic appeal and aesthetic feeling. In this way, the whole picture can be coordinated and comfortable, and in a certain order, which is beneficial to later inking.

### **4.4 The technique of combining virtual thoughts with physical images**

In traditional Chinese painting, the author often expresses their artistic conception and emotion by combining virtual thoughts with physical images. Because the image of traditional Chinese painting comes from both the author's observation of the natural environment and his own subjective consciousness, so the traditional Chinese painting is not completely a tangible thing, but an imagery thing. Only in this way the artistic conception the author desired to express can be fully delivered.

## **5. Conclusion**

Traditional Chinese painting is not a sign of modern fast-paced way of life, and is more like a kind of life

reflections experienced certain ages. Such paintings do not fully reflect the real thing, because in the field of art, simulations of the real thing is only the first step, and the life reflections derived from depiction serves as the second step, which is more important than the first step. In order to reflect this kind of artistic conception, it is necessary to consider all aspects such as dotting, sketching, inking and other skills in order to convey the author's thoughts and reflect the artistic value of traditional Chinese painting.

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