Research on the Imagery of Contemporary Woodcut Language

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Abstract: Since the new era, with the emergence of image film and television technology, the artistic form of expression is affected by it and continues to develop. As a traditional art form, woodcut art has undergone tremendous changes in its creative form. Therefore, the use of woodcut language to express the image has also changed. Based on this, this article gives a brief overview of the development contemporary woodcuts and summarizes relevant knowledge, and analyses the different imagery of contemporary woodcut language performance. Through the expression language of woodcut. It brings new ideas to the field of art, and expands the language expression form of woodcut art. This provides the possibility of diversification and diversification for the development of woodcut.

1. Research background

1.1 Literature review

Feng Xuan and others believed in 2017 that woodcut, as a traditional art form in China, has been very mature after a long period of development. Since contemporary times, woodcut art has undergone tremendous changes, not only in the form of thinking and creative appearance, but also in the language expression is more contemporary. Therefore, starting from the woodcut language, this paper explores the characteristics of the times of woodcut art (Feng and Yu, 2017). Qiu Qingyun believed in 2016 that with the development of contemporary woodcut printmaking, contemporary art had an impact on woodcut. This paper analyses the relationship between woodcut and printmaking. During the important period of the transformation of woodcut's historical function, there are divergences of ideas and forms. For woodcut practitioners, how to excavate the inherent characteristics and quality of woodcut language. These are the requirements of the times, and further prove the contemporary image expression of woodcut art (Qiu, 2016). Liu Lingtao believed in 2018 that Chinese printmaking has a long history, and its emergence and development are directly related to woodcut. Since the contemporary era, with the continuous integration of different forms of culture and art, print creation also has its own artistic characteristics. This has a positive effect on the creators of prints, but also affects the development of woodcut art (Liu, 2018). In 2016, Chen Yanqiu believed that with the diversified development of contemporary printmaking art, its development trend is to strengthen the image and reconstruct the picture. Therefore, it is necessary to constantly update the formal language of prints. Faced with the diversified development trend of printmaking, we need to start from the reality and the times, and embody the spiritual consciousness in different forms of expression language. This paper analyses the contemporary nature of Chinese prints and the development trend of woodcut art in the contemporary era (Chen, 2016).

1.2 Purpose of research

The language form of woodcut art is closely related to the development of science and technology. With the development of the times, the artistic expression forms of woodcut art are constantly innovating. Because of the differences in culture and aesthetics in different regions, the woodcut language is different. The expressive reality of Chinese traditional aesthetic factors is “image”. And when applied to woodcut art, it has a new connotation in language expression and is constantly innovative (Cui, 2017). From the perspective of image expression in woodcut creation, this paper further analyses the imagery expression of contemporary woodcut language through the
development course and overview of distracted woodcut. On the basis of blending Chinese traditional culture and aesthetic style, the world-recognized woodcut language was created. At the same time, it is of great significance to guide the further development of prints.

2. Overview and development of contemporary woodcut

2.1 An overview of contemporary wood carving

Wood engraving refers to the use of knives on the surface of special wood materials, through different physical movements such as lines, light and shade, depth and thickness, to create a three-dimensional visual effect of the picture. Wood carving is an art form that uses concave and convex contrast to express the image. One of the most important is to use the method of “leaving black” to describe the shape of the object through special treatment. The use of different techniques such as masculine and masculine engraving is a strong contrast of the pictures in order to express the theme. Or through the density of carving graphics, to imagine the theme of creation, and simplify the creation cycle of wood carving. In the 1920s, some Chinese printmaking artists, in pursuit of pure printmaking art, broke away from duplicate printmaking and entered a new period of freely creating woodcut. Since the 1970s, some western artists have begun to pursue a “narrative” way with the nature of “general history” to create. Since then, art has developed in a pluralistic and liberal way (Geng, 2017).

2.2 The development course of contemporary wood carving

In terms of time, the Buddhist Sutra used for religious propaganda in the Tang Dynasty is the earliest printmaking form found at present. After the Song Dynasty, due to the excellent printing technology, printmaking art developed rapidly and entered its heyday. It was not until the 19th century that woodcut-based printmaking really entered the stage of creative printmaking. With the continuous development of printmaking, woodcut in the form of cash also appeared in different ways. In the process of woodcut, the traditional expression language has a binding effect on the language expression image of the printmaking artist. Western artist Diller uses sketches to express light, light and shade, etc. They pushed the artistic expression of woodcut to a new height, which really separated woodcut from the traditional turntable. At the beginning of the 20th century, Mr. Lu Xun brought back to China the symbolic attention of independent artist Gao Gang to woodcut. After decades of development, to the 1980s, black and white woodcut began to become the mainstream of printmaking, and continued to diversify. After 2000, black and white woodcut prints began to increase gradually, and various forms of woodcut exhibitions were held in various parts of China, and academic seminars were also established. At this time, the aesthetic of domestic prints has undergone a major change, the expression language of woodcut began to pay attention to spiritual culture and humanistic care. Furthermore, it extends and develops it further. After incorporating new technology, the expression of language objects and lines becomes more diversified. This also reflects the contemporary social life, social culture and so on, so that the woodcut language has the “contemporary” quality (Zhu, 2012).

3. An analysis of imaginary expressions of contemporary wood carving language

3.1 Woodcut expressive language and its importance

Language is the most important tool of human communication, and it is also an important symbol to distinguish different nationalities. Language can not only preserve the civilizations that human beings have created, but also convey these civilizations continuously. It can also express consciousness and communicate feelings. The language of art is a form of expressing the feelings of the creator by means of artistic image, aesthetics, and materials and tools used in artistic creation. A work of art can only be expressed by artistic language. Since modern times, with the vigorous development of artistic creation, artistic language is also renewing and developing. This makes these works of art have unique artistic value. Wood engraving language is to leave traces on wood
materials through the use of specific tools by the creator. In order to express the author and people's feelings, experience, perception and so on. The point, line, surface and the arrangement rhythm of these elements are all the forms of woodcut language. Language expression is the most important link in woodcut creation. Without the guarantee of this technology, all artistic views and ideas can not be expressed. Different artists have formed their own unique language expression system in the long-term accumulation of creation. They express these languages in the form of woodcut, that is to say, they express their thoughts, feelings and so on. This is of great significance to artistic creation and the development of art.

3.2 Imagery generalization of woodcut language expression

The main form of woodcut is printmaking, and woodcut is also the most traditional form in the book of printmaking. It plays an important role in the contemporary art system. Wood carving mainly uses tools to change the surface texture of the board, and expresses the language with different knife mechanism and black-and-white composition. The composition of woodcut can be basically divided into three kinds of knife methods. The first is the traditional Chinese knife, which is carved by means of flat-cut, round chisel, carving and pushing. The result of this kind of knife sculpture is similar to that of traditional Chinese painting. It can not only reflect the changes of Yin and Yang in the picture, but also emphasize the subtle changes of lines. The second is the main form of Western woodcut, which uses the knife with fixed blade shape to complete the picture by different combinations of points, lines and surfaces. Commonly used cutter types are round, flat, beveled, triangular and so on. The third is the emergence of Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries, using carving knives, rockers and other different carving knives, in the hard wood surface for fine carving. This form of woodcarving, the picture is relatively small, but the precision is very high. These different woodcut methods, using different expression woodcut language to express the image is also completely different, which is also the core of the image expression in woodcut.

3.3 Image analysis of traditional wood carving language

From the Tang Dynasty to the Song and Yuan Dynasties, China began to express religious themes in the form of prints, and began to integrate with popular culture. The printmaking illustrations in the novels of Ming and Qing Dynasties reflect the development of Chinese printmaking. During this period, Chinese painting is mainly used in white sketch, in which the carving technique mainly uses the masculine carving method of the boxing knife. This form of expressing pictures by lines is similar to Chinese painting in expressing images, which can reflect the spirit and perception of the creator. Mr. Lu Xun promoted the free creation of prints, which formed different factions during the Anti-Japanese War, but mainly reflected rural life and revolutionary war. Because of the limited conditions of the tutor, the creators mainly use the triangle knife and rounded knife to sculpt. This way can not only control the rhythm change of changing pictures, but also well reflect the objective facts. After the founding of New China, with the influence of the realist art of the former Soviet Union, the printmaking language became more three-dimensional and vivid. This dense combination of light and shade contrast rich woodcut techniques, can be specific things to show vividly. Since contemporary times, the emancipation of people's ideas has been reflected in the individualization and individualization of artistic creation. Modern black-and-white woodcut printmaking, with its unique artistic quality, shows an advanced development trend in China.

4. Conclusion

In woodcut creation, after long-term accumulation of creation will gradually form a set of technical specifications of their own. However, it is far from enough to have basic artistic norms. It is also necessary to combine the artist's personal concepts. Through the artist's unique artistic expression system, these artistic languages are expressed in the works of art, in order to reflect the imagery expressed in the works of art. Since contemporary times, with the emergence of new concepts, art will also change in terms of language expression. The limitation of some technical
means makes woodcut have its own unique expression language. These artistic languages not only provide enlightening thinking for woodcut creation, but also provide the possibility of diversification and diversification of woodcut, and possess contemporary image expression and aesthetic character.

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