

## The Research on the Current Development of Art Theory

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**Abstract:** Through the analysis of the construction of the theoretical subject of art under the current situation, the paper proposes that the development of art from the West to China should focus on revealing the essence of Chinese art and establish Chinese art with its own characteristics, use the concept and expression of traditional Chinese art to demonstrate and interpret the universal law of Chinese art.

### 1. Introduction

With the upgrading of art as a category, the issue of discipline construction related to the theory of art has been put on the agenda. However, the construction of art theory as a first-level discipline is still a brand new thing for Chinese higher education. There are no ready-made templates for reference in foreign countries. Therefore, it is full of the current theoretical construction of art theory. The challenge, but it is also the opportunity.

### 2. The mission of art theory

The new context is reflected in the changes in the discipline. Since the beginning of 2010, the discipline of art has been upgraded to a key issue. This period can be said to be the period of "the survival or destruction" of the art theory [1]. Faced with the setting of art theory, the scholars' loveliness is reflected in whether they oppose or agree. Everyone consciously and cautiously considers the problem of the subject of art theory, that is, what can art theory do? Is there any other discipline that can replace art theory?

Some scholars believe that the West does not have this discipline. If the discipline is to be in line with the international standards, it is not necessary to set up this discipline. Some scholars believe that the absence of the West does not mean that China cannot be established. Moreover, this discipline has originated since Germany and has had a major impact in Russia, Japan, and China. Some scholars believe that every art category has its own history and theory. There is no need to set up a "empty" subject that is above the history of art. Some scholars believe that it is precisely the barrier between art categories. The barriers between various disciplines of art influence the accuracy of the judgments of this article on art. Art theory can play an irreplaceable role in breaking this barrier. Some scholars believe that the theory of art lacks clear research objects. In the cultivation of talents, it is impossible to find a suitable topic for a dissertation. Some scholars believe that the research object of art theory is very real, and the topic of thesis in talent training is the topic of thesis [1]. When or not, it is mainly because people have insufficient understanding of the subject and have nothing to do with the discipline itself. These three major issues are the main controversy in the subject of art theory.

In any case, art theory emerged as a first-level discipline in the discipline of art. Its emergence means affirmation of the status of the discipline of art as a second-level discipline from the standpoint of the state.

### 3. The Characteristics of art theory

Art is not a discipline separated from aesthetics, nor does it refer to each specific art. It is based on the analysis and synthesis of various art practices. It is about the similar characteristics and similarities of various art or type art. The discipline of regular research. There is a certain connection

between art and aesthetics and philosophy, but it occupies an independent position between art and aesthetics and philosophy, and is not inclusive in aesthetics [1].

Why is it not easy to distinguish art from aesthetics? The main reason is that although aesthetics is a philosophical subject, it has a special nature different from that of philosophical methods. In other words, aesthetics has a place that is connected with art, which is prominent in the "sensible understanding" of art. "The father of aesthetics" Baum Jiatong named aesthetics "sensitivity", which is "the science of perceptual knowledge. The theory of aesthetics is the abstract speculation of philosophy, which refers to the top-down description from the macro aspect [2]. And art It also needs abstract thinking, such as the study of the nature and value of art, the study of the relationship between art and the world, the study of art acceptance or communication, etc. From the perspective of sensitivity, the combination of art and aesthetics, mainly it is expressed in the process of artistic appreciation. Understanding art appreciation as an aesthetic process, or using aesthetic theory to interpret the process of artistic appreciation, has formed the basis of art appreciation. The perceptual characteristics of aesthetics, with or without subjective experience, are intuitive. From this, to the rational understanding. However, the direction, purpose, requirements, and the objects and focuses of the research between art and aesthetics are not the same. As long as you deepen the creation of artistic image, carefully compare and discern the characteristics and boundaries of the study of art and aesthetics are not difficult to find and distinguish between the two.

As a subject of experience art studies refers to the study of art itself, that is, the process of artistic creation and its experience. 'Art' refers mainly to the act of production, while 'aesthetic' refers to perception and appreciation." "Art represents a process of doing or making. This is true for the art of beauty and the art of technology. A perfection in the practice of artistic creation, that is, the use of the best artistic means and means to create a successful image and works; a perfection to the perceptual knowledge itself, that is, to feel and understand the image created by the artist, enter aesthetic realm and understanding. One is the mysterious world of the intuition experience of art creation [2]. Combining the various concrete facts and phenomena of the artist in image creation, it explores and summarizes the artistic experience and laws. One is from the perception and analysis of the artistic image, the feeling and Grasp the beauty. Is not the field of study defined by two different purposes and directions a distinction between art and aesthetics?

The study of artistic originality refers to the original study of cutting into the creation and composition of art. This article says that art cannot be replaced by aesthetics, mainly referring to the level of artistic originality. In the process of artistic creation, although it involves the elements of beauty, it is included in the intuitive experience, but exists as an element of the image that constitutes the United States and the United States. Artistic originality is marked by the initial and sturdy, solid and full image creation, and artistic beauty is only a concept obtained from the image [2]. That is to say, the art originality theory, although containing aesthetic factors, is only included as an unrestricted object and included in art. Once the artistic image is born, the beauty becomes the main word of Zhou Yan, which is a crosscutting relationship with art.

#### **4. The challenge of the development of art theory**

##### **4.1 Art theory theory category debate.**

After years of debate, the definition of art theory is forming a consensus. This kind of consensus is actually the return to the origin. Everyone accepts Deso's definition of art, which divides art into general art and special art. According to Matthew's introduction, special art includes a variety of art history (architecture history, music history, drama history and others), various art museums (architecture museums, music museums, theatre museums and others), various Art (Architecture, Musicology, Drama and others).

Although there are still many controversies about the two theories of general art and special art, many people like to use special art to replace special art, but the general understanding of art, the general and special in art. After the dispute over a period, everyone reached a consensus. It should be pointed out that the art studies that Deso and Matthey said are only art studies and do not include

artistic creation. Art, now a discipline, encompasses both artistic and artistic creation. The art studies that Deso and others call are equivalent to the first-level discipline art theory under the category of art [3].

There are still many questions to be answered about the construction of art theory as a discipline. There are three main questions: Does the general art theory exist? How do you relate to the theory of art? What is the relationship between general art theory and art theory?

#### **4.2 The loose internal relations of art theory.**

General art theory is a theoretical study of cross-arts, including art philosophy, art history, art criticism, and so on. In the field of art philosophy, it follows the cross-sector research. Most of the art philosophy so far has adapted to all art categories. Cross-gate art history research is rare. Whether the research on cross-gate art history is established, this issue is still under discussion. This article I tend to think that it can be established. Since cross-sectoral history of science, history of religion, history of philosophy, history of literature, and even history of culture can all be established, cross-art history should also be established [3]. At the same time, Hegel's "Aesthetics" and Li Zehou's "The Course of Beauty" have already made an attempt in the study of cross-art history.

If there are general artistic theoretical studies across categories, then which institutions are they responsible for? Often, these studies are undertaken by aesthetics. Aesthetics itself is a very small subject, and most of them are established in the Department of Philosophy [4]. From a global perspective, independent aesthetic research units are rare. At present, there are only two independent foreign undergraduate education units, namely the Department of Aesthetics of Seoul National University and the Department of Aesthetics of Uppsala University, Sweden. An independent graduate aesthetics education unit, in addition to Seoul National University and Uppsala University, and the Aesthetics Art Research Office of the Tokyo University, Japan. From the domestic situation, independent undergraduate aesthetic education units have not yet appeared, and there are many independent graduate aesthetic education units, mostly distributed in philosophy, liberal arts and art colleges. In short, for independent aesthetics or general art theory, postgraduate education is more common, and undergraduate education is relatively rare.

#### **4.3 The problem of the art theory of the door is different from the general art theory.**

It is not whether the related research exists, but whether the research of different art categories can be concentrated. From the current situation, it is rare to bring together theoretical studies of different art categories. Most of the art theories such as art history, musicology, drama studies, film studies, etc. are independent, and their superiors are usually liberal arts colleges and art schools. However, neither the liberal arts college nor the art academy is the only art theory. In addition to the theory of art, the College of Arts and Sciences also includes a broader range of humanities and natural sciences. In addition to the theoretical study of art, the College of Art also contains more art practice. It is very rare to categorize the theoretical research of the art of the category and only the theory of the art of the door. A case that can be referred to may be the China Academy of Art. The China Academy of Art was once a pure art research unit, and focused on various theoretical studies of art. Later, it introduced graduate education and art practice subjects. It became a bit like the setting of the general art school, but it was theoretically occupied [4].

In short, from the current situation, because there is no establishment of art theory disciplines abroad, the internal connection of art theory research is very loose.

### **5. Opportunities for the development of art theory**

For the Chinese art theory community, the real opportunity that is lost may be film theory or film theory research. As an art category developed late, the film has not accumulated much theoretical research. This article is almost at the same starting point as European and American scholars. However, since the 1980s, many exciting film theories have been born in Europe and the United States. However, the study of Chinese art theory still hangs on traditional art categories or traditional aesthetic issues, and there is not much to do in film theory research. This article has lost a good

opportunity to catch up with Europe and the United States in the field of art theory.

So, is there still an opportunity? This article thinks it should be there. This article lists two points for your reference.

### **5.1 Compare art history research.**

At present, the study of art history in the world is dominated by the Western paradigm established by Europe and the United States. With the dissatisfaction with Eurocentrism and the admiration of cultural diversity, the shortcomings of the existing study of European centralist art history become more and more obvious because it cannot cover and explain the visual art of other cultures. The transformation of art history research into visual culture research reflects the requirements of breaking through the study of art history in the European Center. This situation is a bit like the development of theological studies of the year to comparative religious studies. Since its establishment as an independent discipline in the 1920s, comparative religion has seen a series of exciting works in religious phenomenology, religious psychology, and religious sociology. Although comparative religion did not replace theology, an emerging discipline has since been established. This article carries out comparative art history research today, including not only comparative studies of cross-cultural art history, such as comparative studies of Chinese and Western art history, but also comparative studies of cross-art art history within the same culture, such as the comparative study of Chinese art history and Chinese music history [5]. If one day the art history is established as an emerging discipline, Chinese scholars have played a pioneering role in this respect.

### **5.2 Contemporary art and cultural studies.**

Influenced by the Frankfurt School, existing contemporary art and cultural studies are often known for their criticality and are therefore often referred to as critical theories. This fixed perspective prevents them from objectively looking at the social changes brought about by the new technological revolution. The cynicism in contemporary art and culture studies has not adapted to the requirements of the new era. They may give way to a neutral, objective cultural study. If China grasps the historical opportunity and establishes a new paradigm of contemporary art and culture, it is possible to take the lead in this field and even establish the right to speak [4].

Of course, with the advancement of new technologies and the development of society, many new problems may emerge in the field of art theory. Chinese society is in rapid development, the art field is particularly active, and the discipline system is not yet closed. New changes in society and the era can be relatively easily incorporated into the academic research system. The ability to change and adapt to change gives opportunities to Chinese academics; there are no ready-made paradigms for reference, which is another challenge for academic research and management. Dealing with opportunities and challenges, Chinese art theory research will make a big breakthrough.

## **6. The development direction of art theory**

### **6.1 Chinese art should be established.**

China's original theoretical research and academic systems of art were introduced from the West. Many explorations and theoretical thinking are based on Western theoretical thinking and aesthetic perspectives. They are also unique in their artistic and aesthetic ideals. Did not be docked and blended. This state continued until China's reform and opening up in the 1980s. Only a few scholars, artists, and theorists began to look at Chinese art and Chinese art from the perspective of Chinese art's own characteristics and aesthetic connotations. Art studies to establish the academic status of art. Until the mid-1990s, the State Council Academic Degrees Committee added art as a second-level discipline in the first-level discipline of art through the vigorous advocacy of Zhang Daoyi and others in the Art Discipline Review Group of the State Council.[3 Since then, from the Peking University, Zhejiang University, Wuhan University, Hebei University, etc., the university's art department (institution) has developed rapidly nationwide. However, since the beginning of the last century, with the trend of Western learning, the modern cultural thoughts have been influenced by the Western thinking system.

The study of art has long been under the knowledge system of Western art history research, and the art of Chinese classical research forms has been changed [5].

## **6.2 A good job in the basic education of art theory and the training mechanism for talents should done.**

If we re-examine the current situation of the construction and development of the theoretical discipline of art, this paper is not difficult to find that the expectations and actual conditions of the theory of art in society are still different. Some scholars have commented: "General art" teachers come too far, and there are many general works and papers. Few people can draw their own academic expertise or unique skills; graduate students learn nothing and learn nothing, lacking "special "Art" is also a solid professional foundation for graduate students in "art class". This situation has seriously affected the personnel training and discipline construction of this discipline. Therefore, the basic education and talent cultivation of art theory are the basis and premise for solving these problems. How to do a good job in the basic education of art theory and the cultivation of talents must be, clear about the social responsibility and historical mission of the theory of art theory [5].

The research object of art is the art phenomenon of various categories. The purpose is to explore the universal law restricting artistic phenomena from various art categories. The mission of the theory of art is to open up the "barriers" between the various categories in the contemporary art form and the increasingly updated expression, to find the universal law of art development, and thus to guide and lead the other art disciplines. Therefore, the discipline of art theory cannot be separated from the other four first-level disciplines, but also has essential differences with the other four first-level disciplines.

## **7. Summary**

The development of the network has brought great challenges to the ideological and political work of colleges and universities. In the network environment, the ideological and political work educators of colleges and universities must follow the development of the times, update their work concepts, and carry out education methods, approaches and platforms. Innovate, increase the radiation range of ideological education, ensure the effectiveness of ideological and political education, and maximize the function of ideological and political education.

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