

# On the “Image” in Image Oil Painting

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**Abstract**—In the artistic imagination, the artists seek beauty through the image in their hearts; in the process of creation, the beauty is realized through the artistic conception; the appreciator also feels the beauty through the artistic conception. Ancient Chinese estheticians and artists have long recognized that image creation is the core content of aesthetic creation, and how the artistic nature of art depends on the “artistic conception”. The “image” in image oil painting not only refers to the subjective reflection of objective objects, i.e., “image”, but also includes five aspects of artistic features: create shape with images, set colors with image, paint with image, express with image and create the scene with image.

**Keywords**—Image Oil Painting, Image, Artistic Conception, Emotions

“Image oil painting is not a simple style or genre. It is a process of oil painting, which can reveal and reveal the spirit of Western culture. It is a process and an embodiment of assimilation of Chinese cultural psychology and aesthetic structure. It is an inevitable trend in the localization of Western oil painting by Chinese culture. More profoundly, it is an oil painting national business card formed by the Chinese nation's image thinking and narrative experience of social and natural projections and even into the aesthetic structure of oil painting language. Therefore, from the perspective of human oil painting history, image oil painting is also the oil painting that best accommodates the characteristics of Chinese poetic culture.” ① (Shang Hui, “A Century of Image Oil Painting”). “Image” is the image of the artist and the scene of the heart. It does not stick to the form, color and content of objective concrete objects. It incorporates the painter's emotions and pursues the publicity of life. Image oil painting is more about the expression of oil painting, forming a language system that is both unified and varied with the general oil painting art.

“Image” is the art processing of “representing with images” and “showing meaning with images”. “Image” refers to the artists' subjective feelings, and “artistic conception” refers to the objective image and the painter's feelings. “Image” is the soul of image oil painting, and there is decent image and vulgar image. Setting the “image” is the artist's feelings in real life. It is a kind of beautiful understanding extracted from the natural society. It is a kind of beautiful expression that rises on the basis of emotional understanding. It is the result of the painters' understanding of the objective world. Chinese classical aesthetics believes that “beauty” is in “image” and “image” is the essence and core of artistic beauty. In the artistic imagination and conception, the artist seeks beauty through the image in the heart; in the process of creation, the beauty is realized through the image representation; the appreciator also feels the beauty through the image presentation. Ancient Chinese estheticians and artists have long recognized that image expression is the core content of aesthetic creation, and the beauty of art exists in the beauty of “image”. Therefore, the meaning of image oil painting includes both the artist's subjective emotions and the beauty of the image presented by the picture.

While paying attention to the form of painting itself, image oil painting relies on the content to fully express the artist's profound cultural connotation and artistic temperament. It is more of a spiritual level and cannot be easily distinguished. As far as the creative ontology is concerned, it is not simply to reproduce the image, but to combine the objective image with the subject's feelings and to extract the subjective impression and feeling of the aesthetic object. “Objects change with the image” and “artistic conception changes along with image” have become the pursuit of image oil painting concept. Image oil painting means the main way and important features of image oil painting. It is not only the subjective reflection of objective things, i.e., “image”, but also includes five aspects of artistic features: create shape with images, set colors with image, paint with image, express with image and create the scene with image.

## I. CREATE SHAPE WITH IMAGES——SHAPE THE IMAGE WITH THE SUBJECTIVE IMAGE FELT BY THE PAINTER

Modeling is the foundation of all paintings. Image modeling is not only an objective image in real life, but also a subjective image in the artist's mind. Image The shape of the oil painting was carried out under the guidance of the artist “image”. “Create shape with images” is the main styling method of image oil painting. It is based on natural objects but not limited to the reproduction of natural objects. It pays more attention to the expression of self-internal needs, making the picture full of the subjective creator. emotion. This is the perfect combination of subjective and objective. The methods of deformation, exaggeration, choice, and imagination have become the main features of image modeling. The form of the picture tends to be diversified and personalized, highlighting the artist's unique painting style.

In the image oil painting, “create shape with images” emphasizes the likeness of the gods, and pursues the spiritual realm of “the combination of things and things, the heart and the things”, emphasizing the truth and essence behind the things. This needs to be based on a deep understanding of nature and life, and a unique understanding of natural abilities. Artists need sincerity to nature, need to devote all their enthusiasm, carefully observe, grasp the truth behind the image so that they can truly realize the true understanding of art and life, and express true feelings. When depicting and expressing objective objects, it is often treated or exaggerated, or deformed, or simplified according to the requirements of the picture, especially the needs of its own thoughts and emotions, making it more artistic, expressive and allegorical in order to fully reflect the spiritual pursuit of image oil painting in pursuit of free and easy and advocating freedom.

Image oil painting aims to express the author's intuitive feelings and personal feelings, emphasizing the expression and bursting of emotions, that is, "taking its image". In the shape of the intention, through the emotional burst of the painter, the characteristics of the image oil painting style are fully reflected.

## II. SET COLORS WITH IMAGE——SET THE COLOR WITH THE SUBJECTIVE COLOR FELT BY THE PAINTER

As an image oil painting, the use of color can be more free. In order to express the rich color and vivid vitality of the image oil painting, the painter can choose different colors or colors according to different characters and characteristics to express different tastes and themes. An important feature of image oil painting is the free use of color and the full play and publicity of color charm. In the process of image oil painting creation, the painter can play subjectively and intentionally set the color, and integrate objective understanding and emotion into it. Image oil painting color can also be used for reference in the color application of other paintings. It can break through the limitation of color space and time. The painter has formed his own color tendency in his heart before the pen is written, with the intention of coloring and random coloring, emphasizing its subjectivity. The painter has his own tendency to color style in the picture. People's personality and emotions are closely related to psychology and color. Color expression is also a kind of burst of artist's personal feelings. Artists usually choose the color they like and express their emotions and character temperament in their own pictures. Therefore, the works of different painters will also present their different color styles.

In the image oil painting, the free use of color makes the emotional expression of the image oil painting fully exerted, and the fusion between subject and objective is expressed to the greatest extent. The relationship law of oil painting color generally focuses on contrast and coordination, change and unity, the size and composition of color blocks, the use of color gray, and the arrangement of black and white gray. It does not have to strictly follow the color expression rules of realistic oil paintings, and intends to set colors, fully embodying and expressing the artist's thoughts, feelings and expressions on the screen.

## III. PAINT WITH IMAGE——APPLY THE BRUSHWORK WITH THE EMOTIONAL TEMPERAMENT FELT BY THE PAINTER

The brushwork in paintings is the symbol of the artist's emotional expression. No matter what kind of painting, it depends on the expression of the brushwork. The brushwork is the inner structure of the painting, which ultimately determines the success of the work. In the image oil painting, more emphasis is put on the treatment of the brush stroke, or wet or dry, or thin or thick, or big or small, or face or point, or rub or rub, or ton or lift... image oil painting to pursue vivid, shape The characteristics of God's duality determine its use of pens. Every point, every line and every piece on the screen is created by the painter to express his spiritual connotation. The imagery of the object depends on the expression of the brushwork, and the emotional mood depends on the expression of the brushwork. In the image oil painting, the brushwork has a distinct personality and characteristics. The treatment of strokes and textures also plays an extremely important role in image oil paintings. The screens are processed according to different needs, such as writing strokes to express smooth, moist, and light feeling; Use plate scrapers, brushes and other tools to pursue the performance of large strokes, the tension of art and the vividness of the picture. Image Oil painting does not deliberately pursue objective image reproduction, but focuses on grasping big feelings, big shapes, large color blocks, and large pens. In practice creation, to a certain extent, drawing on the pen and ink of Chinese traditional painting, forming a unique technical language is the basic method of image oil painting. "Paint with images", its handwriting form is as casual and unpredictable as writing, and gives people a visually strong effect, highlighting the meaningful form of beauty, forming a unique and pleasing visual experience and it has an independent aesthetic value. The application of oil paints should be done with a pen. The pen should be used for the purpose of expression. The brush strokes are created by rubbing the brush and the surface of the cloth. The thickness of the pigments is also an important carrier for emotional bursting. Therefore, paint with images, the use of the brush method directly affects the overall feeling and visual experience of the whole picture.

## IV. EXPRESS WITH IMAGE——EXPRESS EMOTIONS BY DEPICTING THE NATURAL OBJECTS THAT YOU FEEL.

The praise of nature and the expression of love for life are an eternal theme of painting and a human nature. The artist's talent lies in enlightenment. Enlightenment lies in the level. It is the attitude towards life. They feel the life with a unique mind, close to nature. They express the objective world with a unique perspective. They express the beauty of the subconscious through the artistic language of the temperament. Objective object image has its objective aesthetic definition in natural life. Once it is included in the art work, it is often injected into the artist's emotion. Therefore, "express with images" is the product of the unity of objective and subjective emotions, the unity of subjectivity and objectivity. Natural scenery is an objective and uninteresting object. When an artist pours his thoughts and feelings into the scene and expresses it through subjective image, the scene has a taste of color and life. With the lyrics, the image oil painting is expensive, because of the emotions, affectionate, affectionate, and affectionate. The picture expresses emotion through subjective image and expresses the artist's unique experience of life. This is not to express the concrete image, nor the size of the brush stroke. The thickness of the pigment depends on whether or not the emotion is embedded in the scene. It is whether there is a picture of the emotion that is condensed into the image painting. To be fascinating, to impress the audience, to reach the realm of "scenario blending" in which the so-called "mountain climbing is full of mountains and the sea is overwhelming." Only in this way, whether it is spring, summer, autumn and winter, bright or dim , wax or wane, or the vast land, the wilderness mountain village, only investing in emotions, it really moves from objective reality to subjective image.

Image oil painting emphasizes the expression of emotions. In order to express emotions, you cannot stick to the shape, do not stick to the color, do not stick to the brushstroke, and do not stick to the space... Wang Fuzhi, a famous thinker in the late Ming and early Qing dynasties, believed that: "Fu Jing is in harmony with love, and love is in the same place. If the intention is appropriate, the two divisions are divided, the situation is not prosperous, and the scenery is not the scene, which is the

concentrated interpretation of the dialectical relationship between scenery and love. Scenario blending and intentional lyricism are theoretical summaries of the relationship between the emotional expression of objective subjects and the image features of aesthetic objects. It is an important law in the creation and expression of image oil paintings. Painting creation is for “sentimental meaning”, “intentional sensation”, “meaning and sentiment”, “love and intention”, only the harmony of scenes can produce “artistic conception”, that is, the soul of image oil painting.

#### V. CREATE THE SCENE WITH IMAGE——CONSTRUCT AN ARTISTIC CONCEPTION WITH A BIASED SUBJECTIVE IMAGE.

Image means the embodiment of the subjective emotion of the artist. The environment is the reflection of the objective life phenomenon. The artistic conception is the essence of life embodied by the subjective and objective. It can make viewers feel like they are immersed, and they are emotionally infected through association and imagination to resonate. “Image” in image oil painting is the soul of image oil painting, subjective emotions such as feelings, chest, imagination and so on. “Construct scene with images” means that the inner feelings of the creative subject are expressed in a certain artistic image through a certain artistic means. The pursuit of the subjective image meaning is to let the viewer realize the realm of the painting. The so-called “conception” in painting is a reflection of objective reality. It is not copied or copied, nor is it simple imitation. It is the processing and transformation of “images”. “Conception” is beyond the constraints of the real space, and the constraints of “image” are presented in the picture. Image oil painting emphasizes the context of meaning. In the process of image oil painting creation, the painter is first moved by real life, producing rich emotions, and then through observation, experience, understanding, understanding and sublimation and reaching an idealized state, and then through in-depth exploration, find an expression that is appropriate for it. The emotional way to achieve harmony in the three aspects of natural beauty, life beauty and artistic beauty, to achieve the objective representation of the artistic rendition and subjective spirit, constitute the unity of emotion and reason, shape and God, thus achieving the realm of scene blending. As Mr. Li Keran said: “Artistic conception is the soul of art, the concentration of the essence of objective things, coupled with the casting of people's thoughts and feelings, through the high degree of artistic processing to achieve the blending of scenes, borrowing scenery and feelings, thus showing the artistic realm, The realm of poetry, namely artistic conception.” ②(Li Keran’s “Artistic Conception of Landscape Painting”) is an artistic context created by image oil painting. The artistic conception created by image oil painting is a kind of noble character that is different from Chinese traditional painting.

The expression of emotion and the expression of artistic conception are undoubtedly the purpose of image oil painting. The expression of “images” and “artistic conception” as the dominant of image oil painting is determined by its characteristics. The intentional context is the blending of love and scenery, which is the perfect combination of meaning and environment. It is the objective real sublimation for the truth of art and the organic combination of the artist's emotion and meaning form. The core of meaning is the realm of context, and the formation of all artistic conception is based on emotion. If an image oil painting works without artistic conception, it is like having no soul. Only by doing image creation under such a leadership can we paint an artistic work with an artistic conception.

Throughout China's contemporary image oil painting, we deeply understand the unique charm of image oil painting. Create shape with images, set colors with image, paint with image, express with image and create the scene with image: they all reflect the spirit and features of Chinese culture. Image oil painting pays attention to taking “image” as the foundation of creation, creating shape with image, conveying emotions and artistic conception with images, seeking similarities and difference in “image” with writing. From shape, color, painting, expression and creating conception, they all depict the artists’ intuitive feelings and the creation status of unity. Its essence is to emphasize the high-degree integration of feelings, image, reason, fun and taste between the subject and the object.

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