

## On the Decorative Beauty of Lacquer Painting Art

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**Abstract:** As an important part of the intangible cultural heritage of the Chinese nation, lacquer painting art has a rich history of over a thousand years, however, its development in modern times is still slow. Through the efforts of several generations of painters, lacquer painting art has gradually become an independent kind of painting, but its development is weak. If the aesthetic characteristics of lacquer painting art can be further explored, it will have more audiences, and its development will open a new situation.

### Introduction

As an old and young painting, lacquer painting attracts many people's attention with its unique and exquisite beauty. Many artists have put in unremitting efforts and pursuit to make it carry forward in the new era <sup>[1-3]</sup>.

### 1. Craftsmanship—Distinctive Features in the Production of Lacquer Painting

From the very beginning, lacquer painting is closely related to materials and techniques. Chinese traditional lacquer painting art has experienced a historical evolution of more than 7000 years, and its techniques have a long history. Hundreds of lacquer painting techniques are recorded in Huang Cheng's lacquer painting art monograph *Lacquer Decoration Record* in the Ming Dynasty. The language characteristics of lacquer painting can not be separated from the characteristics of "lacquer", which is the material basis of the language of lacquer painting. Lacquer painting is the art of painting through the medium of "lacquer". <sup>[4-5]</sup>

The key for lacquer painting to become an independent kind of painting lies in its unique visual beauty, which is the characteristics of Chinese lacquer. The unique visual beauty formed by its unique material and craft is incomparable and irreplaceable by other kinds of paintings. Just as oil painting is based on canvas and pigment and traditional Chinese painting is based on ink, lacquer painting is based on the characteristics of Chinese lacquer, and they all have their own characteristics. Therefore, painters must understand the materials and techniques before they can do a good job in lacquer painting. A good painter should not only have the quality of a painter, but also master the material and technology at the same time.

### 2. Painting—The Essence of Lacquer Painting Lies in Artistic Expression

As far as the ontological language of lacquer painting is concerned, its painting is the core issue of the development of lacquer painting art and the basis of whether lacquer painting can establish its historical value. From the perspective of long-term development, if lacquer painting wants to enter the ranks of the big art, it is inevitable to put the painting to the first place and raise it to a certain spiritual height.

An excellent lacquer painting should be an excellent painting first. As an independent new type of painting, lacquer painting is first of all "painting". The artistic language of lacquer painting must conform to the requirements of painting and the artistic form of painting, and to the expression of the author's own emotion. That kind of "decorative arts and crafts" lacquer painting with empty

thinking and no sense of the times is not the mainstream art form of modern Chinese lacquer painting creation. As the painting, what impresses the viewer first is the spiritual connotation the lacquer painting shows. More standards should be put on the essence of art to create excellent works of lacquer painting which are rich in the atmosphere of the times, ideological connotation and artistic characteristics of lacquer painting.

### **3. Material—The Expression Language of Media Materials**

One of the unique charm of lacquer painting art lies in the diversity of its materials. In addition to the most basic paint medium materials, it also includes eggshell, aluminum powder, carbon powder, wood powder and other comprehensive materials. More and more new medium materials provide a wider choice for the creation of lacquer painting. The following common media materials are described:

As a common medium material in modern lacquer painting creation, eggshell has become an indispensable work of art after being handled by professionals. Painters often use different colors of eggshells to highlight the layering in their paintings, especially white. In the paintings with Chinese lacquer as the background color, the white of eggshell and the black of Chinese lacquer form a violent visual conflict, which brings a strong visual impact and attracts the eyes of the audience.

Mother-of-pearl inlay is a polished shell. Due to the unique texture and color of the shell itself, after polishing and painting, the layers of color are revealed more colorful. In particular, with the increasing fineness of polishing technology, the performance of color is more delicate, showing a gorgeous and moving effect.

The use of metal media greatly broadens the media characteristics of modern lacquer painting art. Metal often brings a cold and Modern characteristic, which makes the visual effect of lacquer painting have more possibility space. Especially in the creation of lacquer painting in the modern background, the unique luster of metal imperceptibly endows the works with a modern sense, enabling the author to express his current emotions more freely, which has been recognized by more and more lacquer painters.

In addition to the above media materials, many materials will be used in the art of lacquer painting. The extensive use of materials gives more possibilities to the creation of lacquer painting. The diversified choice of materials makes the creative effect have a broader space for process, and also constantly brings forth new ideas for the aesthetic characteristics of lacquer painting.

### **4. Artistic Conception and Decoration of Lacquer Painting**

As a lacquer painting with independent aesthetic consciousness, it is necessary to reflect the ideological and spiritual nature of the work. The most prominent sign is that the works are experimental and avant-garde. In daily life, people's requirements for lacquer painting art decoration works are not only limited to lacquer utensils used in daily life, but also include lacquer painting works with the functions of appreciation, pleasure and spiritual transmission. For this reason, painters emphasize their own comprehensive quality and artistic taste while they have good skills. Of course, the spirit of the work needs the carrier of material and technology. A good lacquer painting work should be a comprehensive embodiment and perfect combination of spirit, material and technology. If we leave materials and crafts to talk about the artistic concept and spirit, the artistic concept and spirit will often come to nothing. If we indulge in materials and crafts and the visual beauty of lacquer painting art, the spiritual value of the work will also be reduced. For the pure art form of lacquer painting, the creation of spiritual beauty should be the first. The beauty of artistic conception reflected by the spirit of the work not only pleases our spirit and vision, but also makes us feel the decoration effect of beauty.

### **5. Artistic Language Form of Lacquer Painting**

The extensive use of medium materials in lacquer painting art makes lacquer painting art have a

different charm, but at the same time, it also puts forward more stringent requirements for the enrichment and development of aesthetic characteristics of lacquer art. Blindly pursuing the innovation of media materials and ignoring the improvement of their own creation level is no different from attending to trifles and neglecting the essentials of the development of lacquer painting art. The further development of aesthetic characteristics of lacquer painting needs the bold innovation of the author. Different forms of language have different expressions of lacquer painting art, so there is no need to be complacent about a certain form of language. The realistic style like oil painting can reproduce the real life, but it is difficult to make a blockbuster.

The further development of the aesthetic characteristics of lacquer painting can be attempted from the form of artistic language. For the original life scene or creation, creators can gradually break away from the realistic features and sort out his personal feelings, and select the spiritual feelings suitable for the expression of the work with a specific purpose, and express them directly or through abstract processing. At the same time, creators choose different contents or forms of expression according to the imagination of creation, and make use of simple points, lines, surfaces and other basic structural shapes, and choose reasonable media materials to create a unique style of lacquer painting art creation.

## **6. Conclusions**

As one of the works of art, lacquer painting is also an expression of the creator's thought and spirit. The development of the aesthetic characteristics of lacquer painting is the further requirement for the art creators. It not only needs the creator's own emotional experience, but also needs the author to constantly deepen his understanding of the artistic concept and language and express the artistic spirit of today and a period of time in the future, so as to make the creation richer in emotional characteristics, inject new ideas into the artistic works, and show the tension of lacquer painting creation. Meanwhile, only in the constant pursuit of self-improvement, the creators can gradually form their own creative style, and provide another option for the further development of lacquer painting art.

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