

An analysis of the Aesthetics in Horror Artworks

-- Taking the Hong Kong-style Horror Movie "New Mr. Zombie" as An Example

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Abstract: Aesthetics in horror art works is also an important field of aesthetic research. The study of color, image, emotion, music and so on of horror art works also collide with unexpected sparks and make people feel the unique charm. This paper takes one of Lin Zhengying's masterpieces, "New Mr. Zombie", as an example, and analyzes it from multiple dimensions and levels of the film to explore the aesthetics in horror artworks and the unique artistic charm it gives.

Keywords: Horror aesthetics; Art work; The New Mr. Zombie.

1. Introduction

Any work of art requires artistic conception and artistic creation, thus creating a specific object of aesthetic appreciation. The content of a work of art is often the sum of the subject matter, theme, details, plot, emotion and other elements of the work of art. This is also the case with the horror artworks to which this article refers. Horror artworks are designed to create horror, with stories that are absurd and bizarre and cause terror. Such as the depiction of ghosts and monsters haunting, seduction and so on, from the color, image, emotion, music and other aspects of the interplay, so that the audience creepy. The "New Mr. Zombie" tells the story of kind-hearted Taoist chief Lin Zhengying who leads a group of people to fight with numerous zombies while fighting with sinful babies. Ghosts, zombies, sinful babies, etc., are actually a kind of cognitive curiosity of human beings themselves, full of curiosity and fear of the unknown and imagination, and the reason why horror art can make people feel a sense of pleasure lies in the extraordinary features of the images of things shown in horror art. Excellent horror art works can make people have stronger curiosity with the progression of the artistic plot, and then satisfy this curiosity through art works, so that people are satisfied and happy, which also produces the beauty of horror. Throughout the entire film work, the horror aesthetics of "New Mr. Zombie" is mainly reflected in the following aspects:

2. The Beauty of Color in Horror Artworks

Master of light and shadow Vittorio Torallo once said, "Color is part of the language of film, we use color to express different emotions and feelings, just as the use of light and shadow, symbolizing the conflict between life and death." Therefore, color has an irreplaceable and important position in works of art. Color not only can make the art work full of artistry, but also can interpret the theme of the work, and can bring more visual impact and psychological shock to the audience.

For example, the film's horror sequences and spirit baby attire, many times using the big red, although the red symbolizes the bombastic, passionate, sexy, prestige, confidence, is a color full of energy. However, sometimes it

can give the impression of blood, violence, jealousy, control, easy to cause psychological pressure, therefore, the use of large areas of red in horror works can easily create a horrible atmosphere and give people a sense of oppression. We all know that cool colors have a visual effect of contraction, a shrinking color and a receding color, and also have the effect of making space open and transparent. The film's large panoramic shot, using colors in cold tones, especially the night scenes, will make people seem to be in a cold open place, there is nowhere to hide, at any time may be a sudden appearance of ghosts and monsters attack, causing a strong psychological fear. In the folk tales, people's perception of the color of the sacrifice and funeral is white and black, so the film's footage of mourning and the black of the neatly arranged coffins in the ancestral hall, etc., all create fear. For example, the film's red and white clash with the fury, a large area of red of the wedding procession and the water ghost wearing mourning white, the characters' faces are white, fingernails and lips purple, as well as the coffin of black, all forming a strong visual impact, creating a color atmosphere to produce a strong psychological terror, coupled with white fog and music, resulting in a sense of terror beyond the boundaries of human psychological imagination to bear.

3. The Beauty of The Image in Horror Art Works

Generally speaking, the image of horror mainly contains: the life given to non-living things; the strict boundaries of rational classification are broken and violated to form the image of horror: ghosts, zombies, mummies; the image of horror caused by combining different categories of rational classification; the image of mutilation in rational classification. Simply put, it is to cause a sense of fear and disgust, so that people produce physiological terror, that is, a physiological reaction due to abnormal stimulation of the senses, that is, the external irregularities of the image of terror caused by the sense of functional discomfort. The film's sinful baby image: rows of clay dolls, neatly placed on the tablet, sinful baby dolls are bound by red thread all over the body, red cloth blindfolded eyes, so that people can see at a glance that something is wrong, feel discomfort; green-faced zombie image: not just a zombie, but a group of zombies, green-faced fangs, jumping, giving people a strong sense of oppression,

because of all the monster image The most chilling should be the most like people, dressed, look like humans are no different from the zombie, which makes people feel very real, the more real, the more people fear; Teng teng town everywhere rotting animal corpses and human skeletons; to the sinful infant host feeding horrible food face decay of the maid; swarms of snakes in the water and so on, all give people a strong physical discomfort, thus creating a strong sense of fear.

4. The Beauty of Action in Horror Art Works

The beauty of action in horror artworks is unique to Hong Kong horror movies, with intense fighting action, exaggerated expressions and behavioral actions, etc., all adding color to the film, and in "Mr. New Zombie", all the characters' actions are with extremely strong artistic exaggeration. This includes exaggeration of fighting action, exaggeration of behavior and exaggeration of facial expressions. For example, the main character Lin Zhengying does not have a Taoist robe in the film, but his movements are skillful, especially the martial arts movements, which have high ornamental value. Meanwhile, he is most represented by his iconic movements when using peach wood sword, glutinous rice, ink bucket, ink thread, chicken blood, yellow paper talisman and other demon-subduing props to draw charms and recite incantations, which further increases the mystery and watchability of the picture. In addition, the film's apprentice Qian Xiaohao's martial arts action, apprentice Wencai's comical and hilarious action, the zombie-like action after the poisoning of the Marshal, the zombies' action of jumping and jumping with their arms outstretched, the wounding action under the face of the sinful baby, and so on, all add color to the film and together shape the beauty of the work's action.

5. The Beauty of The Details in Horror Art Works

We all know that the details determine success or failure. This is a very reasonable statement. Art is strictly speaking an art of details. The so-called details are the smallest component units that constitute the character, event development, social situations, natural landscapes. In horror art works, the sense of horror, the sense of immersion in the plot is very often done by the details. Details are an important element in the structure of the story. Without details, the work of art will seem tedious, boring and lengthy. At the beginning of the film, the table is filled with clay dolls, representing the spirit babies, and there are three sinful babies in the middle, bound with red threads and blindfolded by red cloth.

6. The Emotional Beauty of Horror Artworks

An excellent work of horror art, there is also a typical feature of "emotion", some of which is love, some of which is affection, which is one of the distinguishing features with other purely scary-oriented horror films. Impressive works, almost all of the storyline is the main line of love, driven by emotion, the appearance of ghosts and monsters are mostly

triggered by emotional aspects, and therefore lead to evil thoughts for the ghosts and gods used to become evil ghosts. For example, in "Mr. New Zombie", the reason why the sinful infant appears is because he was aborted numerous times and was not allowed to reincarnate, and the accumulated grudge became a hatred that needed to be worshipped for a thousand days to be dissolved, and if released early, it would take revenge on earth, therefore, the appearance of ghosts in such works is in line with the traditional Chinese concept of ghosts and gods warning the world. The more these emotional descriptions, the more people feel real, close to life, and real terror is the most frightening, because it will touch people's hearts, the most successful part of the film is that he is good at using people's latent fear in the blood to create terror, this means is very clever, precisely this is also the most successful of all successful works of horror art.

7. The Beauty of Sound in Works of Horror Art

In any work of art, the use of sound is extremely important, it can refine the expressive power of the story, sublimating the infectious power of the plot, the soundtrack of the work of art has an important role in emphasizing the emotions of the characters, the rhythm of the narrative and the atmosphere of the scene. Horror art works are also, visual plus auditory dual guidance can be shaped by the strong atmosphere of terror. Good sound and soundtrack one is to help depict the scene; two is to help deepen the theme; three is to help portray the image; four is to help stimulate the association, because the music has its own characteristics, can stimulate people's association. For example, when we listen to soothing music and rock music, the psychological feelings and reflections are completely different; five is to help express emotions, we can use the sound and soundtrack to convey to the audience a deep portrayal of the characters' inner feelings; six is to help promote the development of the plot, generally in the development of the plot of the film, mainly by the actors' performances and lines to complete. But music can sometimes be used as a dramatic conflict factor to promote the development of the plot. For example, the film used some laughter, female whispering, sobbing, low rumbling, crow cawing in the middle of the night, the sound of electricity, the sound of drowning and so on, as well as some musical instruments and human voices soundtrack and so on can be very good to create a horror atmosphere, so that people produce a sense of oppression and fear. In particular, the background music of the red and white crashing fury clip, there is a very strong funeral music atmosphere, coupled with some vocal chanting, the horror of the atmosphere makes people shudder.

8. Conclusion

Aesthetics in horror artworks is also an important area of aesthetic research, which simply means that horror and beauty coexist. Aesthetics in horror artworks, in general, leave quite a lot of room for imagination, making people appreciate it while being scared, and also reminiscing while doing so. From the perspective of "New Mr. Zombie", the content of the folk tales which are close to the people's life tangibility successfully shape the horror color of the work, and then the color matching, horrible music, and relatively horrible images

to enhance the horror atmosphere. The aesthetics of the horror artwork also has its unique charm and is worth recalling.

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