

Research on the Symbolic Meaning of Images in The Method of Image

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Abstract: The symbolic significance of the image came from the beginning of the image and had an important position in the research of art history theory in the West. In modern times, the study of the symbolic meaning of image has become one of the core research topics of image and symbolism.

Keywords: Iconology, Image, Symbolic meaning.

1. Introduction

If the meaning of the image is divided into two parts, one is the understanding of the connection with the world through visual observation. For example, we see an apple on the screen. It is just like an apple in the real world. To an old man, it is just an old man. This interpretation of images does not require any knowledge of art history, history, religion, and philosophy to be understood. On the other hand, a person who has no knowledge accumulation cannot explain the meaning of the image in the image through direct visual observation. The meaning of this part of the image is the significance outside the image itself by symbolic method. For example, the apple we see in the picture is not only an apple, but also symbolizes desire, degeneration and original sin in Christian painting; symbolizes wisdom, charm and jealousy in Greek mythology; It expresses different meanings in different contexts. The interpretation and interpretation of symbolic significance in the image is one of the main directions of art research. Graphics, psychoanalysis, and symbolic science are studied and analyzed from their respective angles.

2. History of Image Symbol

The symbolic significance of the image follows from the beginning of the image. The animal image depicted by the primitive ancestors in the cave symbolizes that they have the power to capture and tame this animal. The god image depicted by the Egyptians in the mural symbolizes that they have the same power. "What you see is income", the early people's images are generally symbolic. Surrounded by the symbolic significance of images in the world of their lives, they are full of strong pan-decivity colors everywhere, so that the difference between the ancestors could not distinguish between the images and reality in the early days. They believe that the power of images can be mapped into the real world. The world of images is the real world of reality. The image is not an objectized existence but it exists itself. Images and symbolic meaning and real life constitute a complete divine world. People live in it and cannot separate self-consciousness from the image world.

The ancestors' understanding of the world has led them to the characteristics of very different from real painting in the picture. The screen will not be limited by human eye observation. It can change the size of the thing, the

relationship between the distance, the perspective method, and even the natural form of things to meet the description of the symbolic meaning of the image. Therefore, we see that Byzantine painting and the huge main characters in ancient Chinese paintings stay in small buildings like toys, and will not be confused about the painting of the ancients. At that time, the actual use of the image was the symbolic meaning it carried. Interpretation.

From the primitive society to the Middle Ages, the symbolic significance of images makes the use value of art works far exceeding its appreciation value. It can be said that the image is not used for viewing, but the symbolic meaning contained in it to make it have a mysterious spiritual power and make people shock in the power of this belief. It was not until the Renaissance that people's self-awareness awakened that the image gradually evolved from the state of the same subject consciousness to emphasizing the image reproduction of objectization and objective existence.

3. The Symbolic Meaning of The Image

Pannovsky's "Significance of Visual Art" [1] talked about the symbol of images in the specific interpretation of image research. He believes that if one artwork is used as another thing or event, The symbolic depiction, then this symbolic significance is shown by the symbolic meaning carried by other images of the work. The symbols of these two different levels correspond to the latter two of the three stages divided into image studies, namely "imagery analysis" and "image interpretation". The former is to establish many images in art works with traditional knowledge such as stories, classics, customs and other traditional knowledge to study and interpret the symbolic significance contained in the image. For example, in religious paintings, pigeons are used to symbolize the Holy Spirit, lilies are used to symbolize the chastity of the Virgin, fish and lambs are used to symbolize Christians, triangles are used to symbolize trinity, etc. In this painting, the bull symbolizes the brutal enemies, the injured horses symbolize the suffering people, the electric light symbolizes the panic and loneliness, the woman holds the lights of the lamp symbolizes people's desire for peace, the man is lying on the ground symbolizing the unyielding spirit of the soldiers, etc. Essence The latter (image interpretation) is a deeper study of art works. It takes art works as a symbol of another thing. This kind of thing can be the position of a

country, a religion in a certain period of time, or the idea of showing a certain philosophy. For example, many works of artist Jacques Louis David during the French Revolutionary period are manifested in the style of neoclassicism. Essence It was born for the complicated and exquisite Rococo art works at that time symbolizing the extravagance and decaying wave dynasty. In the background of the French Revolution, the former, like a banner, adds a strong moral color to works such as "The Death of Marat", "The Oath of the Tennis Court", "Sabin Women" and other works. In summary, the symbol of the image can be studied from two aspects. 1. The symbolic meaning of individual images in an artistic work can be studied. 2. In the general sense, the art work itself is regarded as something. (Such as the times, nation, religion, class, philosophical thought, etc.) to conduct research.

The 15th-century Flemish School of artists used a large number of images in the picture to express the hidden meaning of the picture. From the gestures, clothing, to indoor and outdoor spaces, scene layout, to the careful arrangement of various props, a symbolic image of a symbolic meaning becomes the main purpose of the picture to express. [2]

As shown in the picture showing the work of Flemish painter Jan van Eyck's "The Arnolfini Couple", there is no doubt that this work has very superb depicted skills, but it is worthy of our attention. Many of them are in the picture. The image contains a clear symbolic meaning, and it is worth interpreting for this hidden significance.



Figure 1. "The Arnolfini Couple" Jan van Eyck 1434

In the center of the picture, the man's hand symbolizes the loyal partner; he raised his right hand to symbolize them as an eternal helper with each other. The woman held her waist with a long skirt with her hands, resulting in a slight bulge in the abdomen. Although it is the fashion dress of the Italian lady, it is more likely to be mistaken for the bride's pregnancy. Healthy and fertility women were very important in society at that time. The Arnolfini couple only wore socks, and the shoes were placed in the lower left corner of the picture. This kind of image similar to the image of the couple barefoot in the Holy Land symbolizes the sacredness and purity of marriage. In the upper part of the screen, we are often hung on the roof length to depict exquisite candlesticks. I wonder why only a candle was inserted on the candlestick. The lit candle symbolizes the existence of God. He witnessed the sacredness of the marriage contract. The puppy at the forefront of the picture is considered to be a symbol of loyalty, which symbolizes the loyalty of marriage. The orange placed on the left low cabinet on the left of the screen symbolizes the innocence of the garden of Eden like mythology, and the apple

placed on the window sill is indeed symbolizing temptation, degeneration and taboos. Essence On the right of the screen is the bed couch, bed sheet, pillow, curtain, and seats and pillows next to the bed by the painter. The red here represents sexual desire, and the small sculpture on the bedside column is the goddess of in charge of childbirth -Margaret. Christianity believes that the harmonious sexual behavior can bring the marriage perfection and help to reproduce. The crystal hanging beads on the back wall symbolizes the innocence and purity of the bride before marriage, echoing the symbolic meaning of the red window mantle, and interpret the foundation of the perfect marriage. Next to the crystal hanging beads is the mirror in the center of the whole picture. The mirror reflects all the characters present at this sacred moment, the groom, bride, a young man, and Jan van Eyck himself. The emergence of painters and another man symbolizes the witness of this marriage. In addition, through the mirror, the artist puts the entire indoor scene and the sky and gardens seen through the windows, which symbolizes the microcosm of the entire worldly world. We are always concerned by the omnipotent and versatile God. [3]



Figure 2. "The Last Supper" Leonardo Da Vinci 1494 ~ 1498

In addition to the objects in the screen can show symbolic significance, the points, lines, digital relationships, geometric relationships, harmony, and unity such as the composition method of the artist in the screen can also show symbolic significance. For example, in the works of the Renaissance artist Leonardo Da Vinci, "Last Supper", 13 people on the table represent Christ and his 12 disciples. Maintain this harmonious and unified relationship in dramatic depiction. The diagonal of the rectangular picture is overbearing with the disappearance point of a little perspective in the picture. It is both the center point of the picture and the position of the head of the Christ, which symbolizes the status of Christ. There are three windows on the background wall. The position of Christ's head in the second window symbolizes that Christ is the second of the trinity. And this mural itself is also like the cultural environment of mathematics, art, architecture, and perspective during the Italian Renaissance.



Figure 3. "Mona Lisa" Leonardo Da Vinci 1503 ~ 1506

Unlike Italian painters paying attention to the real reproduction of the image, the 15th century Flemish painter attaches more importance to the symbol of the image in the picture. This is because their lives often have a very close connection with religion. It can be said that they live in a religious world. Every detail of things around them contains the meaning of religion. Through symbolic methods connect. Although they will also learn from the method of reappearing the image of Italian painter, the most demand for the symbolic meaning of the image can surpass the love of reality, which makes the Flemish works often deformed and weird, showing a super superior Artistic characteristics of realism. In addition, in order to highlight the symbolic significance of the image, the Flemish painter will also calmly and meticulously describe every detail in the picture.

The psychoanalysis of art research also focuses on the study of the symbolic meaning of the image in the work. Psychoanalysis focuses on the creative motivation of images in the picture. This creative motivation can also be said to be a symbol of human dreams and desires. This symbol reveals the dreams and desires left by people's subconsciousness and the baby's time. By analyzing the artist's personal experience, especially the childhood experience, from the perspective of psychology, the symbolic significance contained in the image appearance is obtained. For example, Freud's book "Leonardo Da Vinci and a memory of his childhood" [4] The book will be Da Vinci's painting "Mona Lisa" in Mona Lisa Study with Da Vinci's childhood memory. Freud is based on a record of Da Vinci's childhood. The manifestation of the mother's porn desire. This desire has a sense of distance because it is restrained. The pornographic experience without sex shows the baby's heterosexual emotion and homosexual tendency to the mother. From the works of Da Vinci and his students many times, such warm, charming, mothers-like smiles can also be regarded as the painter's eagerness to vent the ground through painting.

In Porsh's philosophical theory, the symbols are divided into three parts: image (icon), indexes (index) and symbols (Symbol). The image refers to a symbol similar to an object. For example, the character image in a portrait painting is portrayed very similar to me, that is, this character image is image. The index can express the symbol of something existence or something. It is clearly directed. For example, Pollet's work is a symbol of indexing, and his picture with the

dripping of liquid liquid shows the whole process of how he painted. Another example is that the money bag in Judah's hands in the famous painting "Last Dinner" is also a symbol of indexing, showing that his betrayal of Christ has happened. The meaning of symbolic is closer to Pannovsky's "image analysis", and the image symbols themselves imply a certain thing, a certain practice or a certain meaning, agreement, rules, and so on. For example, white pigeons symbolize peace, triangle symbolize trinity, etc. This stems from the problem of the relationship between the "ability" and "referred to" of the language. It is worth noting that in different ethnic groups and regions, people's explanations of the symbolic meaning of the same image are different, because the symbolic significance of the same image of the same image is in some differences because of culture, religion, customs and other inheritance relationships. People in nations and regions are similar. [5]

4. Summary

Graphics is the main genre of the study of new art history of contemporary Western art. He believes that if one artwork is depicted as a symbol of another thing or event, then this symbolic significance is the symbolic significance that constitutes other images of the work. Show. Image studies and symbolics, and psychoanalysis are all artistic research. The image expression is not its "Denotation", but through "connotation", that is, the deeper significance implied in the image, only However, the three interpret the symbolic significance of art images from different positions and views.

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