

## **Cultural Identity and Artistic Innovation: Exploring the Integration of Tradition and Modern Painting**

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**Abstract:** Chinese traditional painting has been reformed and integrated in the form and content, and has become a new modern art trend with the characteristics of traditional painting, with a unique style, which has been widely recognized by society and the favor of the market. Traditional painting is full of rich traditional culture and has rich artistic connotations and research value. The study of Chinese traditional painting is of great significance to the dissemination and development of Chinese traditional culture. Given the domestic research results of traditional painting, this paper tries to through inductive analysis of literature, images, the "new" part, the traditional painting of Chinese traditional painting theme, forms, and creation method classification, summarize the current situation of traditional painting, and define and study the causes and characteristics of the so-called "modernity". In the perspective of modern culture, tradition is not only a devout belief in history but also based on a realistic situation. The questioning and speculation of history work together to create a strong cultural bond for a nation and cultivate a lasting and vigorous creative vitality. Tracing back the experience of Chinese painting and modern culture in the past hundred years, the questioning, speculation, and even deviation from the tradition form a strong and tense joint force with devout belief and jointly promote the modern process of Chinese painting.

**Keywords:** Traditional Culture; Modern Painting; Artistic Innovation; Cultural Identity

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

In recent years, the trend of "globalization" has been accelerating, providing an opportunity for the cultural exchanges of various ethnic groups. Subsequently, the cultural and national differences are increasingly blurred, and countries pay more and more attention to the cultivation of their own national cultural atmosphere and artistic personality. On the one hand, with the development of the economy and society, China's cultural process is accelerating, the country vigorously advocates cultural confidence, and people's pride and awareness of protecting Chinese traditional culture are increasing (Dong, 2023; Sochorová & Jamříška, 2021). On the other hand, Chinese culture has a long history, a wide variety, and brilliant achievements. Since the reform and opening up, it has attracted deep attention and has a huge fan base and market audience. Under the dual stimulation of the awakening of national cultural

consciousness and huge commercial value, the rise of Traditional Chinese culture has come naturally and become a hot fashion trend. All kinds of modern commercial products based on traditional Chinese culture emerged at the historic moment and became popular at that time. Traditional Chinese illustration is the embodiment of a cultural phenomenon combining art nationalization and commercialization based on such products, which reflects the choice and aesthetic tendency of "tradition" and "modernity" by the current public. The upsurge of traditional illustration is a signal, that implies the quiet change of the current artistic expression and aesthetic trend and also points out the direction for the development of Chinese illustration (La Nasa et al., 2021). At the same time, traditional culture and modern painting influence each other, in order to ensure the good inheritance and promotion of traditional culture, it is necessary to explore multiple channels to expand the scope of influence of art and culture to meet the diversified needs of modern people. As a unique form of artistic expression of the Chinese nation, Chinese painting embodies the aesthetic habits of the Chinese people through techniques such as splashing ink on landscapes, either in white or in writing. With the constant changes in the world pattern and the continuous advancement of détente and cooperation in international relations, Chinese painting inevitably faces challenges in the process of its own development. In order to cope with the new situation of cultural forms and not to be passive in the process of cultural exchanges and integration, Chinese painting should actively face the new cultural essence in the process of development, explore its own potential, deepen the painting concepts and ideas of traditional culture, penetrate the traditional culture into modern painting, re-conceptualize the aesthetics of Chinese painting, and realize the fusion of modern Chinese painting and traditional cultural content, so as to achieve a better understanding of Chinese culture and culture under the background of the new era through Chinese painting. To realize the integration of modern Chinese painting and traditional cultural content, so as to inherit and promote the spirit of modern Chinese culture through Chinese painting in the context of the new era.

This paper is mainly written through the library and network to search literature and obtain picture data, the main research methods are: 1, literature data method. By searching the literature, understand the definition and definition of traditional culture and modernity, and by reading the research results of predecessors, understand the professional knowledge of ancient Chinese painting, the development and evolution of

Chinese illustration and traditional Chinese illustration, and the research status of traditional Chinese painting, etc.; 2, sorting and induction method. Collect excellent and representative traditional Chinese paintings, analyze and summarize the artistic personality of traditional Chinese paintings based on the accumulation of personal reading, and timely improve the papers; 3. Case study method. Through in-depth research on some well-known traditional Chinese illustration works in the domestic and foreign illustration market, including the creation background, creation technique, expression technique, display effect, and other aspects, to explore their success; four, comparative analysis method. By collecting relevant materials, the two groups of traditional illustration and ancient Chinese painting and traditional illustration and modern painting are relatively analyzed respectively.

## 2. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRADITIONAL CULTURAL COLOR AND MODERN PAINTING ELEMENTS

### 2.1 Characteristics and Value of Traditional Color Painting

The art of color painting originates from ancient civilization and is an important part of the human cultural heritage. Different cultures and times since ancient times have brought unique styles and techniques to color painting. The porcelain paintings in the Song Dynasty of China are the most exquisite and complicated, reflecting the aesthetic pursuit and skill level of the time; —— The works of Raphael and Da Vinci reflect the study of nature and the human body, reveal the reality, light, and proportion, and these painting works are not only artistic creation but also specific historical period, social background and cultural values, provides us with a window to understanding the social, aesthetic and technological evolution of (Bramantyo, 2021; DePolo et al., 2021; Li & Zhang, 2022). College students are also very interested in traditional culture, for example, Table 1 shows the data that college students learn about traditional culture in different ways, which is also equivalent to a kind of inheritance.

Table 1: Channels for College Students to Receive Traditional Culture

Channel	Male	Female	All
Other	1	3	4
Campus Network	35	32	67
Books and Magazines	43	46	89
Political Theory	38	41	79
Core Curriculum	34	32	65

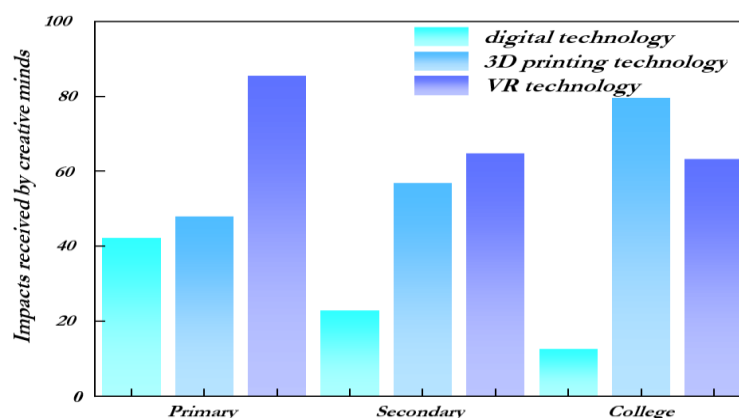
## 2.1 Innovations and Opportunities of Modern Painting Elements

The aesthetics and techniques of traditional color painting are formed after hundreds or even thousands of years of practice and perfection, including the in-depth study of pigments, the accurate grasp of picture composition, and the exploration of superb skills in detail description. For example, the three-color techniques of the Tang Dynasty, the blue and white porcelain of the Yuan Dynasty, and the Japanese black lacquer craft all show the aesthetic and technical pursuit of color painting in their respective cultures. T

hese traditional aesthetics and techniques not only provide endless sources of inspiration for modern artists but also provide a solid technical foundation for contemporary color painting creation. Each inheritance and development of technology is the respect for the wisdom of predecessors and the inheritance of tradition (Castellano & Vessio, 2021). Innovation and opportunity of modern painting elements.

Painting art has continued as an ancient art form for centuries. However, in modern society, especially in the 21st century, the rapid development of science and technology has had a profound impact on painting. The rise of digital technology enables artists to create in a virtual environment and brings infinite possibilities for traditional painting. 3D printing technology enhances the deep integration of reality and virtual, providing a new display and interaction way for painting art. For example, three-dimensional printing technology enables painting works to be quickly copied and spread quickly, greatly reducing the production cost. Augmented reality technology brings interactivity to painting works. Visitors can interact with the works through intelligent devices, to obtain a more in-depth artistic experience.

Virtual reality technology for painting creators with an immersive creation environment, artists can be free in the virtual space, breaking the limitation of the physical space, the emergence of these technologies not only brings innovation tools and methods of painting art but, more importantly, they provide a new art expression space, make colored drawing or pattern art in the modern society to maintain its vitality and competitiveness (Sun et al., 2022; Sundberg et al., 2021). The data in the chart below is a survey of the impact of three technologies on drawing innovations in primary, secondary, and tertiary schools, clearly demonstrating the innovations and opportunities for modern drawing elements.



**Figure 1:** impacts Received by Creative Minds

## 2.3 The Blending Significance of Traditional Techniques and Modern Painting Elements

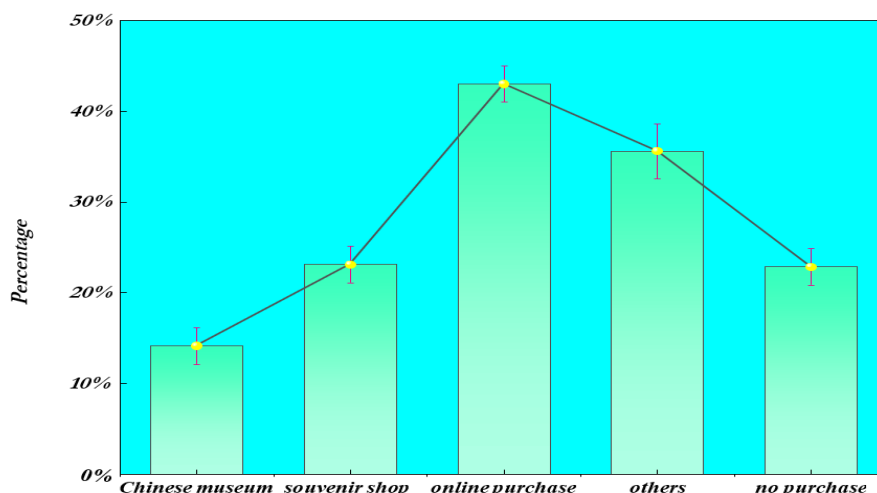
### 2.3.1 The Expansion of Artistic Expression

In exploring the history and development of the art of colored drawing or pattern, we witnessed an evolution in the value of culture and art, especially when the traditional techniques and modern painting elements, the expression of painting art significantly expand, such as the Japanese artist between the works, is the traditional Japanese painting skills combined with the concept of modern art, her traditional elements and modern abstract language interweave, both show traditional art charm and embodies the spirit of modern innovation spirit. Similarly, Chinese artist Xu Zhen's "Tianxia" series also reflects the clever combination of traditional techniques and modern elements. He uses traditional Chinese painting techniques and combines modern art concepts and elements to create works showing the tension of history and reality, tradition, and modern color. In the key of these works, Yayoi's works use bright contrast colors to create hypnotic visual effects. Xu Zhen's works give new vitality through modern visual language, showing the new art expression of integrating traditional and modern art through the use of color (Jieqiong, 2024; Tulanova, 2021).

### 2.3.2 The Combination of Cultural Inheritance and Innovation

In the contemporary art environment, painting art is developing from a simple cultural inheritance to a combination of cultural inheritance and innovation, this development is reflected in the works of artists from all over the country, they are based on retaining the traditional painting art, integrate modern art elements, Create new ways of artistic expression. Indian artist Nalini Malani, for example, her works are influenced by Indian

traditional art, such as shadow drama and folk stories, and combines modern art elements such as animation and sound, this combination not only retains the charm of traditional art, but show the innovation of modern art, her works common color rich and colorful, using bold, reflects the color richness of Indian traditional art, but also show the visual impact of modern art. on the other hand, Latin American artist Oscar Munoz in his works also show the combination of cultural inheritance and innovation, he adopted the traditional techniques of colored drawing or pattern and combined them with modern art means and concepts, to create a unique artistic experience, his works in color use usually relatively reserved, reflect the subtle emotional expression of Latin American art, combining the generation elements, such as the use of light and space, added the modern works of (Park et al., 2021). The figure below represents the percentage of people accessing traditional culture from different sources, from which it can be seen that the majority of people purchase relevant materials online, indicating that the contemporary Internet has accelerated the combination of cultural heritage and innovation.



**Figure 2:** Different Ways to Understand the Proportion of Traditional Culture

### 3. THE EXPLORATION AND APPLICATION OF COLOR IN TRADITIONAL CULTURE

#### 3.1 The Emotional Expression of the Color

In the color theory, different colors can indeed convey a specific emotion. Painting artists deeply explore and study these emotions, combined with modern aesthetic concepts, to create a unique and rich in emotional color of the painting works. They adjust the color temperature, lightness, and saturation to carefully create the visual effect of the picture.

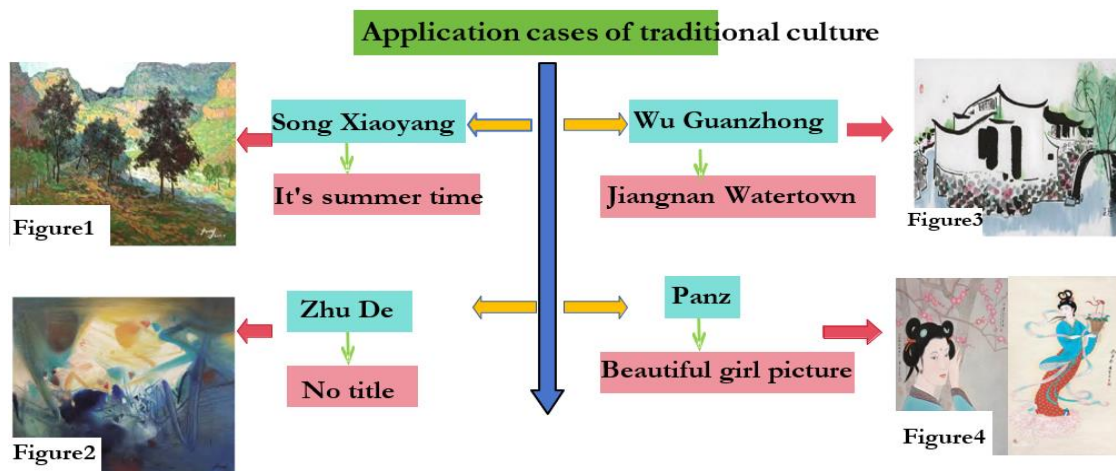
Bright colors bring joy and vitality, while soft colors create a quiet and warm atmosphere. At the same time, the psychological implication of color is also an important means for artists to express their emotions and themes. In short, the emotional expression of color in painting is a complex and exquisite field of art. Through the in-depth study of the emotional connotation of color and the color concepts in traditional culture, and combined with modern aesthetic concepts and technical means, the artists create paintings with unique charm and emotional connotation (as shown in Figure 3) (Ranesi et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2022).

### 3.2 The Symbolic Use of Color

In the advanced field of painting art, the depth and level of the symbolic use of color show a remarkable artistic charm. Artists not only have a deep understanding of the traditional color theories, such as the five elements, Yin and Yang, seasons, and auspicious colors but also carry out innovative exploration and expansion on this basis. They are committed to combining the color heritage of traditional culture with modern painting art and exploring and inheriting the new value of color in modern art. In the eyes of artists, the symbolic use of color has gone beyond the simple visual expression and become a medium for them to explore the deep connection between human nature, society, and nature. They use color symbolism to embody intangible emotions, thoughts, and philosophical ideas, bringing profound visual and spiritual experience to the viewer. In the process of inheriting the color heritage in traditional culture, they not only explore the new application of traditional color in modern painting art but also endow the traditional color with new vitality and expression through unique artistic techniques and creativity. In the works, they skillfully use color contrast, gradient, and mixing techniques to bring the color symbolism to the extreme. Whether it is warm red, cool blue, or vibrant green, it is endowed with rich symbolic meaning and becomes an important element to express the theme and emotion of the work. Through the symbolic use of color, they not only successfully bring the audience into an art world full of color, emotion, and philosophy, but also let the audience feel the charm and value of traditional cultural color heritage in modern painting art (Zhu & Zhu, 2022). In short, the artists not only explore and inherit the color heritage of the traditional culture in their painting art but also combine it with modern painting art through innovative techniques, showing superb artistic skills and profound artistic insights. Through the symbolic use of color, they not only bring the enjoyment of beauty to the audience but also lead us to deeply explore the mystery between human nature, society, and



nature, as well as the new development and new value of traditional culture in modern art.



**Figure 3:** Applications Case of Traditional Culture

#### 4. THE APPLICATION OF COLOR IN MODERN PAINTING ART IN TRADITIONAL CULTURE

##### 4.1 The Application of Traditional Mural Culture in Modern Ceramic Painting

With time, the traditional murals once colorful figures have become incomplete and broken. The damaged shape of the murals in the fourth Cave of Maiji Mountain in the northern Zhou Dynasty (Farquhar, 2021; Whyke et al., 2021) (Figure 4) and the connection between the mottled and rough texture and the ceramic materials lies in the direct fit of the incomplete form. In the creation of modern ceramic painting, the visual effect and formal expression of this incomplete texture can be fully reflected.



(1) Buddha Biography



(2) Praise the Forest Temple

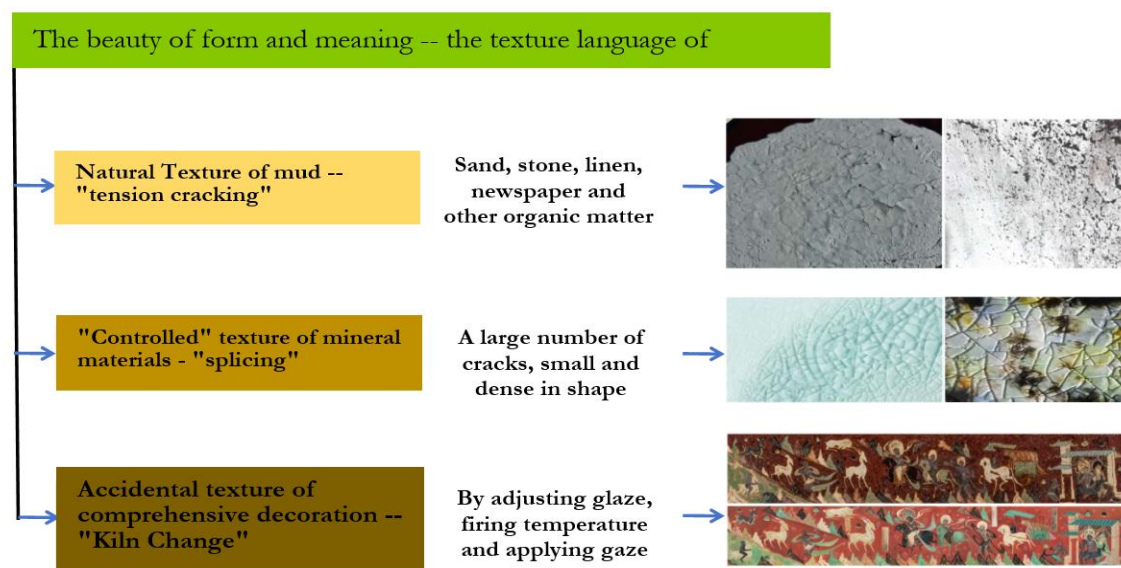
**Figure 4:** Maiji Mountain Grotto Murals in Northern Zhou Dynasty



#### 4.1.1 Sharesidual Beauty- "Incomplete Beauty" Texture Language

The opening and peeling of the "incomplete texture" in the traditional murals can achieve similar visual effects through texture production in ceramic painting technology. (Figure 5) Controlling the cracking degree by mastering the shrinkage characteristics of mud material, the visual effect is similar to the damaged and peeling texture of traditional murals. The shrinkage degree of different mud materials is different. In the process of creation, you can choose the mud materials to show it, or toner or other mud materials can be added to the mud materials according to the needs of creation. In addition, the mud plate can be rolled again after the rolling plate is semi-dry. In the case of the humidity of the back of the rolling surface, the section of the blank body is rough, concave, and convex, which provides the possibility for the subsequent practical creation (Ivashko et al., 2021).

The "controllable" texture of mineral pigment mainly refers to the "opening" after the cracking glaze firing, which is caused by the different expansion coefficients of the blank body and the glaze. There are two reasons for its formation. One is the cracks that are naturally formed on the surface of the object after the baptism of time. After firing a lot of color glaze, its "kiln" texture characteristics can control, such as wang's use of color glaze characteristics of Dunhuang murals the deer king raw story the status quo of the incomplete imitation, through modulation glaze, burning temperature, and glaze way to achieve conform to the present situation of mural texture effect, even though sandpaper grinding way made incomplete, mottled random texture, form strong historical vicissitudes of life in the picture (Zhang & Romainoor, 2023).



**Figure 5:** The Texture Language of Incomplete Beauty

#### 4.1.2 Think And Yi —— "Incomplete Beauty" Modeling Performance

In the process of firing and cooling the work, the porcelain plate is quickly removed so that the glaze on the blank body forms a cracked muscle texture in the cooling process (Figure 6). The fragmentation and peeling generated in the picture and the shedding of the local color layer add rich layers and interest to the whole picture. The visual effects such as broken pictures, missing external, and mottled textures are unified and extended in the change. It is not only conducive to the expression of the theme of the work but also maintains the integrity of the picture. This form of expression has many similar visual elements with the fading colors and the peeling walls in the traditional murals, which not only reflects the cultural decorative meaning but also endows the works with more historical connotation. This art form abandons the gorgeous appearance and provides the aesthetic concept space for the viewer through the natural and simple texture, thus broadening the definition and value of "beauty" (Le Zhou & Zhang, 2024; Lee et al., 2022). Throughout the whole picture, the 54 Cave of Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, although cracks in some places lead to a large area of peeling, can be regarded as both a point and a surface in modern aesthetic concepts, and the charm between the intermittent lines is still connected. The broken marks make the picture look more holistic while adding more layers. The painting of Guanyin Bodhisattva created by Fan Minqi's team decomposed the mural elements into 15 parts. Based on respecting the original painting, it was created twice through the expression form of high-temperature color glaze, to minimize the difficulty of restoring the historical traces of Dunhuang murals.

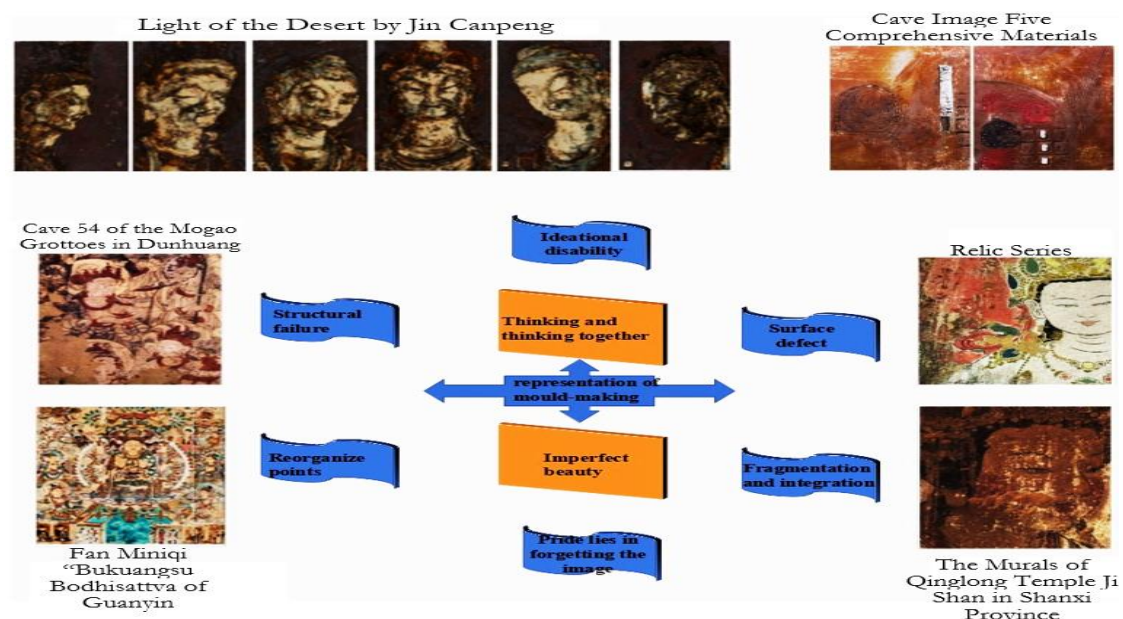


Figure 6: The Murals in the Mogao Grottoes

Current traditional murals are the main characteristic of "incomplete", real incomplete and artistic incomplete feelings are completely different, real "incomplete" is often residual but not beautiful, and can not bring people beautiful imagination and aesthetic experiences JinCan friends of the light of the desert group painting (figure 6), the author in the creation of the traditional Buddha, not the exact structure, but to show its subjective significance, not "like", but "like".

Will scrape, carve, jilt filling techniques, combining exaggerated, deformation and imagination glaze mutual blend and collision under high temperature, make the shape of the picture, color, and texture have a strong mystery, enhance the cognition of the image space, the image of the Buddha is no longer limited to the external form, and JinCan friends creation of the light of the desert painting the author in the creation, the traditional Buddha, not the exact structure, but to show its subjective significance, not "eyes", but "meaning like" (Baiandin et al., 2022; Guo & Zhang, 2022). Will scrape, carved, jilt filling techniques, combining exaggeration, deformation, and imagination make the glaze under high-temperature blend and collision, make the modeling of the picture, color, and texture have a strong mystery, enhance the cognition of the image space, the image of the Buddha is no longer limited to the external form, but focuses on shaping the history of the object massiness.

## 4.2 The Use of Traditional Patterns in Modern Decorative Painting

### 4.2.1 The Expression form of the Chinese Traditional Pattern

Individual mode is an independent individual and is the component and element of the suitable pattern, continuous mode, and integrated pattern. The boundary pattern is not alone, so it is easy to change. The fit mode consists of one or more elements. Pattern shapes must have a clear outline, highly strict structure characteristics, and orderly shape; common skeleton structure: free pattern frame in the form of symmetry and balance (Law & Blishen, 2024; Sullivan, 2023). Edding is a design and decoration around the human body that is often used to foil the main pattern. There is a spatial constraint where the head and tail need to be connected or the shape should be associated. The combined unit patterns are repeatedly arranged in the direction of left and right, characterized by infinite continuous arrangement. Vertical, horizontal, inclined, combined typesetting; in the notebook unit, the whole image is represented by continuous patterns, the main components are vertical forming, dispersion, ripple, tilt, paper shape, and straight line.

#### 4.2.2 The Significance of the Application of Chinese Traditional Patterns in the Expression Form of Decorative Painting

The blend of traditional and modern forms makes the patterns richer on the cultural layer, which will become the future development trend of decorative painting. The combination of western modern art with traditional Chinese patterns and a rich modern style of decorative painting is conducive to creating a good academic environment and promoting innovation and modern painting decoration.

This paper starts with the traditional pattern of lines, and studies the patterns as regularly as possible, to understand the influence of traditional patterns on modern decorative painting forms and the reference significance of its creation. Traditional patterns have a long history, and artists attach great importance to them. However, although the creators of some explorations were criticized, these explorations did not have a profound impact on modern decorative paintings, which is the study of thematic decorative paintings and also requires continuous exploration by researchers (Yang, 2022).

#### 4.2.3 The Method of Integrating Chinese Traditional Patterns into the Expression of Decorative Painting

The process of integrating Chinese traditional patterns into modern decorative painting design is also a process of reprocessing and secondary design. This second design mainly refers to abstract modification, recombination, decomposition, alternative materials, and simplified abstract art modeling techniques such as decomposition, redesign, and production in these ways. Abstract deformation: Abstract deformation is a more common method to process artistic images. While not changing the essential characteristics of the original pattern, the traditional pattern is applied to the decorative painting design, and the abstract deformation method should be adopted to change the shape, outline, structure, and proportion of the traditional pattern, to obtain new patterns. Decomposition and reorganization: Decomposition and reorganization are a way to decompose the main components of the original art image by decomposition, exchanging, transposition or repeating, and breaking the prototype. On the premise of fully respecting the particularity of the natural properties of the materials, we must change the drawing method or use comprehensive materials. On the premise of satisfying the emotional expression needs, the materials can be delicate, rough, or thin and thick. The beauty of texture and the beauty of color and texture of the material itself should be preserved as far as possible, which not only contributes to

the embodiment of the form of picture expression but also can better express the artistic emotion of the creator. Change the complex into the simple: Based on retaining the essence of the original artistic image, the original artistic image is refined and summarized as far as possible, to retain the original artistic image destroy the original artistic characteristics of the original pattern, and get new concise patterns(Miller, 2022; Wei & Cheng, 2022).

## 5. CONCLUSION

Traditional art is human history and spiritual civilization in the long-term activities of the art product, as has two thousand years of historical culture, its variety, and unique artistic style, cultural connotation, in the future art development, the combination of traditional culture and modern culture will become a dazzling star in the traditional art culture system. Traditional painting is full of rich traditional culture and has rich artistic connotations and research value. The study of Chinese traditional painting is of great significance to the dissemination and development of Chinese traditional culture. Given the domestic research results of traditional painting. This paper tries to through inductive analysis of literature, images, the "new" part, the traditional painting of Chinese painting theme, forms, and creation method classification, summarize the current situation of traditional painting, and define and study the causes and characteristics of the so-called "modernity". Much of the traditional culture is worthy of modern painting. The penetration of traditional culture in modern painting is mainly reflected in the traditional national ideology of modern painting, prompting China's modern art of painting to reflect more traditional culture and national spirit in the flavor and mood, which not only enables China's modern painting to achieve greater development, but also enables Chinese painting and the painting art of other countries to establish a colorful and diverse art world. Chinese traditional painting in a long history of a complete system. In the process of theoretical research in this paper and the summary of this topic, there will inevitably be omissions, and the shortcomings of traditional painting analysis, still need to be further improved in the future study and research. I hope that the theoretical research and exploration done here can provide some help and beneficial resources to art learners and art researchers, and put forward some useful references for the research and work of applying traditional Chinese painting in the expression form of modern painting, to do my best.

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