

# Research on the Techniques of Color Expression in Oil Painting Creation

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## Abstract:

Oil painting can realistically reflect life situations, and color is the core of the entire oil painting creation. At the same time, it has a systematic and comprehensive theoretical system and operating techniques, which can directly build a bridge of communication between the creator and the viewer. It has a unique significance. This article will mainly discuss the expression techniques of color in oil painting creation, and conduct research from two aspects: expressiveness and color emotion. This article starts with the expressiveness of color, firstly explaining the brushwork of color, color expression and realization of color, and detailed description of Monet's "The Windmill"; finally, it studies the transmission of color emotion in oil painting creation, and creates harmony from the situation. Two major aspects of emotional expression are emphasized, highlighting the importance and necessity of color expression techniques in oil painting creation. In the process of oil painting creation, the brushwork, tone, hue, brightness and purity of color are the focal points of expression, which can create different situations and atmospheres, give people a strong visual impact, and concentrate on expressing the creator's emotions and ideas. It demonstrates the creator's solid theoretical foundation and painting techniques, so pay attention to the application of color expression techniques in oil painting creation. In short, the painters who have achieved success in the painting world use colors to shape shapes, create artistic concepts, and express emotions and ideas. Color can not only portray the original appearance and shape of the object, but also create multiple moods such as sadness or joy through different color combinations. It is also the main way for creators to express strong emotions and subjective consciousness. It can lead the viewer. Stepping into the aesthetic realm of blending scenes is an important bridge for the exchange of ideas between creators and viewers, and is the core means and living soul of oil painting creation.

## Keywords:

Oil Painting Creation, Color Expression, Performance Skills, Situation Building

# 1. Color Expressiveness in Oil Painting Creation

## 1.1. *The Brushwork of Color*

In the color expression of oil painting, brushwork plays a very important role. Different brushstrokes give people different feelings of brushstrokes, and the textures of objects are also different. It is the main way for painters to express their own style and personality. Chinese painting is used to shape different sceneries by brushing, rubbing and dyeing. In this regard, oil painting is the same as Chinese painting. The brushstroke techniques of oil painting mainly include 15 techniques such as kneading, threading, frustrating, patting, pulling, rubbing, masonry, restraining, dotting, drawing, and sweeping. Each technique gives people a different feeling. For example, the famous painter Wu Guanzhong's oil paintings mainly use the technique of "line" to shape the structure of the human body. In his oil paintings, you can see the shadows of Chinese paintings. The interweaving of oil paintings and ink gives people a vague and mysterious beauty. His unique style.

## 1.2. *Expression of Color*

The content of color expression in oil painting includes many aspects, including color tone, hue, purity and brightness. Generally, oil painting teachers will ask students to use only black and white to depict objects, mainly expressing the relationship between black and white and gray (sketch relationship), and focus on investigating students' understanding and grasp of the relationship between light and dark, as well as the color tone. Control. If the color tones cannot be unified during the oil painting creation process, the entire oil painting will give people a sense of "dazzling" confusion. Too many unharmonized colors are directly piled on the oil painting board, which will give the viewer a sense of "garishness" chaos. And discomfort. Therefore, in the process of oil painting creation, the painter must carry out reasonable matching and overall control of the brightness, purity and tone of the color, and be able to express a clear color tendency, such as blue tone (cool tone), orange tone ( Warm colors), etc., so as to show its own unique tonal aesthetics and oil painting quality.

As shown in Figure 1, the famous Impressionist master Monet's landscape painting-"The Windmill" shows a unified tone style, the whole picture is harmonious as a whole, and the light changes and reflections in the natural scenery are also rich and changeable. Natural scenery often contains multiple light sources such as top light and side light, which makes it difficult for people to distinguish the levels of light and tones. This requires the artist to perform subjective processing and creation, select one or two main light sources to portray, and clarify the overall color tone. The law of change. Monet used a lot of blue, red, purple and yellow in "The Windmill", focusing on shaping the nearest haystack. Although the entire haystack contains a variety of fine colors, the main color is red, giving people a unique This is a unified and colorful sense of harmony; the grass in the middle scene uses a lot of purple and yellow, which echoes the color of the haystacks in the foreground, and is harmonious, and the visual direction of the entire grass guides the windmill in the distant view, making people feel The line of sight involuntarily shifts to the main object-the windmill; as the main object of the work, the windmill must be portrayed with a lot of pen and ink. The blue windmill echoes the light blue of the sky. The two blues are both in purity and brightness. There is a certain difference, so that the windmill can be clearly distinguished from the background, which is the essence of Monet's portrayal.

In short, in oil painting creation, the color tone can also be processed according to the painter's subjective feelings, emotions and aesthetic preferences, so that the work can show the painter's unique personality. It can be deep and vigorous, giving people a strong sense of solemnity, or it can be light and elegant, giving people a sense of calm.



*Figure 1. Monet "The Windmill".*

### **1.3. Realization of Color**

Color is generally carried out with the aid of three elements: direct experience, indirect experience, and fantasy. Direct experience is expressed on the basis of the painter's fixed experience and has objective and real characteristics. For example, the sky is blue and the snow is pure white; indirect experience is when we cannot get the color of the object through the naked eye, and we are in two types. Or when choosing two or more colors, you can only guess based on the painter's subjective wishes, and choose a color with a large area for portraying; fantasy is based on the painter's imagination and life experience. Generally speaking, the more the painter's work The more, the richer the life experience and the more abundant imagination, the more unique and meaningful oil paintings can be created. This result is mainly based on the artist's subconscious and subjective imagination, and is the basis for subjective color and personal emotional expression.

Oil painting art is a reflection of the artist's mind in real life. This reflection is not a complete reproduction of the author's life experience, but a secondary creation derived from life and higher than life. It can be a depiction of the author's life experience or It can be the author's feelings about a certain social event or historical event, but it can also be the author's record of a certain scene or a certain idea. The source of its creation is unlimited. Color in oil painting creation has strong personal emotions and ideas, and is the flower of art produced after the collision of life and soul.

## **2. The Transmission of Color Emotion in Oil Painting Creation**

### **2.1. Use Tones to Create an Artistic Conception**

If you compare color to a note, then the tone is similar to a movement. Colors can become rich and colorful through harmony and color matching, each with its own characteristics, and the emotions and feelings it gives people are also different. The tone of the oil painting can show rich color changes, show the painter's inner world and creative ideas, and is an important carrier for the painter's emotional expression and thought transmission, allowing viewers to resonate with the creator's soul, creating a situation that allows the viewer to be physically present. In its realm, he truly entered the world of painting. For example, in Figure 2, Miller's "Gear Gleaner"

uses a lot of warm colors such as beige and orange. Autumn is the season of harvest and ripe fruit. Therefore, yellow and orange symbolize labor and harvest, and make viewers feel the work. The hard work in the countryside, it vividly depicts the rural life in France in the 19th century. It has a strong atmosphere of rural life. In the picture, the three main characters wear red, blue, and yellow hats, and the clothes are also based on the main color. Attract the attention of the audience. Their movements are full of continuity, calm and orderly, and the light source placed on the left side of the screen shines on the characters, making them appear stronger and more tolerant. Maybe the long time bending over to work has made them feel very tired, but they are still insisting. Although their faces are hidden, their movements and bodies are more expressive-patience, humility, and loyalty.



*Figure 2. Miller "Gleaner".*

Clever use of tones can strengthen the expression of themes and emotions. In oil paintings depicting disaster scenes, most painters use cool colors such as blue, black, and purple to symbolize loneliness, coldness, and cruelty, and set off the heart and soul after the disaster. Physical trauma; green is used to symbolize the vitality and vigor of life, and greens of different purity and brightness are often used in the depiction of green leaves, grass and other landscapes.

## ***2.2. Color Expresses Emotions such as Happiness, Anger, Sorrow, and Joy***

In the early oil painting creation, the use of color was to truly restore the original appearance of the scenery. With the development of the times and the changes in people's way of thinking, more and more people pay attention to the spiritual pursuit after meeting the needs of material life. The concept of painting creation has also changed accordingly. So far, oil paintings have gradually paid attention to the enrichment and diversification of colors, adding more emotional elements. Oil painting is a visual art. If the painter wants to express his emotions and creative ideas, he must rely on the use of color when he emphasizes the theme creation. Only when the color is fully integrated with the creator's subjective consciousness and emotions can the entire oil painting work have more charm and personality.

Creators express their subjective emotions on the basis of color knowledge and basic painting operations, and use colors to express their own strong emotions according to the times and life events they experience. As shown in Figure 3, Van Gogh's "Crows on the Rye" This is the last painting of Van Gogh during his lifetime. Some people think it is Van Gogh's "suicide note" placed on the canvas. The whole picture is extremely turbulent. The green path goes deep into the distance in the yellow wheat field, which adds to the anxiety and Exciting emotions, this kind of picture shows tension and ominous signs everywhere, like a silent death book composed of colors and lines. The large area of black at the top of the picture gives people a heavy sense of depression, which makes people feel suffocated and unbearable. This is exactly the concentrated expression of Van Gogh's despair. After

finishing this work, Van Gogh felt only tired and extremely empty. Despair swallowed him, leaving him with no thoughts about the world, and suicidal thoughts recurred in his mind, gradually occupying his subjective consciousness. A few weeks later, he walked into the wheat field he portrayed. At that time, despair and helplessness occupied his whole mind. He shot himself and wounded himself. Although he did not die immediately, he suffered severe injuries. He struggled to return to his residence, and two days later, he bid farewell to the world. (Figure 3)



*Figure 3. Van Gogh's "Crows on the Rye Field".*

The opposite is Van Gogh's "Sunflower". His "Sunflower" is not a natural portrayal of real sunflowers, but a true expression of Van Gogh's life spirit and self-emotion. Van Gogh used high-purity yellow and orange to express his love and strong desire for life. Sunflower used high-purity red to convey a belief: treat his family with gratitude, look at life with a positive and optimistic attitude, and A pure appreciative heart enjoys the beauty of art, just like the bright sunflowers in front of him. Therefore, the use of different colors can convey different emotions and feelings, create different atmospheres and artistic concepts, and give people different visual impact. (Figure 4)



*Figure 4. Van Gogh's "Sunflowers".*

### 3. Conclusions

In short, the painters who have achieved success in the painting world use colors to shape shapes, create artistic concepts, and express emotions and ideas. Color can not only portray the original appearance and shape of the object, but also create multiple moods such as sadness or joy through different color combinations. It is also the main way for creators to express strong emotions and subjective consciousness. It can lead the viewer. Stepping into the aesthetic realm of blending scenes is an important bridge for the exchange of ideas between creators and viewers, and is the core means and living soul of oil painting creation.

## Conflicts of Interest

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