

The Application of Ceramic Materials in Contemporary Oil Paintings

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Abstract:

The application of ceramic materials in oil paintings can effectively enrich the diversity of oil painting performance as well as promote the contemporary oil painting. This paper firstly introduces the definition and the connotation of ceramic materials, discussing the feasibility and effectiveness of the innovation of the integration of such materials and the oil painting. Secondly, the paper analyzes the applying methods of ceramic materials in contemporary paintings.

Keywords:

Ceramic Materials, Contemporary Oil Painting, Application, Diversity

1. Brief Introduction of Ceramic Materials

1.1. Definition of Ceramic Materials

Ceramic is an inorganic non-metallic material, which is mainly made of clay, feldspar, quartz, etc., and is formed through crushing, mixing, molding, firing and other processes. It has physical properties such as high melting point, high hardness and high abrasion resistance. During the production process, different physical properties and color textures are formed depending on the clay, glaze and firing method. As ceramic technology continues to develop, a wide range of ceramic materials can be used in oil painting.

1.2. The Connotation of Ceramic Materials

1.2.1. Physical Properties

The physical properties of ceramic materials are manifested in the physical state of porcelain body and glaze, and in terms of density, porosity, water absorption, light transmittance and reflectivity of the materials. When working on an oil painting, the creator can give the appreciators a hint or inspiration through the physical properties of the ceramic material, as reflected in the color, quality and texture of its material. For example, in the case of unglazed plain billets and rough-grained clay, the viewer can experience the barrenness, hardship or simplicity of oil painting, while the gorgeous and colorful glazes will bring a sense of lightness, pleasure or luxury to

appreciators. Depending on the clay, the glaze and the method of firing, ceramic materials present different physical properties and a rich variety of characteristics that are highly applicable in oil painting. You can customize the exclusive ceramic shape and characteristics of matching pictures according to different oil painting creation themes and forms.

1.2.2. Spiritual Properties

Ceramics is one of the symbols and representatives of the Chinese nation, demonstrating the wisdom and innovative spirit of our ancestors. The long history of ceramic development has formed a variety of ceramic utensils and decorative styles with various types and rich connotations. Dug out the wisdom and spirit of creation contained in ceramics, and comprehend the spiritual concept of the Chinese ancestors of “theory is based on objects” and “understand thoroughly the truth of all things on earth and handle affairs successfully accordingly”. Ceramics have a long history of cultural significance and have already been integrated into people’s spiritual lives. Different ceramic shapes and glazes have different spiritual properties. The use of ceramics in oil painting is not limited to color, the spiritual properties of ceramic materials can be more indicative of the creator’s spiritual world and personal perceptions. For appreciators, the ceramic material will affect them in three ways - physically, psychologically and visually - in the appreciation of this oil painting. The spiritual properties of ceramic materials are rich and diverse, which can serve as a carrier of spiritual concepts in the creation of oil paintings, so as to better express the connotation of art works.

1.2.3. Innovative Features

Compared to the history of oil painting, the use of ceramic materials is a new form of expression. Ceramic materials possess a sense of luster, texture and color that oil paints lack, which also breaks the limitation of 2D plane of oil painting and brings a new feeling of space and three-dimensional. In the actual application process, the forms used are also more diverse. The creator of oil painting can improve on the original form of oil painting in terms of content, form and expression, and can increase the sense of layering, gloss and contradiction in the oil painting scene, and then innovate in the process, use ceramics to better express his or her inner world. On the other hand, the application of ceramic materials has also changed the way of appreciating oil paintings. Viewers no longer have only visual feelings, but also a tactile experience. Through the unique texture and tactile feeling brought by ceramic materials, viewers can better feel and integrate into the work, and feel the emotion and spirit that the creator wants to express in the work creation.

2. Application of Ceramic Materials in Contemporary Oil Painting

2.1. Selection of Ceramic Materials

Before creating art, the creator must make a good selection of materials in order to lay the foundations for the subsequent painting process and to ensure that the ceramic materials are applied effectively. In this process, the creator can make a choice combining the following important points:

2.1.1. Using Ceramic Material Glaze Color Contrast to Highlight the Focus

Ceramic materials have a richer form of color expression than traditional oil paints. Taking cyan as an example, the cyan in oil painting is relatively single and flat, while the glaze color of Longquan celadon in ceramics is lighter and more three-dimensional, because of the unique light transmittance and refractive properties of the glaze layer. Oil painters can add different colors and lusters to the picture, rendering a richer visual aesthetic through the use of ceramic materials. On the other hand, the creation of oil paintings is about the separation of the main and the secondary, you can't just use colors for collision and contrast, instead, through the use of ceramic materials, the key elements of the oil painting can be better highlighted, and the ideas and artistic spirit that the artist wants to express can then be better expressed.

2.1.2. Using Ceramic Materials to Add Texture Features to Oil Paintings

Ceramic materials have unique physical properties, and the main channels for reflecting their material properties are ceramic ingredients and glaze textures. In the selection of clay materials, there are syderolife with rough texture and petunse with delicate feel, which can be divided into rough clay, pearl clay, Kaolinite, sandy clay and so on dozens of types of clay according to the color and texture. There are also thousands of glazes, including granular glaze with rough surface, matte glaze with stable color, transparent glaze with light transmission, and metal oxidation-reduction glaze with various colors. In the process of creating oil paintings, artists can make full use of this feature through different clay and oil materials to express different textures and then give the appreciators a good feeling. The artist can express different ingredients textures and emotional colors to the fullest extent through the collage and reorganization of ceramic materials, thus achieving the purpose of enhancing the painting's artistic characteristics through the application of ceramic materials.

2.2. Formal Expression of Ceramic Materials

The use of ceramic materials can effectively enhance the external form expression ability of an art work. The use of the special characteristics of ceramic materials can effectively enhance the visual impact expressed by the external form of the painting, thus enhancing the artistic appeal of the oil painting. When using ceramic materials for oil painting creation, the creator should pay attention to these issues in order to achieve this goal:

2.2.1. The Ceramic Material Expression Form Should Echo the Central Idea of the Painting

The use of materials should be able to highlight the central idea of the oil painting and should avoid "the unimportant occupies a major position" or "following the same pattern". For such a requirement, the oil painter should focus on the expression form of ceramic materials in terms of point, line, surface and texture. For example, some painters will match, overlap and interlace materials such as pottery, porcelain and glaze, thus serve the central idea through the external form, forming various mottled textures in their works. Rational use of materials brings more diverse forms, more colorful colors and richer textures. Ceramics can be used to make up for the deficiency of oil paintings and complement each other, or ceramic materials can be used to collide with oil paintings to create a sense of conflict.

2.2.2. The Morphological Expression of the Ceramic Material Should be able to Produce a Certain Complementary Effect to The External Expression of the Oil Painting Scene

The formality of the picture is an important aspect of oil painting and the use of ceramic materials can better enhance the external formality. The painter can embellish the different colors in the picture with ceramic materials to further enhance the texture of the oil painting and thus ensure that the desired artistic feel is achieved. In the process of oil painting creation, the expression methods of oil painting techniques include stippling, color blocks, multi-layer covering, etc, and the main expression forms of the picture are concrete, abstract, and image. Ceramic materials should be unified with the overall expression of the picture, so as to play a finishing touch in the creation of oil paintings and serve the creators.

2.3. Individuality Embodiment of the Ceramic Materials

Different clay and glaze fired ceramics have different artistic characteristics and artistic voice, and the focus of ceramic material application lies in the coordination of different materials, so the oil painter should be able to combine the physical and emotional characteristics of ceramics in the creative process to choose the material, so as to ensure that the maximum effect can be achieved in the picture through the coordination between among materials. In practical application, this can be considered in conjunction with the following two points:

2.3.1. Different Ceramic Materials Will Bring Different Feelings to the Appreciators

Porcelain has a high degree of brightness and different glazes can bring different feelings in terms of color, while the use of pottery will give us a sense of stability, simplicity and naturalness. Artists can choose and match these materials with the emotions they wish to express in the process of creation, ensuring that the characteristics of the different 'pottery' and 'porcelain' materials are reflected in the picture. There are also subdivisions of crude and fine between pottery and porcelain, such as brick, tile and cylinder in crude pottery, and purple sand in fine pottery. Porcelain evolved from pottery, and the two are relatively close in function and processing techniques, so people are used to collectively refer to "ceramics". From the finished product, the texture of the ceramic is rough and porous, with a certain degree of water absorption, low percussion sound, and is divided into unglazed and glazed; Porcelain is fine, hard and nonabsorbent, with a crisp percussion sound and a usual glaze layer. The firing temperature of porcelain is higher than the ceramic. From the perspective of feeling, the ceramic material is rough, simple and natural, while the porcelain is gorgeous, exquisite and rigorous. When applied to oil painting works, ceramic materials can add more connotation and let the audience savor its charm.

2.3.2. The Differences in Physical Properties of Ceramics

The materials and glazes of ceramics, for example, such as Gaoling clay and Dehua white porcelain, often give the appreciators a sense of elegance and refinement, while coarse clay and non-glossy glazes are mainly used to express emotions such as ruggedness and muddiness. Depending on the clay, the glaze and the firing method, different physical properties can be used to further enhance the emotion and spirit conveyed by the painting. Moreover, ceramics are a material that will not corrode and rust, have strong acid and alkali erosion resistance, and are fired from a kiln with a

high temperature of thousands of degrees, so it can withstand high temperature, no oxidation, no decomposition, no deformation, no discoloration, and can be preserved for thousands of years without immortality. In account of its rich glaze color, endless mysterious kiln, beautiful shape processing, ceramics have physical properties and performance characteristics that other materials can not approach.

2.4. The Emotional Expression of Ceramic Materials

The creation of oil painting is not just about depicting scenery, but about conveying certain thoughts and feelings, and the use of ceramic materials will help in aiding the expression of feelings. The creator can integrate his own emotion into the ceramic material, and the viewer can enter the creator's inner emotional world by observing and touching the luster and texture of the ceramic surface.

2.4.1. When Selecting a Ceramic Material the Subject Matter of the Painting Should be Considered

The creator has to determine the way in which the ceramic material will mix together on the basis that the subject matter is selected. Two aspects should be considered in regard of the matching, on the one hand, the ceramic material and the external form of the oil painting; On the other hand is the fusion of emotional expression and picture brought by ceramic materials, which is more important. Theme and emotion are the soul of artistic creation, but also an indispensable part of the mix of oil painting picture and ceramic materials. Different from other painting arts, ceramic materials are born with texture and color, which will inevitably affect the concept of creation. Only both form and emotion serve the creation, is a successful combination. Inevitably, there will also be differences in the use of ceramic materials to express the subject matter during the creative process, as different creators have different interpretations of art. In this regard, it is important for the artist to ensure that the selection of materials is rational and at the same time innovative.

2.4.2. The Application Method of Ceramic Materials should be Decided According to the Artist's Creative Ideas.

The same material will give different feelings due to different methods of application. And even different textures of the same clay sculpture also give people different feelings. The fold of wood grain makes the work exude sense of vicissitudes. The smooth petunse like a mirror makes people feel clean and refreshing, and the intervention of glaze color give the viewer different feelings. Therefore, the artist should determine different materials and different application methods, such as selecting the material in conjunction with the subject matter, and then combining it with his or her own artistic ideas and creative preferences, thus enhancing the artistry of the oil painting. The participation of ceramic materials has enriched the expression of oil painting art and given it new vitality. People can not only feel the texture of the painting by watching, but also touch and feel the texture of the painting when appreciating oil painting artworks, which enriches their emotions of the works, and triggers the imagination of the theme of oil painting. Meanwhile, the creators express emotions and personality, as well as trigger the resonance of the appreciator's thoughts and emotions by taking advantage of the characteristics of ceramic materials.

3. Conclusions

The development of oil painting art itself is a rather long process, and its development can only be established in each era and create aesthetic experience for more people by constantly injecting new elements. With the comprehensive application of materials as a new element of optimization and development, the beauty of oil painting can be enhanced and improved through personalized language expression. Combined with the above views, the selection of ceramic materials, the form of expression, the embodiment of personality and the expression of emotion are considered to ensure that the application of ceramic materials in the creation of oil paintings achieves the desired effect. Therefore, whether the development of oil painting art can be effectively promoted lies in the reasonable application of ceramic materials, and the involvement of ceramic material helps the creator to better express his or her artistic thoughts and artistic preferences, thus achieving a better expression effect, enriching the expression form and emotion expression of oil painting art, and providing more abundant and innovative creation forms for oil painting art. To sum up, the application of ceramic materials in oil painting art is yet to be further practiced and promoted in order to make its development more diverse and visionary.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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