

Research on Artistic Design of Forest Recreation Installation under Spatial Narrative

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Abstract:

As a unique form of presentation in a specific space, installation art has significant advantages in creating an immersive atmosphere with its high degree of interactivity, which can effectively guide people to face and reflect on their emotions and needs. Based on an in-depth analysis of spatial narrative theory and exploration of design practice, this paper proposes a new design method for forest recreation installation art. The method covers three aspects: the shaping of narrative scenarios, the refined design of spatial construction, and the innovative use of space-time composite forms aiming to provide scientific and systematic guidance for the design of forest recreation installation art. This method is expected to enhance the practical value and cultural connotation of the installation, bring a more immersive experience to the users, and further explore the unique value of the installation art in conveying the concept and emotion of recreation.

Keywords:

Spatial Narrative, Forest Recreation, Immersive Experience, Installation Art

1. Introduction

Installation art is not only an ornamental item, but also a comprehensive entity that integrates multiple elements and environments. It is an art form presented in a specific space, and its high interactivity can create an immersive atmosphere for people. Observing and experiencing installation art can guide people to face their personal emotions and needs, thereby reducing anxiety and stress and improving their mental health level. Forest health and wellness installation art refers to the design, production, and display of various installation art works based on the core concept of forest health and wellness, in order to enhance the attractiveness and experiential value of forest health and wellness activities. This article will conduct in-depth research on the artistic design of forest health installations under the guidance of spatial narrative theory, in order to provide tourists with a richer and more in-depth forest health experience.

2. Concept and Related Theories of Spatial Narrative

Narratology, which emerged under the influence of structuralism, explores the nature of narrative works in different media, the subject object relationship, operational rules, and forms of narration. Narrative content includes three aspects: theme, structure, and discourse. Space has unique backgrounds and symbolic elements, which can create atmosphere and emotions through various ways, and convey deeper information through the expression of stories. Spatial narrative is a spatial juxtaposition structure system based on the logic of time existence, space, and causality, with characteristics of coexistence and simultaneity. It is a methodology of “spatiotemporal complex”.

The research on spatial narrative theory in China began around 2000. Zhang Yun pointed out that spatial narrative design draws on literary structural expression techniques, such as symbolism, metaphor, and allegory; Kong Xiangwei proposed that landscape narrative includes two categories: social practice and ontological theory, emphasizing that “ultimate expression is declaration”. This form of design work can alert and educate the audience, and the declaration form is an internal metaphorical symbol. Yu Kongjian believes that the use of metaphors in landscape design can endow works with symbolism, such as the case of “the sound of books blending into rice fields”, which expresses design ideas through place creation and helps audiences understand the connotation of the place.

In terms of research on installation art from the perspective of spatial narrative, Ann Landy commented on the installation art at that time, stating that it could be compared to contemporary novels: sluggish chapters, convoluted plot lines, mixed styles, and elusive and unreliable narrators. Taking the underground space development project of Da'an Forest Park Station in Taiwan as an example, Liu Jieyi pointed out that creating a scene through spatial narrative is a new option for underground space design in China. Qi Jianming pointed out that using digital images as a medium to give new life to the art of “ancient architecture”, interpreting and deconstructing cultural cognition in “ancient architecture”. Xia Jimin analyzes the narrative status, characteristics, and issues of new media installations from the perspective of interactive digital storytelling, in order to look forward to future development trends. He Xiuchuan regards narrative analysis theory as a design method to meet the practical needs of current interactive device design. By integrating the logic and experience of narrative analysis into the design of interactive devices, a feasible narrative design method is formed. By analyzing and studying the characteristics and constituent elements of interactive narrative, Chai Yanyu further explores the relationship between interactive narrative and creating immersive experiences, summarizes the core touchpoints in the immersive experience process, and derives the design method of immersive experiences for public facilities in scenic spots. Ji Zhou uses lighting and illumination from public display installations to enhance emotional communication and narrative in the venue, creating a light landscape and enhancing the audience's impression and emotions of the space. Pan Xinchun analyzed the construction experiment of a movable bamboo structure device, exploring the mapping relationship between body, behavior, and space. Using space as a medium, he constructed a narrative semantic script, achieving the translation from spatial context to participation in the situation and then to feeling the state of mind. Yu Jiankun explores the combination of media materials, audience interaction, and virtual reality elements in installation art by analyzing the relationship between nature and artificiality, history and reality, reality and virtuality, as well as the theoretical

achievements of research scholars. He replicates the spatial transformation of installation art in the Western context.

As can be seen from the above, spatial narrative is a narrative method that conveys emotions, themes, and information by describing the actions, communication, and interactions of characters in space, as well as factors such as spatial layout, atmosphere, and design. It is based on a multidimensional perspective, exploring the expression form of “time space time”, emphasizing the importance of place and space, and viewing space as an important carrier of emotions and stories. It includes five aspects of content: physical space, social space, emotional expression, storyline, and thematic information, with intuitiveness, immersion, and diversity.

3. Design Method of Health and Wellness Installation Art under the Narrative of Two Spaces

The spatial narrative scene of forest health care installation art is composed of multiple elements such as health culture, health care activities, materials, or digital technology, which correspond to the theme, structure, and discourse level of the narrative. As shown in Figure 1, the construction of this narrative scenario aims to convey the core values and significance of forest health through artistic installations. In the study of spatial narrative, space is regarded as an important carrier of emotions and stories. Therefore, designers need to pay close attention to the interrelationships and interactions between groups and the environment within the field space. This relationship is not only reflected at the physical level, but also emphasizes the multi-dimensional perception and experience of the surrounding environment by the group.

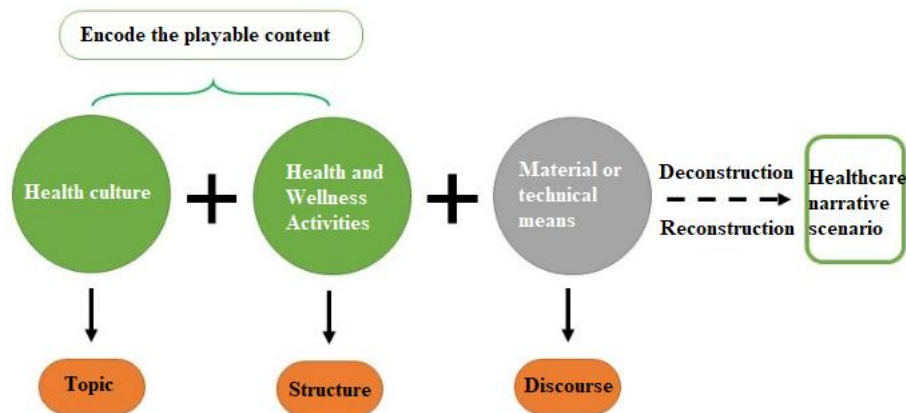


Figure 1. Scenario analysis of health care narrative.

In order to effectively construct the functional system of environmental space, a scenario based design method is adopted, aiming to enhance the field memory of the use object by accurately describing the environmental characteristics. Through this method, we can further explore the interactivity and cultural significance of installation art, thereby creating a forest health environment that meets both functional requirements and emotional resonance. As shown in Figure 2, this process not only promotes multidimensional cognition of the environment, but also enhances the emotional connection between users and space.

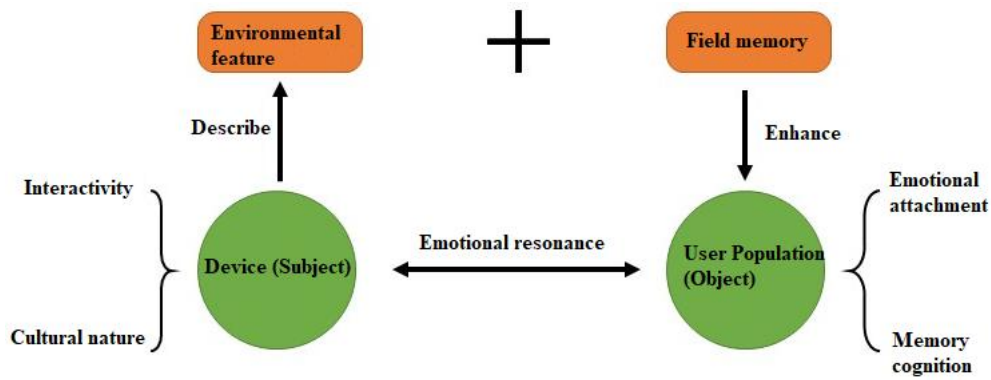


Figure 2. Scene design of forest health installation art.

The spatial narrative expression has a multidimensional perspective of “time space time”, and the spatial expression of forest health installation art covers two important dimensions: physical space and social space. In the creation of physical space, emphasis should be placed on the application and embodiment of natural elements to create a harmonious and symbiotic spatial atmosphere with the natural environment. In terms of spatial layout, installation art can not only serve as a symbol or focal point for spatial division, but also ensure that spatial functions match the atmosphere created by installation art to enhance the overall sense and consistency of the space. In the process of creating social spaces, special attention should be paid to the interactive design of installations to enhance their social attributes and promote communication and interaction among residents. At the same time, using installation art to add cultural connotations to activity spaces can not only enrich the spiritual level of the space, but also deepen residents’ identification and understanding of the health and wellness environment and culture.

The time of health and wellness installation art is reflected in two aspects: the alternation of seasons day and night, and the nonlinear recombination of time series. By utilizing the natural time frame of seasonal cycles and day night alternation, the atmosphere created by installation art is transformed from vibrant to serene and bleak, and then revived in a cycle of stillness. This change not only directly affects the external form and color presentation of installation art, but also deeply influences the emotional experience and cognitive process of viewers. In addition, the recombination of time series is another important manifestation of the temporality of forest health installation art. Artists deconstruct and restructure traditional linear time concepts through their perception and understanding of time, presenting the flow and changes of time in a non-linear manner. This restructuring not only breaks the traditional concept of time, but also provides viewers with a new way of experiencing and thinking about time.

When determining the narrative scenario of health and wellness installation art, it is also necessary to pay special attention to the spatiotemporal complexity emphasized by spatial narrative theory. This feature not only requires the integration of time and space dimensions in the design process, but also ensures the harmonious unity of the two at the narrative level, thus creating a health and wellness environment with both temporal depth and spatial hierarchy, as shown in Figure 3. This design concept not only meets the core requirements of spatial narrative theory, but also provides new theoretical support and design paradigms for the research and practice of forest health and wellness installation art.

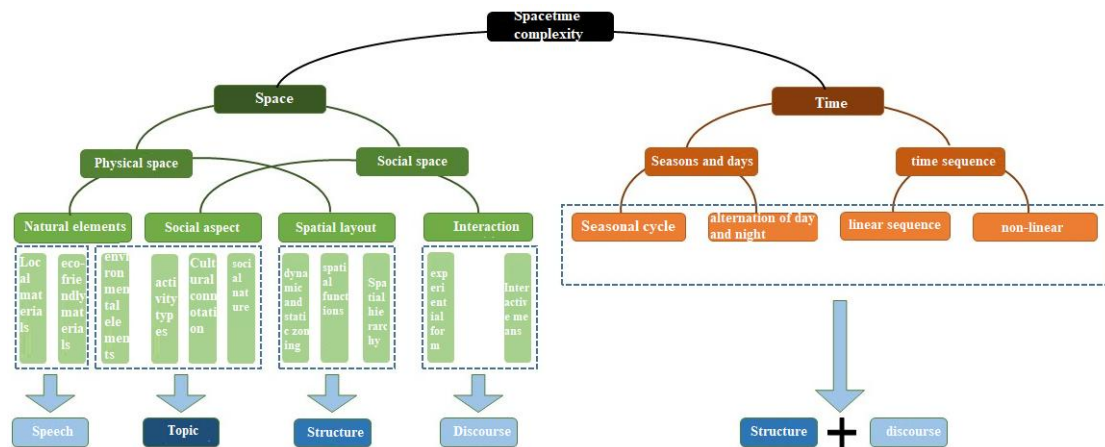


Figure 3. Analysis of spatial and temporal complexity of forest recreation installation art.

4. Art Design Practice of Health and Wellness Installation under the Narrative of Three Spaces

When exploring the design of installation art in the context of spatial narrative, its spatiotemporal complexity is reflected in the careful planning of installation art in spatial layout and the rich and varied forms of experience presented in the flow of time. In order to analyze this characteristic in more detail, the design practice specifically divides the installation art in the space into three time periods of the day: morning, noon, and evening, in order to showcase the unique differences in its experiential forms at different time periods.

4.1. Morning device

In the early morning hours, landscape space creation needs to consider factors such as lighting and color, plant configuration, facilities and accessories, atmosphere creation, and humanized design. By combining these factors, the layout of health and wellness facilities should be integrated into the landscape space, as shown in Figure 4.

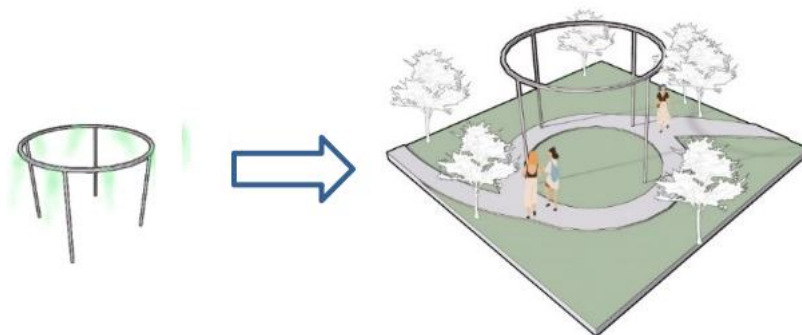


Figure 4. Schematic diagram of the morning unit.

The gentle natural light in the morning is the primary narrative element of the wellness facility space. By configuring low shrubs, cleverly guiding light through the gaps between plants, a quiet and warm atmosphere is created. The light illuminating the space also symbolizes the beginning of a new day. When the audience enters this space, they feel as if they are embraced by gentle light, feeling a sense of tranquility and comfort, which lays a good foundation for subsequent health and wellness activities.

Warm and soft tones are used in color, such as light blue, light yellow, and pink, which not only complement the natural morning light but also convey a peaceful and comfortable atmosphere. These colors interweave in space, creating a warm and harmonious scene that brings comfort and relaxation to the audience's soul. At the same time, these colors also symbolize the theme of the wellness space - health, harmony, and tranquility.

The selection and configuration of plants are mainly based on the morning connotation, such as morning dew grass, sunflowers, etc., which show a psychological suggestion of hope to flourish during specific time periods. These plants not only add vitality and energy to the space, but also convey a positive and uplifting spiritual power to the audience through their growth status and changes. Through reasonable combination, a richly layered plant landscape is formed, creating a space full of natural elements and vitality for the audience.

Cleverly utilizing plants to create a private and open space in the wellness facility space. The private space provides a peaceful and comfortable resting place for the audience, allowing users to relax and settle their thoughts here; Open spaces encourage interaction and communication among audiences, promoting sharing and experiences among people. The division and arrangement of this space not only meet the needs of different audiences, but also add more layers and fun to the space of health and wellness facilities.

In addition to visual design, music and fragrances can also enrich the narrative of the health and wellness installation space. The installation fragrance selected sweet orange essential oil and lemon essential oil, both of which have pleasant, positive, and sunny energy, creating a relaxed and pleasant atmosphere for the space. At the same time, appropriate background music can be selected based on the atmosphere and theme of the space, allowing the music to echo and complement the spatial environment. The combination of music and fragrance not only enhances the infectivity of the space, but also brings a more profound experience to the audience.

Through the comprehensive use of various means such as narrative of light, narrative of color, narrative of plants, narrative of space, and narrative of music and fragrance, the morning installation creates a nurturing space full of vitality, energy, and stories for the audience, allowing them to enjoy art while also feeling a sense of spiritual comfort and relaxation.

4.2. *Midday device*

As time goes by, the sunlight during the noon period becomes strong and hot. At this moment, installation art presents different appearances under the transformation of light and shadow. Therefore, the construction of the midday health care device needs to comprehensively consider the use of light and shadow, color and material, and spatial layout to ensure the beauty and effectiveness of the health care device, as shown in Figure 5.

Sunshine is the carrier of time and the narrator of stories. As the sun moves, light and shadow project different shapes and patterns on the device. These changes in light and shadow not only add dynamic beauty to the device, but also allow the audience to feel the passage of time and the rhythm of life during the appreciation process.

Color and material selection can create a comfortable and emotionally resonant environment for the audience. The use of natural and warm tones makes people feel

warm and peaceful, as if they are in the embrace of nature; The use of imitation natural materials such as wood and stone allows people to feel intimate contact with nature, as if they can hear the breath and heartbeat of nature. The selection of these colors and materials not only adds rich landscape elements to the installation, but also allows people to find a spiritual home and emotional support within it.

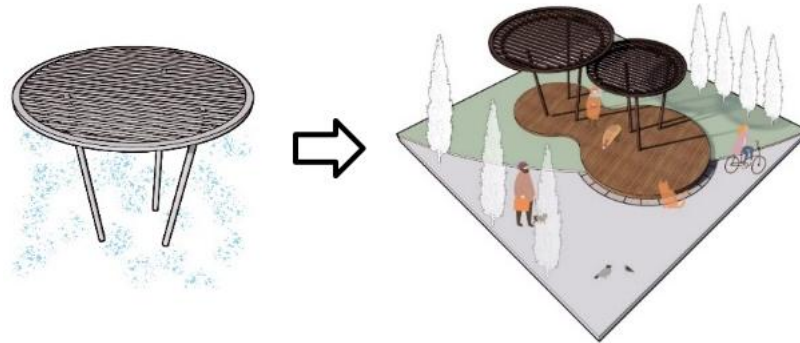


Figure 5. Schematic diagram of the midday unit.

In the narrative space of spatial layout, designers are guided by tourist experience and functional needs, dividing the space around the installation into different areas, each carrying different functions and emotions. Sunshade areas provide people with shaded spaces; The translucent area brings light and warmth to the user; The semi transparent area creates a hazy and mysterious beauty, making people linger in it. These different light sensing functional areas interweave and echo each other, forming a complete and layered narrative space.

In this narrative space, installation art is not only a visual enjoyment, but also an emotional and spiritual communication. While appreciating the work, the audience also engages in dialogue and communication with it, feeling the emotions and stories conveyed by the work. This emotional resonance and spiritual communication make installation art a true wellness space, providing people with a moment of tranquility and relaxation.

4.3. Evening installation

As the sun gradually sets towards the west, the serene and profound beauty of the afternoon provides a unique narrative background for the creation of a health and wellness installation art space. During this period, the audience may pay more attention to the deep meaning contained in the work, and engage in more in-depth dialogue and communication with the work. Design can create a warm, romantic, and peaceful environment for the audience through changes in light and shadow, color choices, and adjustments in spatial layout, as shown in Figure 6.

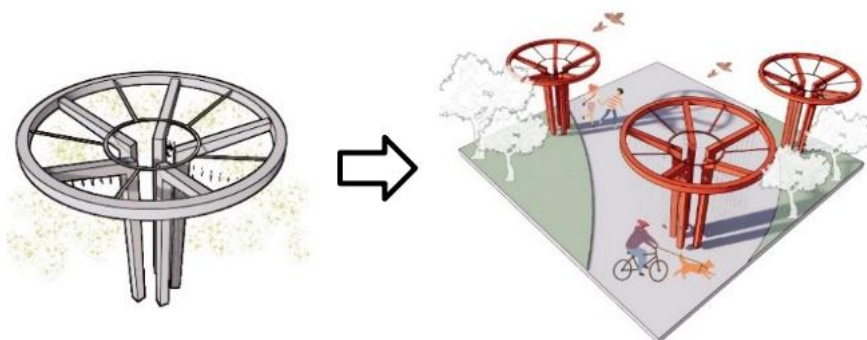


Figure 6. Schematic diagram of the evening unit.

Firstly, the soft light of the sunset is an important element in the narrative space of this period. Through the clever design of the health care device, the rays of the setting sun can be introduced into the landscape space, interweaving with the form and structure of the device, forming a series of moving light and shadow images. These light and shadow scenes not only bring visual enjoyment to the audience, but also invisibly tell the story of time flow and life cycle, triggering the audience's deep reflection on life and nature.

Colors can be selected from warm toned wellness devices, such as orange, red, or yellow, to complement the hues of the sunset and create a warm and romantic atmosphere. At the same time, by utilizing the colors of natural elements such as flowers, trees, or water bodies, combined with the light and shadow of the sunset, a rich and colorful visual effect is formed, making the audience feel as if they are immersed in a vibrant and lively natural world.

In terms of spatial layout, set up small leisure areas equipped with comfortable seats and coffee tables for tourists to rest, communicate, or enjoy the sunset. These leisure areas not only provide comfortable resting spaces for the audience, but also become important places for them to engage in dialogue and communication with the works. Planting some flowers or trees around the leisure area can not only increase the privacy and naturalness of the space, but also bring the audience an experience of being close to nature and relaxing their body and mind.

With the gradual dimming of light and shadow, the illumination of lights adds a new narrative level to the art space of health and wellness installations. Solar lights or LED light strings and other light sources extend the usage time of landscape spaces and provide viewers with a unique visual enjoyment at night. For example, using lighting to embellish the installation area, such as paths, flower beds, and other landscape elements. By cleverly utilizing light sources such as buried lamps or spotlights, the brightness and color of the light can be adjusted to create different atmospheres and sensations. These lights not only add a sense of mystery and romance to the space, but also guide the audience's gaze and footsteps, allowing them to experience and understand the deep meaning contained in the work more deeply.

5. Conclusions

The artistic design of forest health and wellness installations under spatial narrative is a new, innovative, and practical design concept. By introducing the concept and method of spatial narrative, the landscape level and cultural connotation of forest health can be enriched, and the sense of participation and experience of tourists can be enhanced. At the same time, design works should focus on coordination and integrity with the surrounding environment, reflecting the theme and characteristics of forest health and wellness.

In the future, more emphasis should be placed on innovation and fun in the artistic design of forest health and wellness installations, and new design ideas and methods should be continuously explored. At the same time, interdisciplinary cooperation and exchange should be strengthened, and advanced concepts and technological means from other fields should be borrowed to inject new vitality and momentum into the development of forest health care. In addition, it is necessary to strengthen research and understanding of tourists' needs, continuously improve and optimize design works based on tourists' feedback and opinions, and enhance tourists' satisfaction and loyalty.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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