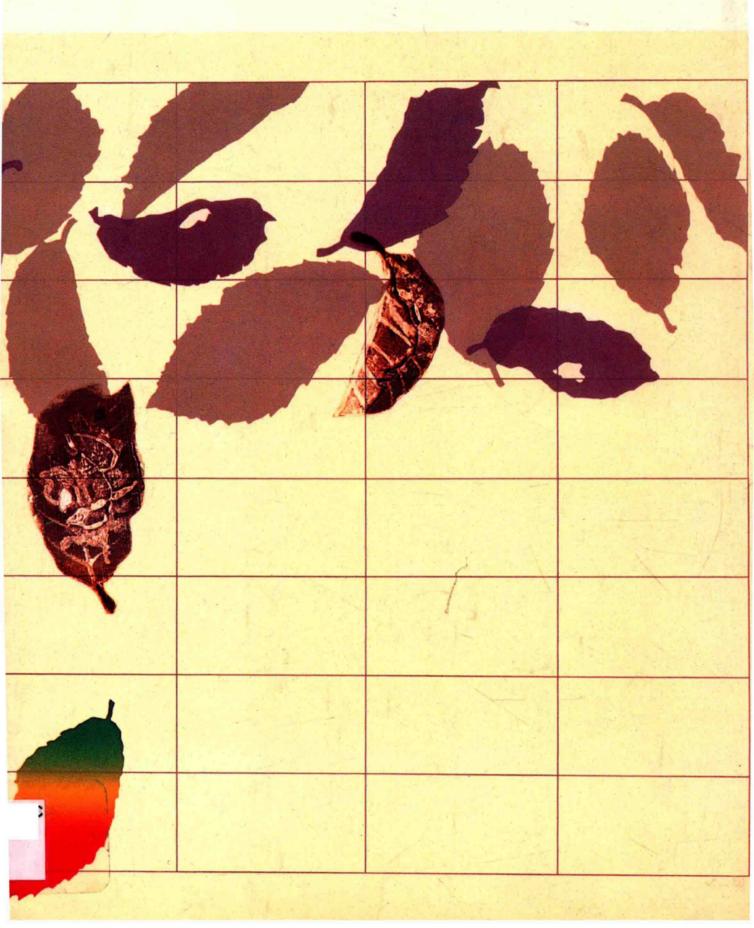
The Prints of Shiou-Ping LIACO





廖修平版畫集

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The Prints of Shiou-Ping

目錄 CONTENTS

			91				
序		Preface / 何浩天	9	26.	大地春回	Spring Return to	
	節的虹	Seasonal Rainbow/曲培淳	13			the Good Earth	48
	世然後出世	Into This World-and Beyond / 王秀如		27.	陽光普照	The Sun Shines All Over	49
簡	介		26	28.	四季平安	Good Luck for All Seasons	
				29.	人生如夢	Life is but a Dream 51	
				30.	大地回春	It's Spring Again 92	
				31.	人生之窗	Window of Life 93	
) <i>82</i> 言書巡華	Affluence 33		32.	大地平安	Tranquil Land 94	
1. 2.	富貴榮華 寒梅迎春	Welcoming Spring 34		19	76		
3.	表 概 幕 憶 往	Reminiscence 35		33.	往 日	By-Gone Days 95	
4.	夕照大地	Twilight Glow 36		34.	靜 物	Still Life 52	
5.	晚秋晨曦	Autumn Dawn 37		35.	廟	Temple 53	
6.	春花爭艷	Sensuality 38		36.	龍	Dragon Auspice 96	
7.	落葉知秋	Falling Leaves 39		37.	香 爐	Incense Burner 54	
	日正當中	High Noon 40		38.	朝聖	Pilgrim 55	
1981				39.	男 與 女	Man/Woman 96	
	午后雅集	Afternoon Gathering 41			畫 與 夜	Day/Night 97	
	初春悠閒	Early Spring 42			人生之華	Festival of Life 56	
	月影乾坤	Moonlight World 43		19		C-1	
	四季美味	Delicacies 44			龍門	Gate of Dragon 57	
,	Delicacies 44				靈與肉	Soul/Flesh 58	
(以上爲季節之		江一套十二幅)			富貴	Richness 59	
10	秋 葉	Autumn Leaves 84			來 生	The Other Life 98	
		Seasonal Flavor 85			佛 光	Aureole 60	
	14. 季節之味 Seasonal Flavor 85 1980				74	N N N 101 00	
	<i>80</i> 季節	Season 45			新年/天空		
	悠間	Peaceful Time 86		48.	裸體和靜物	Nude/Still Life 61	
	獨白	Monologue 87		19	73		
	79	Monorogae		49	手與晨	Hand/Morning 100	
	·/· 茶 餘	Time of Relaxation 46	·	50	. 音樂世界	Musical 101	
	夕 照	Sun Set 88		51	. 喜	Joy 102	
	寂静之秋	The Loneliness of Autumn 88		19	72		
		The Estimate of Transfer		52	. 來 世	Future Life 62	
	78 · 成百 ¬ 聿	Hot Summer's Afternoon 47		53	. 對 話	Dialogue 102	
	盛夏之畫 早晨之話	Story of Morning 89			. 相 對	Counter Part 63	
23		In Conversation 90			. 連 結	Coupling 103	
24	大地平安◯Ⅱ) Tranquil Land II 91					

50

25. 嚴冬之綠

Green in Winter Deep 92

1971		88. PARIS A	Davis A 1	19
56. 星星節	5-3-1-66	(凱旋門)	Paris A. 1	15
57. 月之那邊	Festival of Stars 64	89. PARIS E	Paris B. 1	119
58. 祝君平安!	Beyond the Moon 65	(魯森堡公		
1970	Peace be with you! 104	90. 門神連作 The Guardian of the Gate 120		
59. 平安門	Gate of Peace 105	91. 拜 拜	Celebration	76
60. 生 活	Life 106	92. 雙 囍	The Double J	Joys 77
61. 正義之門	Gate of Justice 107	93. 祭 物	l'offrande	78
62. 東方節	Oriental Festival 66	94. 敬 虔	The Devotion	
63. 陰 陽	Yin-Yang 67	95. 福	Happiness	121
64. 祈望	Dawn of Hope 108	96. 懷 古	Nostalgia	122
65. 門和藝術家	Gate and Artist 109	1965	9	
1969		97. 龍 柱	The Sculptur	red Column
66. 浮 生	Mortal Life 110			of Dragons 122
67. 月之祭	Moon Worship 110	98. 廟 内	A Corner of	
68. 太陽節	Festival of Sun 68	99. 佛 像		123
69. 大地回春	It's Spring Again 111	1964	Basana	
70. 歷 史	History 112	100. 石 華	Stone Flowe	r 79
71. 中 秋 月	The Full-Moon Festival 69	101. 人體習作		125
1968		102. 人體習作		124
72. 遊 行(Ⅱ)	La parade II 113	103. 祭	Cerebration	126
73. 遊 行	La parade 113	104. 紋	Pattern	80
74. 鏡	Mirror 70	105. 祭 門	Altar	125
75. 春	Spring (le printemps) 71	1963		
76. 夏	Summer (l'été) 114	106. 路		125
77. 秋	Autumn (l'automne) 115	107. 村 林		126
78. 冬	Winter (l'hiver) 115	108. 墨像連作		125
1967	La part (Gate) 116	1962		
79. P 9	La part (Gate) 116 Sun (leSoleil) 72	109. 墨像連作		126
80. 太 陽		110. 墨像連作	(I)	126
81. 月 亮	Moon (la lune) 73 Star (l'étoile) 116			
82. 星 星	Happiness and Prosperity 117			
83. 福祿雙全	Happiness and Hospetity			
1966	The Tall God & The Pudgy God 74			
84. 七爺八爺	Guardian of the Temple 75	A = Aquatint	A = Aquatint R = Relief Print	
85. 廟 神	Guardian of the formpre	C = Collagraph $S = Silkscreen, Serigraph$		
86. 恭賀新禧	Happy New Year 117 New Year Mottoes Written	E = Etching W = Woodcut L = Lithograph A.P. = E.A. = Artist's Proof		
87. 春 聯	on Scrolls 118	M = Mezzotint	Ed = E	

序

印刷術是我國四大發明之一:版圖則是印刷術中一項傳統藝術、現存最早的唐咸通九年金鋼經扉頁版畵、己可見其端倪。其後、經過民俗藝術及畵譜等需要的發揮與闡揚、將我國的版畵、尤其是木刻版畵、提昇到了一個極高的境地。因此、一提到這門藝術的淵源,莫不以我國爲其先驅。可惜的是、清末以後的版畵發展、竟然沉滯不前。反觀西方、最早的木版畵、晚至十四世紀以後:而在十五世紀、竟然發明銅版並改良木版、十八世紀再發明石版、乃至以後的絹版等:版種漸多、技術日精、應用愈廣、其表現於現代藝術中的、特具至高韌性與技術潛力、致使西方,現代繪畵發展得更加多采多姿。相形之下、我國版畵顯已瞠乎其複、值此發揚中華優美文化、似應急起直追。目今、蜚聲國際的藝術家廖修平先生夙具遠見、朝夕於斯、默默貢獻心力、是爲我國成就最大的一位版畵家。

廖修平生長於建築世家、幼承庭訓、自小對於精密複雜的建築藝術經營、已是心領神會、加之居家台北古城艋舺的龍山寺附近、過著崇天法祖純樸祥和的生活、影響日後對藝術的虔誠與執着至深。既長、如願進入國立台灣師範大學美術系攻讀美術、是以油畵、版畵、水彩無不兼擅、並時刻關心歐美藝術動向。師大畢業後、廖氏為進一歩探尋西方藝術的堂奧、乃於民國五十一年負笈日本。

到紐約、廖修平先生深深的覺悟到要成為一位完美的版畫家、只熟練於一、二種版畫技術是不够的、於是他參加了布拉特版畫中心、除了更深一層研究更多不同的版畫技巧外、廣結版畫家、從而交換心得、吸取經驗、無形中使他對版畫的應用愈能融合貫通:面對不同的體裁、時而凹版、時而凸版、時而平版、時而網版、時而嘗試混合各式版種技巧、自成一格。但其得意之作、仍以腐蝕版為主,此時作品取材、從巴黎常見的「門」的對稱結構

中加以提昇、簡鍊、使成符號化、明朗化、其形狀、用色均力求 絕對與次序、再無先前的感傷:代之而起的是信心與積進、「星 星節」、「陰陽」等含有中國哲理意味的作品,均是此期的力作。

歷來從事版畫的每有其獨家技法而不肯輕易示人,而廖先生則無不以宏揚我國版畫藝術爲己任。每有相詢,均豪不保留地傾囊相授;民國六十二年,應母校國立台灣師範大學之邀,回國擔任版畫課程,並爲相關大專學校延聘教授版畫,甚得學生們愛戴。國內版畫界在其推動下,風起雲湧,三年間全國性及國際性等版畫展此起彼落,盛況空前,如「十青版畫會」等版畫團體,便是其播種的成果之一。民國六十六年,復應日本筑波大學之聘,主持該校版畫課程兩年,六十八年再度回到紐約,爲西東大學(Seton Hall University)藝術系所羅致,負責該系版畫課程及北新澤西藝術中心(Art Center of Northern New Jersey)版畫部等負責人,他的版畫藝術,已是蜚聲國際,且在業餘更是勤於畫作,不時創悉。

廖氏作品自民國六十二年以後,以絹印為主,每見其混合多種技法作不同的表現,作風愈趨明淨簡潔、畫面上喜以細線構成的灰色方格作為背景,以替代無限的空白,表現的時空,更爲具體明確、畫面主體則爲水果、花卉、蔬果、瓶罐等顏色素樸的小型靜物爲主。相與這些靜物對立的,常是一條多彩的細條彩虹横貫其間、劃破寧靜而有條理的空間,顯得空靈韶秀,清曠淡雅、給人以新生的喜悦。

二十年來,廖氏在版畫的努力,已是開花結果,為國際有名的版畫家之一。作品曾於世界各大重要博物館攀辦個展數十次,參加重要展覧百餘次,先後獲得中華民國十大傑出青年獎、中山學術獎、中華民國版畫學會金璽獎、吳三連文藝獎、紐約羅却斯特市宗教美展版畫首獎、韓國國際小張版畫展大獎等榮譽,實至名歸,令人敬佩無旣。

今年是廖先生從事版畫創作二十年,本館特邀其携件回國作一回顧性的展出。此次展品計達百餘件,均爲廖氏各期代表作,遍括各類版種,對從事版畫藝術或欲瞭解廖氏版畫藝術的朋友,自是一大佳音。爲廣流傳,特以其展品,以編年式予以集印;今欣見大樣已成,披閱之餘,喜不自勝,爰述梗概、藉表欽佩之忱

國立歷史博物館館長 何浩天

中華民國七十一年四月於國立歷史博物館台北南海學園

PREFACE

Printing is one of China's four greatest discoveries, so it can be said that the graphic arts are part of our artistic tradition. In the earliest printed work now extant-the title page of the Diamond Sutra, printed in the fourteenth year of the T'ang Hsien-t'ung reign, or A.D. 869-the general appearance of the art of printing is apparent. In meeting the needs and growth of folkloric art and painting albums, for example, the graphic art of China, and especially woodblock prints, reached their apex. Because of this, when speaking of this type of art, China is always mentioned as its birthplace. It is a pity then that after the end of the Ch'ing dynasty that the graphic arts stagnated. In the West, though, the earliest woodblocks were not made until after the fourteenth century, which were replaced in the fifteenth century with copperplates. Lithography was developed in the eighteenth century and was followed by serigraphy. The types of printing techniques multiplied and improved and their use expanded, until today in the graphic arts are some of the finest and most powerful forms of art. China's printed art fell far behand in the meantime, so that with the revitalization of China's beautiful horitage, we hurried to catch up with the West. Today we have this internationally known graphic artist Liao Shiou-ping: his contributions and determination have now made him the greatest printmaker in China.

Mr. Liao was born into the home of traditional architects. His youthful years were spent surrounded by the intricately beautiful shapes found in Chinese architecture and gave him his first stirrings of imagination. In addition to this, his childhood home was near the old Lung-shan Temple in Taipei, the ceremonies and devotions of which deeply influenced him. When he was a young man he entered the art department of National

Taiwan Normal University and studied oil painting, printing, watercolors, and the art theories of the West. Upon graduating, Mr. Liao decided to further pursue his studies of Western art, and in 1962 went to Japan.

At the Tokyo University of Education, Mr. Liao absorbed the flourishing fascination there with graphic art, and took upon himself the responsibility of helping to further the development of this traditionally Chinese art form. His devotion to this art form led his work to be shown in Brazil's "Bienal de Sao Paolo" exhibition in 1963, and to win first prize in 1964 from the "Sigenkai Art Exhibition" in Tokyo. With these acknowledgements of his young talent as encouragement, Mr. Liao entered Paris' Ecole National Superieure des Beaux-Arts and Atelier 17 to study Western oil painting and graphics.

Prints made with Western copperplate techniques have very delicate lines and good color, making them very appropriate for bringing back the memories of temples and one's childhood. Because more than one color can be used on a plate, and because its wonderful prints, Mr. Liao found a new direction inspiration and for his creations, and his artworks won him medals from the Conseil General de la Seine et Oise and the Salon des Artistes Francais. In 1968 he decided to live in New York and to enter the artistic training center of the New World.

Once in New York, Mr. Liao made up his mind to become a professional graphic artist. He felt that his command of one or two types of printing forms was not enought, so he enrolled in the Pratt Graphic Art Center. In addition to learning more about the various printing techniques, he also met numerous graphic artists and learned from their experiences. Using different tedhniques—sometimes etching, sometimes relief, some-

times blockprinting, sometimes screenprinting, and sometimes a mixture of every form—he created his own style. But in his work, etching remained the dominant type. From one of his artworks of this time, *Gate*, we can see within its structure refinement, symbolization, and clarification, while in the form and color are definition and order. Other great works of this time which show the influence of Chinese thought are the *Festival of Stars* and *Yin-Yang*.

Throughout the ages, many of the artists who developed their own techniques were reluctant to pass them on to others, but Mr. Liao has never hesitated to share his knowledge. Whenever a fellow printer came to him for advice, he would do everything he could to show all he knew. In 1973 at the invitation of his home campus, NTNU, he returned to Taipei as the head of that university's graphic arts classes, as well as a professor of printmaking to other schools. Under his tutelage, the graphic arts of this country flourished, and within three years had an effect upon the national and international graphic art exhibitions his students participated in. The "Graphic Art of Ten Young Artists" exhibition here was also one of the results of his efforts. He returned to Japan in 1977 at the invitation of Tsukuba University and taught printmaking for two years. Returning to New York in 1979, he headed the graphic art division in Seton Hall University's art department and at the Art Center of Northern New Jersey. His printed art then has made an impact all over the world now, yet it is ever-evolving into something new and exciting.

Serigraphy became the main medium for Mr. Liao's works after 1973. Whenever I look at one of his mixed-medium prints, I am struck by the clarity and brilliance of the picture, which

is structured by the background of light gray grids against white. This orders the space well. The subjects of these prints are usually fruit, flowers, vegetables, vessels, or other brightly colored, small objects. Contrasting with the subject is often a many-hued rainbow within one of the objects. His arrangements have well-ordered spaces with rhythmic gaps, elegance, and an ability to give the viewer a new appreciation of life.

In the past twenty years Mr. Liao's work in the field of graphic arts has brought his efforts to fruition and made him one of the better-known artists around the world. He has had one-man exhibitions at some of the world's greatest museums scores of times, and he has had his work included in over a hundred major shows. Mr. Liao has won ten of the Republic of China's major awards for youth, the first graphic award of New York's Rochester Festival of Religious Art, and many other medals, which only serve to further acknowledge his genius.

This is the twentieth anniversary of Mr. Liao's introduction to the creation of graphic arts, so it gives all of us at the Museum great pleasure to hold a retrospective exhibition of his works in commemoration of this. Over one-hundred prints are included in this show, with examples of every period of his style and development. To the many lovers of graphic art and the art friends of Mr. Liao, this is a happy event. And to further our cultural tradition and celebrate Mr. Liao's creations, this collection of his work has been printed, which I hope will make even more people aware of Mr. Liao's contributions and talent.

Ho Hao-tien
Director
National Museum of History
April 1982

季節的虹

十二幅版畫以不同的技 法表現一年四季的輪環 ——廖修平原作

廖修平的近作版畫系列代表了他近廿年來從事版畫創作的極致。在這麼多年中,畫家生活歷亞、歐、美三洲,畫中於是顯露了廣面的不同文化與藝術觀的影響。盡管如此,他還是深深地植根在他自己的母國文化,尤其重要的他保持了對自我的忠實。

生長在台灣一個建築世家、廖修平從父兄傳承了他的一種對秩序、精確與完美技巧的愛好。這種愛好使他致力於最複雜的版畫技法的探尋·而成為一流的技藝者。佛教色彩濃郁的家庭背景·也使畫家超脱於貪慾與野心的渴望·庸俗的榮耀與財富·而安於小成局面 追求冲淡,祥和與寧靜。,

廖修平的背景,一再反映在他的近作上,他偏愛處理簡單的主題:花、果、菜、葉、石、一套茶具、或幾隻酒瓶。樸實的營造、畫面背景在純白空間上交織細線縱橫的方格、人工的建築線條、與不工整的自然物體、造成一種強烈對比、像中國意識的陰與陽、代表兩極世界的對立與調和、如男性與女性、硬對軟、感性對理性、永恆對短暫。

色彩在廖修平的畫裡扮演了重要的角色。它適當地把畫面的 境界象徵出來。兩幅版畫——「初春悠閒」與「歲暮憶往」,特別説明 了這一點。每幅畫主題雖然類似,但各有不同的境界,因此也各 顯出不同的意義出來。「初春悠閒」—畫中的灰色與彩虹色,引導我們從中國穹蒼鳥瞰山中的山湖,而早餐的一杯茶中,我們依稀可見初春清晨的冷霧中,冉冉升起的一輪旭日。「歲暮憶往」—畫中,黑紅對比,暗示著秋夜時,良朋三五小集,作懷鄉式的憶往追昔!

雖然畫中只有一兩種主色,透過彩虹色段的律動,畫中的顏色幾乎是包羅萬有了。用最簡化的形象,一道陰影,或一條色線,彩虹色段代表了廖修平的一種試金石,一方他個人的印章,一道版印的光,和一種美麗的,陳年的希望與祥和的象徵。如同彩虹色段把畫面平凡的家常的物體抽引出特異的意義出來,金色與銀色也同樣把它們提昇到高層次境界。

在傳統中國民俗藝術中,是富貴色彩的金銀二色,在廖修平 畫中,將簡單的日常形象賦以包容貫通宇宙的神秘感。

四季的主題·亦在傳統中具有多重意義。除了提供固定生活架構的各式各樣的可能性外·這主題也反映了生命的自然規律。 四季主題的版畫系列使目前驅達藝術生涯尖端的廖修平回顧了過往的鄉愁。同時暗示了未來美滿的豐收。

美國西東大學藝術系主任 十

曲培淳 博士

SEASONAL RAINBOW

Twelve prints in various techniques on the theme of the year's cycle by Shiou-Ping Liao

The present album of prints by Shiou-Ping Liao represents the culmination of twenty years of print-making. During these years, the artist has lived on three continents and has been exposed to a wide variety of cultural and artistic influences. Through this all, however, he has remained deeply rooted in his own cultural past, and most importantly, he has stayed faithful to himself.

Born in Taiwan in a family of architects, Liao has inherited from his elders a love for order, precision, and technical perfection, which has helped him to become a superb craftsman with an extraordinary command for the most complex printing techniques. Raised in the Buddhist creed, Liao has furthermore learned to thwart greed and ambition, and to be content with little; to strive for harmony and peace rather than worldly honors or riches.

Much of Liao's background and upbringing is reflected in his present work. The artist preferably treats simply themes: flowers, fruits, vegetables, leaves, pebbles, a tea set or a pair of wine bottles. Soberly rendered, the objects are presented against stark white backgrounds articulated with grids of horizontal and/or vertical lines. Their architectural, "man-made" quality contrasts sharply with the random irregularity of the natural foms they frame, a contrast that reflects the Chinese concept of Ying and Yang, which postulates that the harmony of the universe consists in the balance of opposites, such as male-female, hard-soft, reason-feeling, or eternal-ephemeral.

Color plays an important role in Liao's work. It sets the mood of his prints and enhances their symbolical meaning. The two prints entitled *Early Spring* and *Reminiscence* serve to illuminate this point. Though similar in subject, they each evoke

a different mood and thereby acquire a different significance. The light grey and rainbow colors of *Early Spring* transport us to a Chinese pavilion overlooking a mountain lake, where, over a cup of breakfast tea, we watch the sun rise in the cool mist of an early spring morning. By contrast, the black and glowing red of *Reminiscence* suggest an autumn evening when old friends gahter by the fireside and dwell nostalgically on times past.

Though each of Liao's prints has only one or two dominating color tones, they nearly all contain the entire spectrum through the use of the rainbow motif. Applied in the form of a single object, a cast shadow, or just one of the lines of the grid, the rainbow motif may be said to serve as Liao's hallmark, his personal "seal." To the artist it is a graphic sign for light and a beautiful, age-old symbol of hope and peace. Just as the rainbow motif lends special significance to the common every-day objects in Liao's work, so also the use of gold and silver elevates them to a higher level of meaning. Used traditionally in Chinese folk art, where they serve as sacred colors, gold and silver in Liao's prints underscore the idea that simple objects are precious in that they may contain a world of meaning and can, each for themselves, become a clue to the understanding of the universe.

Hallowed by tradition, the theme of the Seasons is meaningful in more than one way. Besides offering the possibility of variety within a firm framework, it may serve as a point of departure for reflection on the natural cycle of life. To Liao, presently at the zenith of his artistic career, the seasonal theme invites the artist to look backwards, perhaps with a trifle of nostalgia, at his formative years, and to look forward to a rich and bountiful harvest.

Dr. Petra ten-Doesschate Chu Professor, Seton Hall University

入世然後出世

——剖析廖修平的藝術歷程

廖修平和我兩度同學。師大美術系四年,後來又在東京教育大學兩年。在這前後六年裏,他一直是班上最用功、創作欲最旺盛的學生。可貴者,這一種強烈的創作欲,在踏出校門近二十多年來,不但毫不減退,甚至與日俱增。每逢師大美術系四十八級的同學們聚會時,若談及繪事,大家都異口同聲推擧廖修平爲首。這不僅是指其在藝術上的造詣優於他人,同時亦對他用功之勤表示中衷的敬佩。

一般人對成功者、往往投以羨慕之情。他們所羨慕的乃是、眼前的名利雙收。殊不知一位成功者在尚未達到目標之前、所經過的歷程、是多麼艱辛!他必須嘗盡凡人所不能忍的煎熬、流盡常人所想不到的血汗、將成果一點一滴的堆積起來。廖修平的成功、當然就是這種經年累月努力的耕耘、加上廣汎的見聞、再從中汲取新知做爲自己的養分:更可歸功於那始終保有著一股中國人的感情和謙虚之美德。

廖修平是享譽國際藝壇的名版畫家,早已在國內外開過多次個展,也曾參加過無數次的各項美展。然而像這一次近似回顧展的性質,將二十年來的作品,照著年代,有系統地介紹出來者,卻是頭一次。回顧展的意義是,畫家的藝術進展歷程之展示。觀眾可以從回顧展中,窺探出該藝術家在習作階段中究竟如何奠定基礎,又如何超越前人的窠臼,在學習過程的模索中如何建立自己的風格,乃至風格之臻於圓熟及突破等。風格,是藝術家以其獨特的內涵,用其獨特的形式來表現的。風格之建立並不簡單,然而,比這更難的,是風格建立後,如何再突破自己,以求更上一層樓。由於風格易使藝術家作繭自縛,換句話說,使藝術家躭於自己建造的護牆內來防衛自己,以致不敢面對新的挑戰。

難能可責者、廖修平的藝術歷程中、前後有兩種風格之樹立。一是以「門」為代表的符號化的藝術:另一是對身邊瑣小事物之東方性情描寫。前者,已在追求多年、臻於圓熟之境界之後,復毅然決然的放棄 : 而後者則目前仍在繼續探討之中。 故此,他的兩種主要風格之建立,以及這兩風格間之轉移歷程(亦即藝術家創作的心路軌跡)·將是這一次回顧展中,最值得我們留意的地方

筆者撰寫本文之目的,並不在宣揚廖修平在藝術上的成就,相反地寧願解説他在藝術上的探討歷程。惟有如此,對於欲了解廖修平藝術的觀衆,方有所助益;同時也可供爲後進藝術家之參考。

一、求學期(一九五三~六五)

師大美術系四年中,廖修平可說是全班同學中最用功的學生。除了在學校上課之外,晚上還到李石樵畫室學素描、畫油畫。 星期天或假日,台北附近的名勝古蹟都留下他的足跡。如龍山寺、迪化街、水門、公實局大樓、淡水等,無不收納在他美麗的畫面內。其中,淡水的古屋陋巷以及那河山交融的景色,更是他彩筆下喜歡捕捉的題材。

油畫一直是廖修平在求學期間,追求的主要藝術。這一種素材的特性是,在尚未乾之前不能加筆,於是那未完成之作品常寄在當地附近人家,以便改天再來繼續完成。就這樣,廖修平認識了住在淡水的未來妻子——吳淑貞。了解藝術而始終能鼓勵丈夫的妻子,無疑是給藝術家莫大的信心。廖修平能二十多年如一日,的獻身於藝術,其妻的功勞實不可没。

二十年前,台灣的畫壇相當保守·不僅看不到國外畫家的美展·甚至連畫冊也很難接觸到。在這樣的環境裏·儘管廖修平在省展中得到大獎·仍然是不出前人的題材和表現手法·絲毫見不出自己的面目。

服完兵役,為了開拓更廣的視野,於是在一九六二年到東京教育大學留學。留日的兩年期間,除了繼續追求多年喜好的油畫外,他更接觸到銅版畫和石版畫的新表現素材。不過此時他的版畫作品,仍舊是油畫的延伸,並没有任何特色,也未對版畫表現出像日後般的愛好。

東京的畫壇比台灣活潑,表現的層面也較多,加上西方名家的原作展也常常巡廻到這裏展出。或許處在與中國人近似的文化和生活環境中,不易體驗出中國人特有的感性。所以在日本留學那兩年間,還看不到刻意追求中國風格的作品出現。這一段期間

·對廖修平日後的藝術幫助最大的,竟不是他所修習的繪畫課程 ·而是課餘在高橋正人的視覺設計研究所裏,所學到的構成原理 、視覺設計等。高橋正人的平面構成,是純粹以抽象形體探索畫 面的組織、節奏、動感、空間等之練習。這些構成原理,在他心 裏醞釀了一段很長的時間後,當他在紐約要探討畫面空間的新表 現法時,無形中發揮了很大的功效。由此可見多方面學習並吸收 新知,對創作甚有幫助。新藝術是舊藝術的脱胎換骨,而所謂的 脫胎換骨,不外乎既有要素的重新結合,而產生新內容者。設計 與繪畫之聯結,因而獨創出畫面空間的新表現法,相信當時的廖 修平連在夢中也預想不到。由於當時他去學習設計的動機,完全 是考慮到未來若不易以繪畫謀生時,將用設計來養活一家人。這 是廖修平在東京時,告訴筆者的一段話。

二、巴黎風格探索期(一九六五一六八年)

東京時的廖修平儘管缺少自己的面貌,卻不是毫無成就。他是光復後油畫入選「日展」的第一人,其一九六二年的「墨像連作A」,獲選在巴西聖保羅國際雙年展中展出,六四年參加日本示現會展中獲獎。

一個外國人在日本畫增很不容易立足,因爲日本人是島國民族,捧本國的畫家猶感不足,豈有餘力捧尚未成名的外國畫家!除非是己在國際畫壇享有名氣者。據於這一種原因,再加上猶感自己的所學不足,於是決定遠赴藝壇的中心巴黎,繼續追求他的藝術。這是一項聰明的抉擇。

巴黎的能成爲藝壇的中心,不僅它擁有豐富的藝術品,最重要者各國藝術家匯集於此,將其本國的藝術帶到此地,互相觀摩, 互相刺激,使得巴黎的藝壇成爲各國藝術的大烘爐,日新月異,變化多端。

廖修平到巴黎後,進入法國巴黎美術學院進修油畫,同時也在十七號版畫室跟海特研究金屬版畫。留法當初,他也很想在油畫方面一顯身手,故頗爲用功,其作品曾得到巴黎春季沙龍展銀牌獎,然而始終擺脱不掉西方的影響。當他拿起彩筆,面對畫布

時,無法避免地,已透過西方人的有色眼鏡去觀看這個世界,因 而自然地産生西方風格的作品。

「你是來自中國的東方人,自該有你們獨自的個性和作風。」 巴黎美術學院油畫教授薛士德(Chastel)及時的點醒了他。的確 ,西方有它根深蒂固的文化,更有它獨特的社會。這種獨特的文 化與社會形態,源自西方人異於東方人的思想。同樣地,以視覺 和自然發生關係的美術,西方人與東方人的自然觀與世界觀,也 不盡相同,當然就各自發展出不同感覺及藝術觀的美術了。上述 薛士德教授所云,應建立你們東方人獨自的個性和作風,若深入 分析與探討,實意味著恢復東方人的自然觀。倘若廖修平繼續配 戴著西方人的眼鏡,入世而寫實,並且以量感和明暗去捕捉自然 的話,便將完全喪失了自然的感覺,也就永遠不能建立自己之風 格了。

擺脱影響與放棄既有的表現形式,必須有極大的決心和勇氣。為了尋回迷失的自我,探索創作的資源以建立自己的風格起見,他在巴黎東方博物館徘徊了一段期間,研究中國那豐碩的青銅器和瓷器的圖紋樣式,想從那兒獲得東方人的感覺和造形。一個中國人,處在同民族、同文化中,一切均顯得太熟悉、太平凡,也就引不起他特異的感受。然而身處異民族、異文化中,定會發現東方與西方之不同,重新對自己文化的特質有一番親切的感受與反省。

然而、這重新發現的自己文化的可貴處、旣不在身邊、於是隨著夢魂所繫,兒時的情景就歷歷湧現出來。龍山寺古老巍峩的建築、祈福的膜拜者、廟壁上華麗但古舊的裝飾、以及節日的慶典遊行等、對於他的內在世界形成了無比的魅力。——的成爲作品的題材。例如,廟壁、香爐、七爺八爺、門神與春聯等對稱性的表現,反覆出現在他早期的版畫藝術上。

廖修平此時完全投注於版畫的製作。版畫與油畫創作是不同的,版畫沒有油畫的那一種先入爲主的觀念。由於版畫受材料特性的限制,其量感與明暗,不如油畫般的隨心所慾。這也正有利於擺脱油畫的影響,使他漸漸的尋回自己,建立東方人的感覺。在巴黎三年的探索和苦鬪,好容易尋回到自己文化之根,邁向自

己藝術之道路。其聲譽鵲起,開始受到藝壇的矚目,絕不是偶然 的。

三、紐約前期(一九六八~七三)

内在心象世界之表現

一九六八年底·廖修平移居美國。他爲了更進一歩的吸收新知·以尋求新的發展起見·加入了紐約的布拉特版畫中心·進而學習不同的版畫技巧。在此·由一版多色凹凸兼用的銅版印法·轉入金屬或非金屬物料之拼版法·滾筒上彩虹般漸變色彩層次之使用·有時更運用壓力上不上油墨的浮雕表現·或凹版、凸版,或平版(石版)及乳版(絹印)·盡在他的掌握之内·不論單獨抑或混合·都達到揮灑自如的境界。

美術的創作,並非單純的塗抹色彩,或在畫面上,以成熟的技法與製作些美麗的外衣而已。若如是,則美術等於穿了漂亮衣裳的蠟像人,缺乏感人的靈性。美與藝術的內容,無寧是吾人用其視覺與外界發生關連,並且隨著製作的過程中喚醒自己、認識自己,直到在歷史的演變與變化不定的現實社會中,發現「自己之生」及「生之本質」,並把這一種感受道盡在作品上。移居到紐約後的廖修平,面對了物慾充斥的世界,知識爆炸、大衆傳播與機械文明,完全控制了民衆生活的紐約,更令他對人之意義及存在價值,有進一歩的體認。那就是入世而後出世,從偶然、變幻不定的現實中發掘那些永恒的真象;從暫時存在的不合理世界中,想建立理念的恒常世界,以便置身在這行方不明、動盪不安的社會中,不致迷失自己。

環境使人不值信賴和獲得安慰時,則人類在其內在世界裏,想建立恒常的形象,藉以寄托他的感情或精神。埃及的金字塔、阿拉伯世界的幾何抽象藝術,皆是此種心理狀態下的産物。同樣地,廖修平一旦在自己的內在世界,建立那恒常的理念時,一些生吞活剝從祖先處借來的造形,逐漸純化,同時他的意境也從鄉

愁、兒時回憶,進展到人與宇宙間關係的探討。「門」的一連串符號化作品,便是如此意境下,純粹以自己之造形,來表現人生之旅程、人與宇宙之和諧關係、陰與陽循環不息,又互相維持均衡之精神。雖然「門」的內涵早已在巴黎萌芽,但在紐約才見其茁壯與成熟。

如「太陽門」、「平安門」……等,通過了它,我們來到這人間,並且爲了生存與認識這世界,我們又不知懷著多少歡樂與苦楚的心情,去打開過無數之門,何況這一扇門之後,仍然有許多門等著我們去開啓、去通過?……。像這種連結過去、現在、未來的時間與生命,當於人生與宇宙哲理的內涵,透過「門」之符號,向觀衆叙述其奧祕。

内在世界的符號化藝術·本來就是東方人理念上的一種造形·它不是把自然形象紀錄在畫面的「虛像」·而是與虛像世界無關地·在這世界形成了另一獨立的存在·同時這種存在·完全與自然一樣的能單獨激發吾人的感情·能使吾人寄托其精神。這也就是說·它比起自然虛像(Illusion)來得更眞實、更永恒。起初·廖修平把這象徵天地、日月、陰陽、人生與門等符號·做和諧對稱性的安排·道盡了這世界的二極安祥循環與互補的宇宙觀。然而爲了再進一步追求符號的眞實性和存在·他乃從版畫的平面性,漸次發展到具有實體效果的浮雕畫(Relief Painting)。巴黎時期是古人造形之生吞活剝的應用:反之·紐約期是他領悟到宇宙與人生奧祕之表現。故·前者如果說是東方形式的話,後者便是他東方精神的體現。廖修平的第一個風格期的那富於人生哲理的藝術·如此臻於圓熟之境界,發人深省。

四、紐約後期(一九七九一八二)

物我合一世界之表白

一九七三年·廖修平應母校美術系之敦聘·回國任教。並非師大的薪酬吸引了他·而是基於關心母國家鄉的藝術文化·想把所學的版畫技法和新觀念傳授給年輕的下一代·使得現代版畫能