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党震画评

郭晓川

10多年前,我在中央美术学院读研究生时,党震在国画系读本科。有一次武艺带我去他们教室,顺便让我看党震临摹的黄宾虹的作品。对这件很见功力的临摹品我至今印象很深。后来党震毕业后到山东艺术学院任教,我们在济南又见过一次面。他拿出一些小幅作品和速写类的作品让我看,地点是他当时与朋友一起开办的颇具规模的酒吧。再后来就是 2001 年在北京见面,党震带来了数十幅作品,为办展览做准备,广泛征求一下意见。

党震每次给我的印象是诚恳,大气,憨直,还有执著。我每每也总是为他的执著所感动。党震的执著带着一种沉静,这与艺术界普遍存在的心浮气躁形成鲜明的对比。我想大概是由于对自己事业的专注程度很高的缘故,党震里外透着一种质朴的气度。看到党震的作品,我认为这些性格特征已经贯穿到党震的创作活动中。

由于与作者相识较早,所以我认为写下上面的文字会便干读者更易干理解或研究党震的作品。

如若考察当代美术状貌,党震及其创作是一个 值得注意的个案。

与一些艺术家喜欢标榜自己的风格流派特征并常以群体的形式活动的做法截然不同,党震像是一个游离于各种活跃分子组成的群体之外的边缘人。在很多艺术家处心积虑结帮纳派、积极推广自我的情况下,党震却能自己默默地思考和实践。这种面壁的功夫使党震的作品与当前的很多画风拉开了距离。这种状态昭示出一位艺术家若想获得一定成果,必定要在静心独处中寻找契机的道理。但是,这种回避世俗的做法并非要一味"隐于野",党震也一直关注着外在世界的动态,只不过是"冷眼"而已。

从党震所写的文字中,可以看出党震在艺术观 点上是一个很正统的、甚至说有些保守的艺术家。这 与他的作品多少有些分离感。党震的作品体现着西方 现代艺术的特点。他所画的速写式的人物头像,具有 相当明显的西式的表现性。大幅作品的色彩与构成形 式又具有抽象特点。作为从城市生长,又接受了正统 学院教育的艺术家,党震的艺术选择是西方现代艺 术。在西方现代艺术中,有两个大的流向,一个是反 传统审美价值观的,故意破坏一些传统审美理想,甚 至不惜采取自我戕害或自暴自弃的策略: 另一个则是 创造出新的审美价值,在文艺复兴以来的西方传统审 美范畴以外寻找新的或曰奇异或曰怪异的审美趣味。 毋庸举例,略有西方美术史知识的人都能够找出对应 的代表流派与作者。党震属于后者。也就是说,党震 的作品是审美的。这个基点,决定了相对保守的艺术 观点。

观点与作品的分离,体现出以党震为代表的出 生在20世纪70年代青年艺术家的知识结构、审美价 值观选择和对现实的态度。这个层面的作者也呈现出 不同的流向, 党震的选择应属于稳健派。从党震的文 章看,很多是并不新鲜的理论,写生和生活的态度,对 色彩或技法的看法。党震在所有的认识中保持了一个 根本的观点,那就是对真实的追求。可以看出,党震 总是将技法或技术排在第二位置,而将对精神的追摹 放在首位。因此,在一个年轻艺术家具有西方现代审 美趣味的作品背后,却是一些老生常谈的东西。然而, 不容忽视的是,正是这种真诚,对世界真实的孜孜以 求,才使得作品具备了感人的力量,而无论它们是西 方的还是中国的。刘国松认为应该先求异、再求好,我 想先求好、再求异同样成立。无论异、好孰先孰后,一 个真字却是更根本者。党震没有首先从"异"的角度 考虑, 而是从一个更正常的角度切入, 这个角度甚至 是平淡无奇的。

刘国松在五六十年代开始了自己的"异"途之旅,那个时代背景是世界范围的造反运动,黑人、女人和学生此起彼伏的运动构成西方知识、文化领域的"主旋律",而民族独立和摆脱西方殖民主义统治

构成第三世界一道景观,中国的"文化大革命"也融汇在这样一个世界潮流中。全球都在求"异",竭力在变革着什么。这一心智上的诉求潮流在70年代开始趋于转向。中国的整个80年代是这股潮流的最后的挣扎。轰轰烈烈的造反运动的终结与转化,世界趋于经济领域的竞争,而非此前的意识形态和军事斗争。

中国当代美术的转折点实际上出现在70年代出生的艺术家这一层面中。这些艺术家忽略了原本的宏大叙事结构的方法论,如果此前的艺术家还有针对性地刻意改变或对抗的话,那么这个层面的艺术家就毫不介意地活动在新的语境之中,更进一步说,这个旧有的语境对他们来说无异于不存在。如果民族化的呼喊还是此前年代艺术家的语境,那么,这个层面的艺术家已经更加自然地融合于世界文化之中。

在党震这里,黄土高原的风情和人物,已经有了全新的意义,它并不像我们概念中所固有或已经被灌输的那种样式,我们看到的是西方现代艺术的那种儿童画式的处理方式与观念。夏加尔、克利等等,一连串耳熟能详的大师名字。党震告诉我,黄土高原的景观就是抽象的线条和色块。由此,党震对黄土高原进行了新的阅读,并产生了不同于以往作者的新的文本。党震这些作品实际上很抒情,抽象化了

党震在戈壁写生时留影



的土地,点缀着半抽象的树木和人畜,既像真实的世界,又像幻觉的理想国。一种清新与亲切浸润了观者的心田。

在很多人像作品中,党震也融具象于抽象之中, 在抽象与具象之中,党震游走自如。或抽象或具象, 主观的表述欲望使得抽象与具象在党震手里就像自 得其乐地摆弄着一个万花筒。将一个个不同的人物 形象涂抹上主观的色彩,从而让我们读到另样的真 实并为之感动。

在现代中国画中,党震具有独特的面貌,城市化特点来自于成长于城市青年艺术家对现实的一种当 代青年知识分子的领悟与理解。

依据党震的性格,他不会标榜自己的艺术创作属于什么"实验……"之类名称之下,在他所写的文字中也未见到此类的理论或字词。但是,我们可以以看到党震对水墨颇为独到的感受与理解。他将一些技术因素置于次要地位,并没有掩盖他对笔墨和巨经不再是中国传统意义的笔墨。我注意到党震使用的一个词:彩墨。这是一个并不新鲜、甚至比水墨还要老的一个词。珍是一个并不新鲜、甚至比水墨还要老的一个词。变完是一个并不新鲜、甚至比水墨还要老的一个词。变完震就这般自然地"拿来"和"舍弃",全然没有了震就这般自然地"拿来"和"舍弃",全然没有了感感的戒备。党震给我们的启示是:口号往往演变成或原本就是商业化的招牌,而艺术的创造与这些招牌往往并不相等。

丹图(Arthur C·Danto)在1986年就宣称艺术进入"后历史时期",其特点是艺术自我革命的需求已经不存在,20世纪初年的令人震撼的变革不会也不应出现了。(《艺术的终结》)这就像说法国大革命或辛亥革命很长时间不会也不应再有了。虽然,它们在人类历史上都是重要的成就。但是,我们仍然在每天都能够激动或会发现令人激动的事物,或许还会碰上令人震撼的东西。艺术史亦是如此。花的开放是短暂的,而孕育期却是漫长的。孕育期仍然充满着惊心动魄,只是不为我们所容易见到而已。

党震的作品,至少以它们的清新和创造性让我们激动。这就是艺术史的"日常生活"。精彩往往寓于平凡之中。

追寻

田黎明

如果一个人的眼睛不只是向外看,还要向内来 端视;如果一个人不仅仅是注意了对事物经历的过程,他还经历了自己内心的体验过程,然而这种向内 的方式又始终是以自然的空间来观照自己的全部。 一个从事视觉艺术的人,仍然是以视内为主体的。党 震就是一个向内来思考的人。从他的几幅学生中的 可写实能力之中来思考着关于什么是准确的空间。 以此,党震从中获得了许多关于文化空间与体验空间的心得。其实对传统文化空间的认识有时是从很 具体的一个参照的形来开始,从一条线、一块墨色展 开的体验方式应该放在文化的品格中加以咀嚼。像 传统的山水画,范宽的《溪山行旅图》以为直线作为山体的造型语言;郭熙的《早春图》以短弧线作为山



野梨树山印象 高丽纸、水墨、色粉笔 100×100cm 2002

石的造型方式,到了王蒙的《青卞隐居图》则以曲线 作为山的结构形态, 当把这些经典作品放在一个平 面中时,他们从平远、深远、高远的山水观照方式中 已经进入到人生体验的平远、深远、高远之中。由人 生向往的自然境界并对自己的生活空间、文化空间 来注重体验过程所形成的形式结构才具有了一种艺 术的诵感。党震就是朝向这个方位在行走的人。他在 毕业后的几年中多次带学生到陕北,那一方土地已 经成为他的精神之源。在数次的往返体验之中,党震 已把心性寄托于博大的黄土源上,他的许多作品里 都流露出一种纯静的形式而引发对生活情境的怀想。 长长的笔触划过的地方展现出天高地远,清新而无 污染的空间里律动着轻轻的线条,坡上的人家,坡上 的庄稼,还有坡上的传说……在形式诉说的方式上 我偶尔感觉一些西方文化的意味, 而在画面的空间 里所渗透着浓浓的中国文化的情结。画面的结构在 抽象与具象之间生长着,形的结构又与线和色的表 现处在各自联系又各自独立的边缘上,这使线本身 的质地和色块之间恰好处在了一种具有本体的可塑 性之中。其中的体味比较准确地落在了画家对于主 体心性体验空间的把握过程里。我想到了陶渊明的 诗句"结庐在人境,而无车马喧。问君何能尔,心远 地自偏。采菊东篱下,悠然见南山。山气日夕佳,飞 鸟相与还。此中有真意,欲辨已忘言。"其句、字之 意即向往着自然的境界又各自蕴涵着更深的文化空 间。菊作为人格的象征,而悠然的生存状态更道出了 人与南山的交融,这种物我两忘的体验过程正是"得 意而忘言"。它印证了老子的"大音希声","大辨如 纳"的朴素之道。中国人的创作观照方式始终是以追 寻人生境界的过程来解构小我的浮躁。从党震的画 中,我感觉他在形式上的探索是一个过程,而对传统 文化的精神向往,并在现实生活的空间里不断去追 寻着自己的人生境界。这才是党震的艺术底蕴所在。



Chasing Tian Liming

If there is someone who is not only using his eyes to see the outside world but also to analyze his inner self; if there are people who not only pay attention to the process of development of events but also perceive their own psychic experience at the same time, viewing themselves in a frame of the natural space. then Jiang Zhen is one of them. Look at his works done when he was still a college student. His merit and ability of very accurately depicting the form of the people and the construction of the paints were shown in his works. Since that time he has gained a great deal of understanding about cultural and spaces that he has experienced. In reality, the understanding of the traditional cultural space sometimes starts from knowing a form in reference; from chewing a line, a patch of ink and color in reference to the cultural quality. After his graduation, many times he led his students to the northern part of Shanxi. The loess there has been his source of inspiration. He put his heart into that vast loess. In his artistic language there might a little Western accent, but in the space of his paintings, there imbibed a thick complex of Chinese culture.

The painted construction grows between that of impressionism and of realism. The structure of forms are in a border area of association and dissociation with lines and colors. This turns the textures of lines and the blocks of colors into an inter-active situation. Dang masters this handling very accurately in his spiritual space

experiences. He also has a way of unifying the objective environmental beauty and his subjective passion into a unified harmony as one of the ancient great poets wrote in one of his poems. It confirms what Lao Zi said thousands of years ago: "too loud the sound, let it pretend to be dispersed" and "the greatest eloquence symbols itself as muttering". From the paintings of Dang Zhen, I felt that his pursuant of the form is just an exploring process of himself. The real art bases and the sources of his art are the endless exploration of his own life in the frame of the space of reality.

2001年10月于陕北。茁壮成长的向日葵和看起来坚强的我……



艺术思想录

党震

关于方法

一次聊天中, 谈到在美术班教学生画素描, 对一 现象其有同感,在谈到关于色调的黑白灰与形体的 关系时, 学生总是把画面画灰、画脏, 而老师则很容 易地调整好大关系,干是教给学生怎样观察,如何表 现……因为只有这种现实主义的具象素描画得好, 才会在美术院校招生考试中过关。但真正的美术创 作中,又有许多非现实的灰调的大师作品那样迷人, 等学生学会画像、画真实之后,要想再画"不像"就 难了。其实, 许多美院毕业的学生在搞创作时会有一 种"学院派"的负作用带来的苦恼,那就是多年严谨 的告型训练带来的一种渗入骨子里的造型态度,也 许只有跳出这个圈子来才会看明白。而在个体创作 过程中,又有几个人能有勇气跳出自己创作的那个 有局限的圈子呢? 作品的风格化是艺术家作品成熟 的标志, 但也无疑会带来一种限制, 在以后的发展过 程中如何不重复实在是个棘手的问题。

关于风格

曾经很为自己画什么风格而苦恼过,现实主义? 超现



实主义? 批判现实主义? 还是表现主义……各种各样的主义背后有他们的文化底蕴支持,有当时时代背景与艺术家个体生存状态的具体情况,自己现在画成什么样式与风格呢? 其实这样的彩黑风景与肖像是我在四年前绝对想象不到的,在许多碰撞与尝试之后,体会到只有处

2001年10月于陕北。那天正午,我唱着陕北小曲走在山道上,就与这朵云相遇了。于是我提高嗓门大吼:"羊肚子的那个手巾哟 ……噢,三道道蓝……"大自然太美了!这句话虽然很俗,但我想不出别的。

在一种真实的情感体验为引导而不断深化出的东西 才是有价值的东西,水到渠成,尊重个人的感觉,而 又不断深化一种感觉,最终会引导出一条线索,出 现一种面貌。风格不是赶潮流赶出来的,也不是端 出几本大师作品东西凑出来的,风格更不可能在短 期内一蹴而就,艺术家风格的形成是在长时间的积 累中逐渐形成的。在这个过程中,需要各种营养: 丰富的知识结构,深刻而独到的生活体验。一句话, 书本上的东西与生活中的东西同样重要。我很反对 现在的大学美术院校中的秋季写生,然后回校搞创 作的做法,那种背离自己熟悉的生活现实而去农村 山区或少数民族地区, 呆两三个星期回来搞出来的 东西, 怎能不浮浅呢? 那本不是我们的生活, 所以 我很怀疑那些住洋房、开跑车的大款名家笔下的乡 土风景与少数民族画有多少真情实感……人有时会 被自己欺骗。

关于彩墨风景

我画这批彩墨风景是源于陕北的写生,陕西省米脂县姬岔乡我去过七次了,最早一次是在大学续三年级,最后一次是在2001年10月,每次在陕北画写生,我的画面都会有一些变化,这与平时形式语言的尝试有关,也与自己的审美认知的深化有关,但回对那一片黄天厚土,我总能感受到一次比一次强烈的情感冲击,这是支持我画面的情感底蕴,我珍视这种画面形式背后的更为可贵的东西,我曾经内我这种画面形式背后的更为可贵的东西,我曾经成立在姬岔乡的陕北农民朋友杨东山许诺,如果我陕北组画的第一张,有一天能有画商收购,那笔钱的二分之一我会送给他全家,那里有陕北黄土的亲情,是我画面的营养源泉。

在这批彩墨风景的图式中, 我保留了树的形, 这 是不可缺少的一点具象痕迹, 抽象绘画中的内在具 象因素是必不可少的, 必须保留一点具象痕迹, 中国 人喜欢似与不似之间的东西, 这点我不放弃。

关于形式

笔墨传统被奉为神明, 文人画笔墨至上论已经

把笔墨形式上升为精神信仰,这里所负载的绝不仅仅是技法问题,而恰恰是这种笔墨情结却把"国画"审美限定在"笔法如何"、"墨色如何",这种评价标准中,存留笔墨的欣赏趣味,却往往会因此失去了对另外一种更重要的真实性的重视,那就是形式应当服从于个体的真实体验,如果不是这样,绘画国现代性,假话说的再漂亮也不美。所以我的画面宁肯放弃对习惯性的线条、皴法、墨色的审美而改为色调、色块、形、整体处理,笔法在这里不再是六法中的骨法用笔,而是以是否反映个体感受的真实性为标准,能帮助我画面的传达我所需要的感觉的形式语言才是好语言。

关于色彩

美院毕业后的两年里,我画了一批油画,油彩的感觉与水墨太不一样了,而由此也引发出对色彩的喜爱,渐入佳境中的过程是对色彩的情感属性的体会。最见魅力的色彩应该是相对单纯而有纵深感的色彩,色彩深度的体会是指一色彩关系所形成的一种吸力,这种力的组合,不管是绚烂斑驳的还是单纯宁静的,都应该有一种对眼睛的吸力;停留在色彩关系的华丽与繁琐是不够的,色彩要说话,不管是高音还是低音,与真实的情感基调的紧密契合的色彩才是好的色彩,也才是最准确的色彩。

关于人物画

我选择单个人物肖像,而且是都市人,年轻人,我认为他们是我接触最多的,而且中国当下的都市文化泡出的年轻人是真正值得关注的一批人,他们活得轻松,信仰什么都不重要,关键是真实性。浙派人物画的顶尖高手也无非是"笔精墨妙"。而表现都市情调的人物画往往又陷进一种格式化的新巢穴,我还是就画一些肖像吧,宁可不带有什么明确目的,只要每一张脸孔都能给予我真情实感,只要她或他是以朴素的真实面貌呈现出的,就有存在的理由,别把这些肖像归入什么流派,他们就是肖像,是我认识

的某个人,或让我感到有意味的某种视觉联想中的 真实的人。

关于高丽纸

我喜欢高丽纸绝不是因为它可以画得厚,而是因为现在的生宣太敏感,我不喜欢所谓成竹在胸一气呵成,一块颜色、一条线、一个形如何与其他色彩和形搭配,都需要有时间来斟酌,所以高丽纸的迟钝恰恰可以让我随心所欲地让它该渗化的渗化,该整齐的整齐,而且我不喜欢生宣纸上的下笔痕迹,笔笔之间有水印,我喜欢大块颜色,该整就整,而其他地方该有变化。我也不喜欢变化层次太多,我喜欢丰富的层次在隐约中出现,太精妙的笔墨太"灵气"、"帅气",精妙应该也是"大智若愚"。

关于"乱画"

在"主题先行"的年代,跟风的人都画主题性创作;在形式上创新的年代,所有人都在寻求新、寻求创意;在李孝萱、刘庆和的都市墨之后,又有许多"都市中茫然的人"出现在水墨人物画面上;而武艺的随意乱画,又使现在流行一种"随意"性的画······为什么总是在跟风,时尚,流行,当"随意"的无法之法成为时尚之后,其天人合一的从容自然品位也不复存在了。所以千万别认为谁都能"乱画"都能画好。

关于"设计"思维

我喜欢从摄影杂志、设计期刊上寻找"灵感",海 报的视觉冲击力的强大是设计人的灵气所在,但绘 画与设计的区别是除了思想之外,具体材料工具的 区别,致使在制作的过程中出现个体敏感的即时性 的主动控制,毕竟有些笔触与痕迹是无法预先设计 的,所以我一般只借鉴摄影与设计的整体视觉图式 的视觉印象,而具体的操作则是依赖我个人经验。而 且这种设计的基调是落在整体视觉感受上的,画面 的语言形式也无定式可寻,有时需要先勾线,有时要 先铺大色块,有时要先从一个细节入手,有时就不用 墨画线了,有时……而不再是拿起毛笔沾了墨从某 某树、某某石开始画……

Thoughts about art Dang Zhen

About method

I once chatted with a friend about teaching art class students how to sketch. When we talked about the relationship between the tones of black, white and gray and the forms, we had the same feeling: students always draw things gray and dirty and teachers always finetune the overall resulting relationships. Then we teach the student how to observe and how to do the representation...and only when the sketch could be done realistically, might there be a chance to pass the enrollment examination of the Central Academy of Fine Arts. But in real art creation there are many non-realistic grayish tones in the attractive works of masters. After the students learned how to paint true, it would be hard for them to draw things "not true". Many works by graduates from the academy have too much "academic" flavor, a negative effect of their long-term serious but rigid education about creating forms. This negative effect might be already imbibed and embedded in their bone marrow. A special style of one's work is a sign of maturity as an artist. But it might be a limiting factor urging repetition in one's further creative works; this is a very perplexing problem.

About style

I had suffered over what type of style I should create. Realistic? Super-realistic? Anti- realistic? Or

Expressive?? At the back of every style there are their cultural supports, their time background and the environment of existence of the artists. But what kind of style and forms should I have in my paintings? Truly. four years ago, I never had the idea about painting black and colored landscapes and portraits. After many trial and error attempts, I started understanding that only when one was led by one's true passion and experience which were deepened and refined, then could something valuable be created. With one's intuition and the feeling developed from it, a clue or road could appear at last. The style of an artist is the result of long term accumulations of experiences. During this process, various nutrients are needed, such as a rich knowledge, plus deep and unique life experiences. The materials and knowledge learned from the book is just as important as the experience in real life. I am against what the art colleges and schools are now doing: go out to do a sketch in autumn and come back to do a creation; go away from one real life and what is familiar and head to the countryside or go to the national minority areas for two or three week. In this way how can the work created not be superficial? That is not our life. I wonder if the works about the country landscape and about the minorities done by rich people who live in mansions and drive fancy racing cars could contain much real passion. People can cheat themselves.

This batch of my colored ink landscapes originated from my sketch work in northern Shaaxi. I was in Jichaxiang (Jicha Village) seven times. The first trip was in my junior year at the academy, and the last one was in October 2001. Every time while sketching in northrn Shanxi, my pictures show some changes. It is related to my attempts in using form language in usual times, and also related to my deeper and deeper feeling of apprecia-



2001年10月于陕西米脂县姬岔乡申杨崖村。那日我在山坡上画速写,往回走的路上天已黄昏。一道夕阳把山脊镀了金,露出半轮乳白的月亮。我拍下这张照片,静静地立于风中,伫立良久……

tion of the beauty that is there. Facing the vast yellow sky and thick loess, I felt stronger and stronger emotional impacts. This is the sentimental power supporting my paintings. I value this power which is behind of all these paintings. I told my peasant friend in that village, Yang Dongshan, if my first painting of the Shanbei (Northern Shanxi) will ever be sold, I will give half the money to him. In this painting there is my deep passion towards the loess of the northern Shanxi and that is the rich source of the nutrient for my paintings.

In those colored ink landscapes of mine, I put in forms of trees. They are the only remaining marks of the real forms that are indispensable. In the abstractive impressionistic paintings, innermost specific factors of real are always indispensable. Some real marks of form should remain there. Chinese like things that are in the middle of like and dislike, similar and not similar. I will not stray from this point.

About form

The traditions of brush and inking are regarded holy, supreme. They are also being regarded as something like a spiritual religion by the intellectual scholars who paint this kind of work. These ink and brushing complexes are not only related to the skills of paintings, but also limit the "traditional Chinese painting" in a boundary of cri-

teria of "how are the brushings" and "how are the inkings". With these analytical criteria the enjoyment of appreciation of ink and brush paintings frequently lead to one paying more attention to a more important factor: the forms should serve the real experience of the individual. For this reason, I want to pay much less attention to, if not discard, the appreciation of the traditional lining, *cun* and ink shade. I want to place more value on tone and mass of colors, forms and the handling of the whole. Here, the brushing is no longer one of the six methods of ancient skeleton brush ways. It becomes a factor of how it reflects the individual's perception to the real. A good language is a language that can help me convey my feelings.

About colors

After my graduation from the Central Academy of Fine Arts, I painted oils for two years. The feeling about oils is totally different from that of ink and water. It led me to appreciate the colorful colors much more and to understand the properties of them more. To me, the most attractive colors are those which are relatively simple but have some penetrating properties. The depth of color is the property of its attractiveness. The combinations of these forces, whether they are simple, quiet or bright and variegated should be attractive to the eye. One should not remain having to ponder about the flamboyance, magnificence and detailed richness of colors. What colors should say, whether in high C in low C, are the key tones of passion. The colors most suitable and most related to the key passion tones are the most accurate colors to be used.

About painting portraits

I choose to paint portraits of city and young people, individually. I think I encounter them most of the time. The young men bred by and who rose from the city

culture are the ones really worthwhile to be concerned about. With a belief or without it is not important. What matters is, is it real? The top masters of the Zhe school of portraiture to most people are those with "refined brush and wonderful ink" painting. Those portraits reflecting city sentiments usually fall into a stereotyped niche. Let me just paint portraits, even without any definitive goal. The portraits, showing me the real feelings with simple faces, should have a reason for their existence and perpetuation. Please don't put them into a school. They are just portraits, portraits of people I know or real people who gave me visual associations and interested me.

About Gaoli paper

I like *Gaoli* paper because you can put paint thicker on it; *xuan* paper is too delicate and sensitive. I do not like quick and instant painting. Every color, line and every form and their arrangement with other colors and forms needs scrutinizing. I do not like the stroke marks left on the *xuan* paper with a water trace of every stroke. I like colors in patches. They should be neat where needed, and changing when required. I do not like too many obvious layers or levels of changing. I like rich levels in the fog. Too many wonderful and refined brush and inkings are too "witty", too "smart". Wonder and refinement should also be something like "top wisdom pretend being stupid".

About "too liberal painting", "chaotic painting"

During the era of "theme first", the wind followers all painted theme works. At the time of form creation, all were searching for something new and innovative. After the city ink of Li and Liu, there are many "people lost in the cities" appearing in ink and wash. The deliberate paintings of Wu led to the prevalence of "liberal" paints. Why is there always wind following, why fash-

ion and why prevalence? After the method of "liberal" was no longer a fashion, its easy, natural flavor of unification of nature and men also disappeared. Please don't think that anyone can "paint liberally" and paint well.

I like to find my inspiration from photographic and design magazines. The visual impact of pamphlets is the wit of designers. But the differences between painting and design are not only in their ideologies, but also in the tools and materials used in their own fields. There are some individual and instant feelings of sensitivity, some strokes, marks and tracings that could not be anticipated or designed before hand. I usually use the visual impression of the whole picture of photographs and designs as a frame of reference, and use my own experience as the specific operating ways. The key tone of designing is on the visual perception as a whole. The language of the painting could not follow a stereotyped grammar. Sometimes, a simple sketch of lines is needed, sometimes big color patches. Sometimes starting from one detail, and sometimes no designing lines are necessary, sometimes...not beginning from a tree, a stone with the brush soaked with ink...









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