

大山儿子

瑶族画家郑军里艺术研究

Son of the Mountains

A Study of Art On Yao Painter Zheng Junli's Painting

宁立正 · 张 昕 · 赵冬芸 译著



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Zheng Junli

Zheng Junli, born in Nanning in 1957, graduated from the Fine Arts Department of Guangxi Arts University (GXAU), majoring in Chinese Painting. Zheng works as a professor and tutor for postgraduate students at GXAU. What's more, he has been acting as the university's president since 2014. He currently holds other positions and titles, such as member of the standing committee of the CPPCC, member of the China Artists Association, vice-chairman of the Guangxi Artists Association, standing vice-president of the Guangxi Academy of Calligraphy and Painting, and vice-chairman of the Association for the Promotion of the Lijiang Painting School.

Since 1986, he has held exhibitions at the National Art Museum of China, the Hong Kong Arts Centre, as well as in the United States, Singapore, and Japan. His works have been selected for the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, and the 11th National Art Exhibition hosted by the Ministry of Culture and the Chinese Artists Association, and can also be found among the collections of institutions such as the National Art Museum of China, China Academy of Chinese Painting, the Great Hall of the People, as well as the Tiananmen Rostrum. Zheng Junli is one of a group of painters contracted for fine arts projects related to key historic themes in modern and contemporary Guangxi.

Prof. Zheng currently enjoys a special allowance offered by the State Council and has already been awarded Guangxi's highest prize for culture and arts, and received the honorary title of "Outstanding Expert".

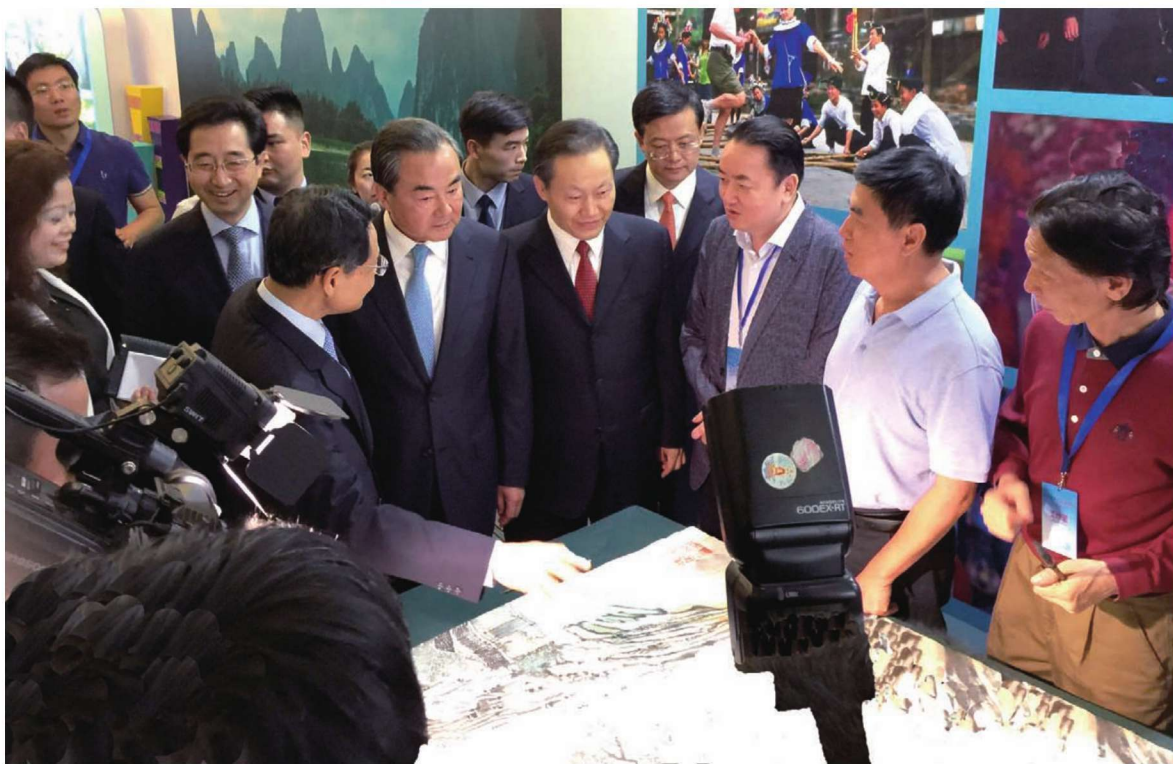
Zheng Junli has so far published over 30 solo collections and monographs.



郑军里在2016年毕业典礼上致辞



郑军里在全国政协大会上



2016年郑军里与外交部部长王毅、广西区党委书记彭清华、区政府主席陈武在中国外交部交谈



郑军里与中国美协主席刘大为、副主席施大畏等合作创作大画



2009年郑军里给研究生做示范



2016年7月郑军里率团访问英国皇家艺术学院

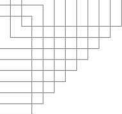
Elegance and Refinement

Appreciation of Zheng Junli's Figure Paintings

Zheng Junli, a renowned contemporary figure painter, who learned from and was greatly influenced by prestigious Chinese painters such as Huang Zhou, Ye Qianyu, Cai Ruohong in Academy of Chinese Painting after his graduation from Guangxi Arts University. Zheng's 1986 solo exhibition at the National Art Museum of China, which caused a sensation in the world of Chinese painting, received wide acclaim from eminent painters such as Chang Shuhong, Zhang Ding and Liu Boshu, bringing Zheng name and fame in his field. His figure paintings feature freshness, elegance, tranquility, flexible brushstrokes, abundant changes, countless and vivid nuances of ink as well as profound and meaningful artistic conception.

Zheng Junli's figure paintings fully illustrate the essence of Chinese painting. Focusing on modeling artistic conception and pursuing the effect somewhere in-between likeness and unlikeness, Zheng depicts the most vivid or lifelike moment or detail via exaggeration, transformation and generalization instead of demonstrating every single details, thus achieving the perfectness of displaying image by capturing spirits. Diverse techniques are employed in Zheng's paintings such as "incorporating calligraphy into Chinese paintings" and "five ink tones". As a result of perfect combination of water, ink and brush, Zheng's paintings also thoroughly display the painter's countless and vivid nuances of ink by splash-ink style as well as variations in the line's thickness, direction, strength, shade and shape. The constant and painstaking training enables Zheng to freely borrow the essence of calligraphy while painting, which allows his masterpieces to be excellent both in form and spirit. Moreover, the abstract concepts and concrete objects are harmoniously interwoven in Zheng's paintings, creating an effect of freedom, tranquility and freshness.

Susanne K. Langer, an outstanding female aestheticians in Western history of aesthetics, believes that art is a way to express feelings and emotions. "Art work is the reflection of feelings and emotions (feelings and emotions, extensively speaking, refer to everything that humans can touch and feel) that illustrate to be appreciated, visibly or audibly. Any art work is a transformation from feelings and emotions to something that can hit our senses by applying symbols and images." Yun Shouping, an ancient Chinese painter also mentioned once that a painting should indicate some certain kind of emotion rather than simply copying a picture or nature. There is a strong ethnic flavor and deep love to for his hometown in Zheng Junli's figure paintings. Actually, his figure paintings mirror the life of ethnic peoples in Guangxi, showing Prof. Zheng's vivid depiction of country life and his sentimental attachment to his motherland. His painting provides a true and pure emotion to views, because he draws from his heart. Born and raised in Guangxi, Zheng Junli boasts



profound and strong emotions to his ethnic group – Yao people, and is always passionate about illustrating its life. Therefore, he tends to choose ethnic groups as topics for his paintings. Because of his yearning of the uncivilized, simple and pure life of ethnic people, Prof. Zheng often organizes students to visit ethnic minority areas in Guangxi, experiencing their lifestyles and drawing sketches. These experiences not only provide Prof. Zheng with inspiration and art material but also help him release his affection for ethnic groups. Every detail in Zheng Junli's figure painting contains his strong emotions, that's why the viewers can easily find an echo with him when appreciating his works.

Naturally formed and refined, Zheng Junli's figure painting concentrates on depicting the elegance and beauty of nature, demonstrating a quiet, peaceful and graceful South China. Prof. Zheng once said, "Expressive power or special painting techniques wouldn't be found in my works, but I insist that fresh and delicate sketch paintings are necessary in our art world." As the leader of the Lijiang Painting School, Zheng Junli has great influence in the field of Chinese painting. I wish him an even more colorful art path.

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