

**Arts and Crafts** Chinese Masters of

# 蓝 印花

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社

印花布。 蓝印花布源于唐宋、 精湛的技艺和娴熟的刀法在我国传统印染中独树一 南通蓝印花布印染技艺被列入我国首批非物质文化遗产保护名录 南通至今继承这一古老的印染工艺,并不断地传承和发展。 盛于明清, 以全手工的印染技艺、 帜, 简洁而纯朴的蓝白之美闻名于世, 丰富的图案纹样与深刻的文化寓意更是其魅力所在。 蓝印花布分为蓝底白花和白底蓝花两种, 是中国传统 的 刮浆防染 其

### 中国工艺美术大师

Masters of Chinese Arts and Crafts

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Wu Yuanxin



#### 蓝印花布

Blue Calico

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中华民族素有尊师重道的传统, 所谓:"道之所存, 师之所存。"因为师是道的承载 者,又是道的传承者。师为表率,师为范模,而大师则是指有卓越成就的学者或艺术家。 他们站在文化的高峰,不但辉煌一世,并且开创了人类的文明。一代一代的大师,以其巨 大的成果,建造着我们民族的文化大厦。

我们通常所称的大师,不论在学术界还是艺术界,大都是群众敬仰的尊称。目前由国 家制定标准而公选出来的大师,惟有"工艺美术大师"一种。这是一种荣誉、一种使命,在 他们的肩上负有民族的自豪。就像奥林匹克竞技场上的拼搏,那桂冠和金牌不是轻易能 够取得的。

我国的工艺美术不仅历史悠久、品类众多,并且具有优秀的传统。 巧心机智的手工 艺是伴随着农耕文化的发展而兴盛起来的。早在2500多年前的《考工记》就指出:"天 有时, 地有气, 材有美, 工有巧; 合此四者, 然后可以为良。"明确以人为中心, 一边是顺 应天时地气,一边是发挥材美工巧。物尽其用,物以致用,在造物活动中一直是主动地进 取。从历史上遗留下来的那些东西看,诸如厚重的青铜器、温润的玉器、晶莹的瓷器、辉 煌的金银器、净洁的漆器,以及华丽的丝绸、精美的刺绣等,无不表现出惊人的智慧:谁 能想到,在高温之下能够将黏土烧结,如同凤凰涅槃,制作出声如磬、明如镜的瓷器来; 漆树中流出的液汁凝固之后,竟然也能做成器物,或是雕刻上花纹,或是镶嵌上蚌壳, 有的发出油光的色晕; 一个象牙球能够雕刻成几十层, 层层都能转动, 各层都有纹饰; 将 竹子翻过来的"反簧"如同婴儿皮肤般的温柔,将竹丝编成的扇子犹如锦缎之典雅:刺 绣的座屏是"双面绣",手捏的泥人见精神。件件如天工,样样皆神奇。人们视为"传世 之宝"和"国宝",哲学家说它是"人的本质力量的显现"。我不想用"超人"这个词来形 容人; 不论在什么时候, 运动场上的各种项目的优胜者, 譬如说跳得最高的, 只能是第一 名,他就如我们的"工艺美术大师"。

过去的木匠拜师学艺,有句口诀叫:"初学三年,走遍天下:再学三年,寸步难行。"说 明前三年不过是获得一种吃饭的本领,即手艺人所做的一些"式子活"(程式化的工作): 再学三年并非是初学三年的重复,而是对于造物的创意,是修养的物化,是发挥自己的灵 性和才智。我们的工艺美术大师,潜心于此,何止是苦练三年呢? 古人说"技进乎道"。只 有进入这样的境界,才能充分发挥他的想象,运用手的灵活,获得驾驭物的高度能力,甚至 是"绝技"。《考工记》所说:"智者创物,巧者述之:守之世,谓之工。"只是说明设计和制 作的关系, 两者可以分开, 也可以结合, 但都是终生躬行, 以致达到出神入化的地步。

众所周知,工艺美术的物品分作两类:一类是日常使用的实用品,围绕衣食住行的 需要和方便,反映着世俗与风尚,由此树立起文明的标尺;另一类是装饰陈设的玩赏品, 体现人文, 启入智慧, 充实和提高精神生活, 即表现出"人的需要的丰富性"。两类工艺品 相互交错,就像音乐的变奏,本是很自然的事。然而在长期的封建社会中,由于工艺品的

材料有多寡、贵贱之分,制作有粗细、精陋之别,因此便出现了三种炫耀:第一是炫耀地位。在等级森严的社会,连用品都有级别。皇帝用的东西,别人不能用;贵族和官员用的东西,平民不能用。诸如"御用"、"御览"、"命服"、"进盏"之类。第二是炫耀财富。同样是一个饭碗,平民用陶,官家用瓷,有钱人是"金扣"、"银扣",帝王是金玉。其他东西均是如此,所谓"价值连城"之类。第三是炫耀技巧。费工费时,手艺高超,鬼斧神工,无人所及。三种炫耀,前二种主要是所有者和使用者,第三种也包括制作者。有了这三种炫耀,不但工艺品的性质产生了异化,连人也会发生变化的。"玩物丧志"便是一句警语。

《尚书·周书·旅奏》说: "不役耳目,百度惟贞,玩人丧德,玩物丧志。" 这是为警告统治者而言的。认为统治者如果醉心于玩赏某些事物或迷恋于一些事情,就会丧失积极进取的志气。强调"不作无益害有益,不贵异物贱用物"。主张不玩犬马,不宝远物,不育珍禽奇兽。历史证明,这种告诫是明智的。但是,进入封建社会之后,为了避免封建帝王"玩物丧志",《礼记·月令》规定:百工"毋或作为淫巧,以荡上心"。因此,将精雕细刻的观赏性工艺品视为"奇技淫巧",而加以禁止。无数历史事实告诉我们,不但上心易"荡",也禁而不止。这种因噎废食的做法,并没有改变统治者的生活腐败和玩物丧志,以致误解了3000年。在人与物的关系上,是不是美物都会使人丧志呢?答案是否定的。关键在人,在人的修养、情操、理想和意志。所以说,精美的工艺品,不但不会使人丧志,反而会增强兴味,助长志气,激发人进取、向上。如果概括工艺美术珍赏品的优异,至少可以看出以下几点:

- 1. 它是"人的本质力量的显现"。不仅体现了人的创造精神,并且通过手的锻炼与灵活,将一般人做不到的达到了极致。因而表现了人在"改造世界"中所发挥出的巨大潜力。
- 2. 在人与物的关系中,不仅获得了驾驭物的能力,并且能动地改变物的常性,因而超越了人的"自身尺度",展现出"人的需要的丰富性"。
  - 3. 它将手艺的精湛技巧与艺术的丰富想象完美结合: 使技进乎于道, 使艺净化人生。
- 4. 由贵重的材料、精绝的技艺和高尚的人文精神所融汇铸造的工艺品,代表着民族的智慧和创造才能,被人们誉为"国宝"。在商品社会时代,当然有很高的经济价值,也就是创造了财富。

犹如满天星斗,各行各业都有领军人物,他们的星座最亮。盛世人才辈出,大师更为 光彩。为了记录他们的业绩,将他们的卓越成就得以传承,我们编了这套《中国工艺美术 大师》系列丛书,一人一册,分别介绍大师的生平、著述、言论、作品和技艺,以及有关的评 论等,展示大师的风范。我们希望,这套丛书不但为中华民族的复兴和文化积淀增添内 容,也希望能够启迪后来者,使中国的工艺美术大师不断涌现、代有所传。是为序。

## The Demean or of the Masters—The Total Foreword of The "Masters of Chinese Arts and Crafts" Series Zhang Daoyi

The Chinese tradition of respect for teachers has been known all along just as "where there is the truth there is the teacher"said teachers who play the role of the fine examples and models are not only the carriers of the truth but also the inheritors of it. At the same time the masters who stand on the peak of culture are in glory of long time and have created the human civilization are defined as the outstanding academics or artists. Masters from one generation to another with their tremendous achievements build our nation's cultural edifice.

Usually referring to the Masters whether in the academia or the art circle is mostly that people respectfully call them. Presently in our country there is only one title of the Masters the "Arts and Crafts Masters" that were elected with the standards established by the country which is a kind of honor and mission making the pride of the nation on their shoulders just like the hard work in Olympic arena where is not easy to get the laurels and the gold medals.

The Arts and Crafts in our country has not only the long history but numerous varieties and excellent tradition as well. The sophisticated and wise crafts flourished with the development of farming culture. As early as more than 2500 years ago "The Artificers Record" (Zhou Li Kao Gong Ji) pointed out "By conforming to the order of the nature adapting to the climates in different districts choosing the superior material and adopting the delicate process the beautiful objects can be made" which clearly meant the thought of human-centered following the law of nature on the one hand and exerting the property of material and technology on the other. Turning material resources to good account or making the best use of everything is always the actively enterprising attitude in the creation. The historical legacies of Arts and Crafts such as the heavy bronze stuff the warm and smooth jades the crystal porcelain gold and silver objects the clean lacquerware the gorgeous silk the fine embroidery and so on are all showed amazing wisdom. So it is hard to imagine the ability that gives the clay a solid state under high temperature as Phoenix Nirvana borning of fire which can turn out to be the porcelain that sounds like the Chinese Chime Stone and looks like a mirror; that makes the sap into objects when it has been solid after flowing from the lacquer trees; that carves the ivory ball into

the dozens of layers every layer can rotate freely and has all patterns at different levels; that turns the parts of bamboo over into the "spring reverse motion" that so gentle just like baby's skinweaves strings of bamboo to form the fan as elegant as brocade; that embroiders the Block Screen as the double-sided embroidery; that uses the hands to knead the clay figurines showed the spirit. Everything looks like a kind of God-made each piece is magical which is considered as the "treasure handed down" or "national treasure" by people and as the "manifestation of the essence of man power" by the philosophers. I do not want to describe people by using the word "Superman" however we should admit that anytime in the sprots ground the winner of the various games say the highest jumping one is just the NO.1 and he would be as our "Arts and Crafts Masters".

In past when apprentice carpenters studied with a teacher there was a formula cried out "beginner for three years is able to travel the world; and then for another three years is unable to move" which means the first three years is nothing but the time for ability that let some of the craftsmen do "Shi Zi Huo" (the stylized works) just to make a living and the further three years is not the simple time for a novice to repeat but for the idea of creation and is the reification of self-cultivation and makes people to bring their spirituality and intelligence into play. Actually our Arts and Crafts masters with great concentration have great efforts far more than three years hard training. The ancients said "techniques reach a certain realm would act in cooperation with the spiritual world". Only entering this realm can people give full play to their imagination use manual dexterity obtain the high degree of ability of controlling or even get the "stunt". Although "The Artificers Record" said " creating objects belongs to wise man highlighting the truth belongs to clever man however inheriting these for generations only belongs to the craftsman" it simply makes the statement of the relationship between design and production which can not only be separated but also be combined and both of them are concerned with life-long practice in order to achieve a superb point.

As we all know the Arts and Crafts can be divided into two categories one is the bread-and-

butter items of everyday useing round the needs of basic necessities and convenience reflecting the custom and the fashion which has established a staff gauge of civilization. The other is decorative furnishings that can be appreciated reflecting the culture inspiring wisdom enriching and enhancing the spiritual life which is to show "the abundance of people's needs". These two types are interlaced like the variation of music that is a natural thing. In the long period of feudal society however for the Arts and Crafts due to the amount of the materials using the differences between the precious material quality and the cheap one and the differences between the fine producing and coarse one there were three kinds of show-off. The first was to show off the status. Even the supplies were branded levels in the strict hierarchy of society. For instance the stuff belonged to the emperor could not be used by others the civilians never had the opportunity for using the articles of the nobles and the officials. Those things had the special titles such as "The Emperor's Using Only" "The Emperor's Reading Only" "The Emperor's Tea Sets Only" "The Officials' Uniform Only" and so on. The second was to show off the wealth. For example as to the bowl the pottery was used by the civilians and the porcelain by the officials. The rich men used the "Golden Clasper" and "Silver Clasper" while the emperor used the gold and jades. So were many other things that so-called "priceless". The third was to show off the skills. A lot of work and time was consumed craft skills were extraordinary as if done by the spirits which could almost be reached of by no one. Therefore with these three kinds of show-off in which the former two mainly refered to both owners and users the third also included the producers not only the nature of the crafts produced alienation and even the people would be changed as well. "Riding a hobby saps one's will to make progress" is a warning.

"XiLu's Mastiff The Book of Chou Dynasty The Book of Remote Ages" (Shang Shu Zhou Shu • Lu Ao)said "do not be enslaved by the eyes and the ears all things must be integrated and moderate tampering with people loses one's morality riding a hobby saps one's will to make progress" which is warning for the rulers thinking that if the rulers obsessed with or fascinate certain things it will make them to lose their aggressive ambition emphasizing that "don't do useless things and don't also prevent others from doing useful things; don't pay much more for strange things and don't look down on cheap and practical things" and affirming that don't indulge in personal hobbies excessively hunt for novelty and feed rare birds and strange beasts. History has proved that such caution is wise. However after entering the feudal society in order to prevent the feudal emperor from that "Riding a hobby saps one's will to make progress" "The Monthly Climate and Administration The Book of Rites" (Li Ji Yue Ling) provided craftsmen "should not make the strange and extravagance objects to confuse the emperor's mind" and regarding the ornamentally carved arts and crafts as the "clever tricks and wicked crafts" that should be prohibited. Numerously historical facts tell us that not only the emperor's

mind is easily confused but also the prohibitions against the confusion can't work. The misunderstanding of objects themselves last about 3000 years though the way just like "giving up eating for fear of choking" did not change the corrupt lives of rulers and that "Riding a hobby saps one's will to make progress". Do the beautiful things make people weak in the relationship between persons and objects? The answer is negative. The key lies in the people themselves in the self-cultivation sentiments ideals and will. So the fine Arts and Crafts is not able to make people despondent on the contrary it will enhance their interests encourage ambition and drive people to be aggressive and progressive. As a result to outline the outstanding traits of the ornamental Arts and Crafts at least the following points can be seen.

First of all it is the "manifestation of the essence of man power" that not only reflects the people's creative spirit but also attains an extreme that is impossible for ordinaries through the exercise and flexibility for hands thus showing the great potential of human in "changing the world".

Secondly in the relationship between persons and objects except for the ability gained to control objects it actively alters the constancy of objects thus beyond the human "own scale" to show "the abundance of people's needs".

Furthermore it perfectly combines the superb skill of the crafts with the colorful imagination of the art making that "techniques reach a certain realm would act in cooperation with the spiritual world" and that "art cleans the life".

Finally the Arts and Crafts founded by the precious materials the exquisite skill and the noble human spirit represents the nation's wisdom and creativity has been hailed as the "national treasure" and of course in the era of commercial society possesses the high economic value that is the creation of wealth.

The various walks of life have the leading characters very starry and their constellations are the brightest. "Flourishing age flourishing talents" being Masters is even more glorious. In order to record their performance and to pass their outstanding achievements along we have compiled the "Masters of Chinese Arts and Crafts" series that each volume recorded each master and that respectively introduced their life stories writings sayings works skills and the comments concerned completely showing the demeanor of the masters. We hope that the series can make contributions not only to the nation's revival of China and the cultural accumulation but also to inspire newcomers propelling the spring-up of the "Masters of Chinese Arts and Crafts" for generations.

So this is the foreword of the series.

December 25 2009 in Longjiang Nanjing

### 前言

许 平 江苏南通是我的老家。上世纪 50 年代初,我家住在城北的一条老街上。老街很窄,路面是石块铺的,一到雨天就湿漉漉的,很滑。街的一头向南,连着市区;一头向北,尽头就是那条城边的濠河。我的童年几乎就是枕着濠河的涛声度过的。

其实,在老家南通城的西面,还有一条更大的河,那就是浩浩荡荡的长江。 长江从千里之外赶来,流到我家城外已是连天波涌气势如虹,江的另一头就是 上海了。那整日流淌却不知去向何方的长江对我如同未来的世界,充满向往却 也神秘遥远,只有每天从睡梦中流过的濠河才是生活中真正的朋友。

相比之下,濠河总是平静的,微波荡漾,水面有限,今天河上架起的一座百余米长的水泥板桥就把两岸连成一体,但那时没有桥,河面看上去也比今天要宽许多。河的对面就是苏北的乡村了,透过水面薄薄的雾气,常常可以看到水边汲饮的水牛和从来不会唱山歌的牧童。对彼时的我,河那边也是一个可望而不可即的有趣世界。其实这条不算宽阔的濠河,连着一个沟渠相错、纵横交织的苏北水网,直到后来终于有一次随开往知青点的船到了水乡深处,才知道这条梦中的河在苏北大地宽厚坚实的胸襟间游走得有多深有多长。

那时河上走着一种客货混装的小火轮,满载时船帮平着水面,客舱的窗口也压着水面,客人们从窗玻璃后张望着飞溅的水花,仿佛是蹲在水里破浪前行,看上去十分有趣。我家后窗不远就正对着一个客轮码头,小火轮一到就会很神气地响一声汽笛,那汽笛会拖一个长长的尾声,声音不大却中气十足,沉闷闷地可以在雾气缭绕的水面上传得极远极远。

汽笛响过,就是后街上最热闹的时候,也是我看得最津津有味的时候了。 从小火轮上下船的客人要从我家门前过,他们多是从苏北乡村进城的,男人女 人老人孩子,办货的探亲的,挑担的推车的,成群结队熙熙攘攘热热闹闹地走 上滑碌碌湿漉漉的石板路,拥向进城的方向。

如今苏北大地已不再沉寂,静谧的乡村向四通八达的高速路敞开胸怀,当年那条水牛出没的河道也变身为霓虹闪烁的观光水带,曾经带来汽笛声声的小火轮早已不见踪影。我也搬出了那条老街,后来又离家多年客居他乡,但那随着笛声而来又随着咿咿呀呀的车轮声远去的进城人群,却久久地定格在故土的眷恋情怀之中。

曾经有一位日本社会学家关注过日本东京开出的新干线列车上死一般的安定与寂静,他认为这种现代感的空间实际上失去了传统生活方式中那种固有的亲和与活力。对此我是深有同感并深为赞同的。多少年来,记忆中"小火轮"人群那种乡间生活的风土感和画面感,总是给我带来莫大的研究乐趣和无穷的动力,无论是农夫肩上两头弯弯的竹木扁担,还是夹杂在人群中满载而行的独轮小车;无论是五彩缤纷的女人头巾,还是蓝白相间的小车花被,对我来说,都包含着太多值得关注和探讨的话题。尤其是那些扎成包裹、罩着篮筐、搭在小车背上、盖在熟睡的娃娃身上……深蓝浅白花色各异的蓝染花布,更是直接

引发了我对苏北乡村蓝染生活的无穷想象。

苏北大地乡间生活与水的缘分是割也割不断的。就拿这蓝染工艺来说,不仅染液顺着织物丝路的流淌造就了浸染工艺生动细微的印染效果,苏北大地无处不在的水网沟渠也是构成民间蓝染生活的重要条件。上世纪80年代中为调查民间织造生活的轨迹,我曾经走过一次苏北乡村,那时70年代特殊的政治生态对民间耕织传统的影响还在延续,一般的生活场景中已经难得一见蓝染衣物的踪影,但是从村民的描述中,却能感受到那种历史形成的、导致蓝染工艺深深渗入民间的生态构造依然犹存。

那时的乡间还未经过大规模的村镇改造,万千阡陌间都是一丛一丛聚集而 居的茅屋农舍。村民们喜欢竹林半掩小畦数行的生活,家屋通常建在一个不大 的水塘前,但这水塘却必定连着一条活水的沟渠,并一直通到纵横交错的河道 水网。农家正屋通常是堂屋厢房一明两暗,偏屋则是厨房柴房,另外户户都有 茅厕猪圈牛栏。厨房后门处有一条石板小径,通向屋外的水塘,那里通常是主 妇们洗菜淘米的地方。水塘边会有木柱与木板搭成的水栈,木柱上常系一条两 头翘起的木船。家里一旦有个购物求人的大事小情,摇上小船就可以到达村镇 街市,把水边人家与一个物资供应与生活保障系统连接起来。正屋堂间,很多 人家都会置一铁木织机和一两架纺车,到上世纪80年代中有织机的人家已经 很少,但那种男耕女织的生活格局却还能看得出来。苏北大地土质疏松,雨水 充沛,适干棉花生产和大青植物的生长,近代形成的轻纺产业把家庭织造推向 一个相当成熟的高度,明清至民国时,南通一带拥有纺纱织布经验的乡村农户 几乎难以计数。这些纺成的纱织成的布或者出售或者自用,而将这些坯布染出 花色,就成为机印花布尚未进入的时代满足生活多样性需要的关键环节。深植 于苏北农耕传统的靛蓝加工技术为印染工艺生态的形成提供了关键性的条件。 一套种植收割的经验、一口小缸、一种简便易行的沤制还原技术,就能构成实 用性、可靠性极强的民间印染加工系统,支撑了古往今来无数乡间家庭的生活 需要。在大一些的街镇,那些临水而建、并且往往以拥有数百纸型花样而"霸 气十足"的染印作坊,无疑占据了这个服务系统的高端;而这个系统的另一端 则可能就在乡间人家的屋檐下,一口小缸里沤些大青草叶,不用太复杂的过程 就能解决家庭染色的一时之需。而在街市染坊与家庭染缸之间,四通八达的水 网就是一个效率极高的中介层次——善织而不善染的织户,可以摇着船把坯布 送进城染色加工:拥有加工余力的染户,可以摇着船下乡收布扩大服务市场; 到逢年过节,乡间人家既要增添衣物又无暇进城之际,还有一种"挑花担", 一头担着粉浆一头担着纸型,或者摇船或者推车或者挑担,直接把花样送到乡 间,只待刷版漏花,染色漂洗,晒干晾净,就可待成衣物了。这就是"小火轮" 人群中形形色色蓝染衣物的来源,苏北水网以这样的网络方式,支撑、维系、 装点着千百年来勤劳、俭朴而又实在的乡间生活。那些"低调奢华"的衣物背后,

连接着一个令人难以想象的、巨大而周到的工艺生态系统。

今天,这样的时代这样的生活渐行渐远,很多往事只留下日益褪色的传说,但时间越久,彼时的生活记忆就越显珍贵。我总是在想,这份带着温度的生活感受不应在岁月的磨砺中冷却,不应当成为城市历史的化石。也许,正是带着这样的期许,在得知元新终于建成全国唯一的"中国南通蓝印花布博物馆",而且也是在濠河边上临水建馆时,我欣然前往致贺,并申请成为中央美术学院设计学院教学基地,并从那时起开始了近八年的合作。

我和元新算是南通老乡,对南通往事的眷恋与认同是我们合作交往的基础。 其实我们的相识,始于上世纪80年代初为南通工艺美术研究所和旅游工艺品研究所工作的那段时期。但这种很想为其振臂一呼的感觉,却是在得知其博物馆落成之后。这座全国唯一的蓝印花布民间工艺专题博物馆,不仅用心独到、精致小巧,而且临水而建的现场体验方式某种程度上暗合了我对南通蓝染与苏北水网之间一种生态互约关系的想象,虽然它与元新力图完整再现历史场景的目标尚有距离,但我仍然为他的机敏与魄力感动,或者说是元新的这份作为加深了我对蓝染文化生命力的信心与期冀。

这些年来,元新作为从民间蓝染生活走进国际文化舞台的一位代表,尽心尽力,任劳任怨,做了不少事。我想,其专业上的创新、事业上的建树,自有更加业内的人士予以评说,而作为行外人,我最想表达的,还是对他保存蓝染文化生态的那分热忱与坚韧的由衷敬意。对元新的事业抱以真诚期许的朋友可能会更期待他在专业创作领域的作为,但我对此的解释是:元新在以他自己的方式思考和延续一种蓝染文化的生存状态,在当下他必须如此,尤其对于未来而言,营造今天的生存基础,这样的努力更加难能可贵。1996年以来,他把很多的精力放在这个微型"博物馆"(早期为"艺术馆")本身的调整与定位、放在蓝染工艺史料的整理与出版、放在蓝染艺术的国内外传播与教学,甚至也放在以蓝染为媒与公众对话的多种场合。这些活动,对于一位以创作为使命的传人来说难免负担过重,但对于重建蓝染文化的系统完整性而言又是势在必行,事实上也是非其莫属的。

每次走进他的博物馆,我都会产生一种"不知是元新选择了蓝染、还是蓝染选择了元新"的感慨。这座博物馆,本身就是一段"草根文化"的传奇,不仅其对象非常的"民间",它的主人也是真正从民间走来的践行者,其实元新又何尝不是用这样的方式再现一种"草根文化"的强韧活力?我们祈祝元新为之付出的所有努力不因为个别的一时一事决策的失误而遭挫折,因为这座看似微乎其微的"博物馆",本质上却是将一种平民的创造融入整个社会文化生命系统的作为,是一种历史的自然精神在当代语境下的再现。从手工生产方式中保存和体现的人类文明结构的历史合理性而言,以各种可能的方式保持这种文化与价值的关系整合与完整存在,其本身就是对一种失衡的现代文明的抗争,

就是一种有质地的建树。

澳大利亚杰出的模拟生态学家珍妮·班娜斯(Janine M. Benyus)在《向 自然学设计》的讲座中,曾经有一句重要的提示:应当关注大自然如何"让生 命融于系统"。个体的生命如何与多面性的自然系统共生,是生命存在的原则 与前提。正如一片草叶之干森林,一片水花之于大海,无论是一种艺术方式或 生产方式,能使其融入一个自然和谐的社会系统,应当是其创造行为和创造目 标的最高境界。现代文明带来的生产方式、生活方式, 伴随工业生产技术的全 面创新,彻底重写了生态文明的关系方程,所有的产品形态及其与社会整体的 关系也被重新整合与塑造,人类社会为此而付出了巨大的代价。但在今天来看, 这种"融于系统"的重构工作似乎并不成功,今天人类社会面临的最大问题就 是草叶与森林、水滴与大海那样完美而互约的生态整合。百余年前,美籍比利 时人列奥・亨德里克・贝克兰注册了酚醛塑料专利(1907年), 标志着人类对 塑料加工技术产业化发展的开端,但是今天却要为塑料制品垃圾从地球上消失 而不得不启动更大规模的技术修复工程:1942年美国芝加哥大学成功启动世 界上第一座核反应堆,人类为干净无害取之不尽用之不竭的核电技术成功导入 资源系统而欣喜若狂,但是今天却要忍受核泄漏后果是否会将孕育过人类生命 的大海毁于一旦的道德拷问。相比之下,那曾经相对贫俭却无生态危机之虞的 自然平和、万象生机,不正体现着一种值得尊重和珍藏的整体和谐?

诚然,一种单纯的手工艺,一段简单的生活记忆,并不需要容纳人类命运、文明架构那样过于宏大的话题,也无法与繁复纷杂的时代信息——对称,但我深信,所有那些简单而又和睦的生活技术中,必定深藏着舍勒当年所描绘的"世界价值秩序",包含着由可感知的大众生活、基本的社会契约与生活制度、通过血缘而凝聚的生活共同体以及透露其中的生命价值、精神价值乃至绝对价值这些理想的与现实的因素共同构成的社会整体。马克斯·舍勒(Max Scheler,1874-1928年)曾经将"考察决定生活内容的理想因素和现实因素以及精神因素和内驱力因素的相互影响的种类和有条不紊的序列"规定为他所追求的"社会学本身的最终任务"。在我看来,探究这些生活文化间历史与现实"相互影响的种类和有条不紊的序列"也同样是设计学研究的最终任务。在这个意义上,元新的蓝染,正如同"小火轮"人群留下的鲜活记忆一样,它对今天的价值已经不止于那种装饰的花哨和乡俗的妩媚,而是弥漫在那个欢声笑语相携而行的人群之上的自然生产方式与社会结构方式的整体和谐了。

元新专集成册,命我为之作序,灵姝已经作了很好的梳理,我自知笔力不及,但由此而引起的联想良多。兴之所至,有感而发,辞不尽意,谨以致贺。 是为序。

> 2013 年仲秋·京宁行旅途中 (作者系中央美术学院设计学院副院长、教授)

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