The Influence of Ancient Sculpture on Contemporary Sculpture Education

Tao Jifeng

Leshan Normal University, Sichuan, China, 614000

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Abstract: This article will mainly study the artistic trends and related achievements of Chinese modern and contemporary sculptures, with special emphasis on the study of the sculptors' unremitting efforts in the investigation and protection of ancient Chinese sculptures in the rapidly changing artistic environment since the 20th century. Through systematic analysis, it can be seen that the Chinese modern and contemporary sculptors have effectively transformed the ideas and technological innovations brought about by the fusion of Chinese and Western sculpture teaching systems in the exploration of sculpture for a century. Excellent sculpture works in the forest of the world. How to effectively transform the modeling concepts and methods of ancient Chinese sculpture into a new source of contemporary sculpture creation is the main content of this article.

1. Introduction

Sculpture is an ancient plastic art. Through the work of sculptors, we can not only appreciate the three-dimensional sculpture, but also can sculpt the ideological connotation of the sculptor from multiple angles. In the process of long development, the inheritance system of Chinese ancient sculptures was influenced by factors such as the real life, the integration of ethnic groups, the reform of religious ideas, and the tombs and burials of mausoleums. It constantly adjusted and transformed the structure of the inheritance system, and passed on to the mentoring system. Achieve the continuous development of ancient Chinese sculpture.

2. Background of Ancient Sculpture in Modern and Contemporary Sculpture Education System

Ancient Chinese sculpture passed through the period of the primitive period, the development of the Qin and Han Dynasties, the prosperity of the Sui and Tang Dynasties, the decline of the Song, Liao, Jin and Yuan Dynasties, the decline of the Ming and Qing Dynasties; after the Spring and Autumn and the Warring States period, the cultural fusion of "hundreds of contending", "Eastern Buddhism" The integration of Chinese and Western religions and the integration of the nationalities caused by the invasion of the northern nationalities gradually formed a unique sculptural concept, a rich variety of sculptural methods, and a modeling inheritance system of “oral tradition”. It was with these conflicts and integration that there was a collision of ideas and culture that led to the
great prosperity of culture and the great development of sculpture. Ancient Chinese sculptures developed into modern times, especially the integration of Chinese and Western cultures in the 20th century. The Western sculpture teaching system entered China, bringing China's sculpture modeling system into a new opportunity for development.

![Fig.1 Mao ling Hue Tomb Stone Carving "The Stone Tiger" Western Han Dynasty](image)

2.1 Inheritance System of Ancient Chinese Sculpture

After continuous development and evolution, ancient Chinese sculpture has created a variety of sculpture shaping techniques and formed a unique image expression system and a unique inheritance system. This inheritance system is different from the western sculpture education system. It is independent of the school’s artistic inheritance. It is spread among folk and sculpture craftsmen, and it is inherited by teachers and apprentices who use the “word of mouth” to obtain practical works. His creative experience and modeling techniques spread. In this tradition, the master's “password” and apprentice’s “enlightenment” have many subjective playing elements. It is a process of image comprehension from the imitation of a program to a spiritual expression. It is the emotional expression of a certain sculptural system.

2.2 The main factors affecting the development of ancient Chinese sculpture inheritance system

In the collections of historical treasures of China's major historical museums and many Chinese relics collected in Western museums, each piece of pottery, each piece of sculpture, and each picture depict the ancient civilization of the Chinese people; Excavations, new ancient sites are constantly being discovered.

![Fig.2 The construction of sculptures and other factors](image)

Through these cultural messages, we can clearly see several major factors affecting the
development of the ancient Chinese sculpture heritage system: one is the factual factors rooted in life; the other is the burial and customs factors of China’s mausoleum from ancient times to the present; it is the continuous integration of religious thoughts and development factors; the fourth is the multiple national integration factors. These have contributed to the continuous development of ancient Chinese sculpture, and have also contributed to the constant changes in the shape of ancient Chinese sculpture, and continue to strengthen the Chinese ancient sculpture modeling concepts and aesthetic characteristics. Through the research and comparison, the development of Chinese ancient sculptures and the development of various periods the styling features are more clear and clear.

3. Ancient sculpture enters modern and contemporary sculpture education system

After four major ethnic integrations in China, China has created a cultural prosperity with multi-national common development centering on the Han nationality, and gradually formed a distinctive Chinese style and aesthetic characteristics of ancient sculpture. Although Chinese ancient sculptures have undergone development from generation to generation from strength to weakness, they have left countless splendid sculptures of ancient sculptures in the long history of China. These artistic classics are the best testimony of the Chinese nation for inclusion and acceptance.

3.1 The contemporary use of modeling methods for ancient Chinese sculpture

The modeling methods of ancient Chinese sculptures are the main technical factors for the creation of sculptures. In the teaching practice for the study of the ancient Chinese sculpture modeling method, there are two ways to learn, one is to observe and understand.

Fig.3 The construction of the sculpture is mainly related to two aspects

We must use the concept of imagery to comprehend and understand it. After comprehending it, we can apply it in practice. Imagery expression is a method of expression. It is the key to the door of “finess, qi, and divinity”. This method is also applicable to the study of Chinese ancient sculptures. The emotions expressed in ancient Chinese Buddhist sculptures are more subtle and delicate, and are more suitable for Linfen experience. Through Linyi, they can understand the method and steps of Chinese ancient sculpture creation, and experience the ancient Chinese people's modeling concepts and modeling methods.

Ancient Chinese sculpture has its own unique inheritance system. It constantly adjusted and transformed the structure of the inheritance system, and passed on to the mentoring system. After experiencing the development of real life, the evolution of the mausoleum and burial system, the integration of religious ideas, and the cultural development brought about by large-scale national integration, it has created a splendid ancient Sculpture art.

3.2 Contemporary Borrowing of Ancient Chinese Sculpture Form Beauty

As a method of expression, form exists in all plastic arts. There are also many forms of ancient sculpture in China. In Chinese ancient sculptures, linearity, strength, and decorativeness are the external forms of sculpture's emotional expression. It is precisely with the existence of these external forms that fully guarantees the aesthetic beauty of sculpture. In these indispensable forms, the performance of the linear form can produce a smooth and smooth flow; the performance of the
power form can reflect the tension of the air veins and the bones; the performance of the decorative form can create a romantic, mysterious, concise and gorgeous atmosphere.

3.3 The contemporary expression of ancient Chinese sculpture ideas and concepts

The ancient Chinese sculpture modeling system has its own modeling concepts and expression methods. Although these concepts do not have systematic theoretical support, we can still interpret the theory of other sister arts that are analogous to the analogy among thousands of ancient Chinese sculptures. Straighten out the ideas and ideas of ancient Chinese sculpture performance. These ideas, methods, and ways of summarizing all have established a fixed routine for thousands of years. Perhaps they can sum up the ancient Chinese aesthetics of sculpture according to the concept of "imaging" that has been summed up by the people. Perhaps they can also use the concept of "harmony between man and nature." From the viewpoint of nature, to sum up the artistic beliefs of ancient Chinese people, it is also possible to use “fine, angry, and divine” to describe the sculpture concepts of Chinese ancient sculptures. These fixed routines are shown by sculpture craftsmen in ancient China through sculptures.

In modern and contemporary sculpture education in China, in addition to the ancient Chinese sculpture modeling methods and form aesthetics study, the most important thing is the inheritance of ancient Chinese sculpture modeling concepts. Chinese modern and contemporary sculptors have acquired a certain degree of inheritance of ancient Chinese sculpture styling concepts at the Academy of Fine Arts. In the current context, they will re-evaluate these styling concepts with modern and contemporary values and Western aesthetics of sculptures. New thoughts on inheritance and dialogue, variation and innovation are produced. These thoughts are the new thinking under “the ancient and the present” and are the modern and innovative application of the ancient Chinese sculpture modeling concepts. They are mainly manifested in three aspects: image re-expression, material re-substitution, and new ideas.

4. Summary

The inheritance of ancient Chinese sculpture in modern and contemporary sculpture education in China is the spiritual interaction between the foundation of realistic sculpture and the expression of contemporary art and ancient Chinese sculpture. Through systematic review of this article, we have a clear understanding of the system of inheritance of ancient Chinese sculptures, the process of Chinese ancient sculptures entering China’s modern and contemporary sculpture education system, and the use of ancient Chinese sculptures in contemporary sculpture creation.

References