

## Thought on Creation and Collection of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History

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### Abstract

Based on the development history of Chinese revolution, the recording in the form of painting can help to restore the scene by combining the related historic theme, thus enhance the authenticity of creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history and objectively help to raise collectors' collection hobby and interest. This paper discusses the creation and collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history so as to realize comprehensive understanding of the creation and collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history and thus promote the development of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

**Key words:** Chinese contemporary; Revolutionary historical themes; Creation; Collection

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### INTRODUCTION

The paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history objectively describe the development history of Chinese revolution and, meanwhile, restore and reproduce the historical background of Chinese revolution, so they have an important position in historical process of development of Chinese painting. Meanwhile, to promote the development of collection of paintings

with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolution, we should encourage the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, guarantee the integrity and accuracy of the creation theme and thus realize the collection value of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

## 1. CREATION OF PAINTINGS WITH THE THEME OF CONTEMPORARY CHINESE REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY

### 1.1 Development Course of Creation of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History

The contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly refers to the period since the outburst of the May 4<sup>th</sup> Movement, namely after the outburst of "the May 4<sup>th</sup> Movement" in 1919, announcing the end of old democratic revolution and meanwhile ushering in the new-democratic revolution led by the proletariat. Therefore, as for the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, it is required to scientifically take materials to guarantee the scientificity, accuracy and appropriateness of the background for creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history based on the development of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. Besides, in consideration of the development of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, we should scientifically select background materials; that is to say, we should select materials and conceive our paintings concerning Kuomintang-Communist cooperation, War of Resistance against Japan, War of liberation and modernization construction by combining the practical revolutionary backgrounds so as to guarantee proper creation materials selected and distinct themes. With the development of painting with the theme of contemporary

Chinese revolutionary history, artists pay more attention to the pursuit and expression of artistic emotions, try to reasonably sketch the center of creation through proper creation techniques and patterns of manifestation and, meanwhile, highlight the center in combination with the application of related background materials. Artists gradually master the creation inspiration, pay attention to the selection and application of painting materials, meanwhile, and highlight the creation idea and main thought with diversified creation techniques so as to push the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history in the creation directions of diversity, individuality and centralization, gradually lead the development of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history toward prosperity and help the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history to occupy a position in the market. The outstanding artists in the process of the creation, development and prosperity of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history include Dong Xiwen, Zhan Jianjun, Luo Gongliu and Chen Yifei etc.. Their masterpieces include the *Founding Ceremony*, drawn by Dong Xiwen, the *Tunnel Warfare*, drawn by Luo Gongliu, and the *Ode to the Yellow River*, drawn by Chen Yifei.

## **1.2 Factors Influencing the Creation of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History**

With the development of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history and the influence of artists' ideological understanding, creation inspiration and professional skills on the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, artists usually have different opinions about figure description, environment setting, scene design, application of painting style and other conceptions during the process of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. It is exactly this that gave rise to various paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

### **1.2.1 Influence of Ideological Understanding on the Creation of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History**

The influence of ideological understanding on the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly refers to artists' first understanding of the works created by themselves, namely, the understanding and changes in understanding of works created in their mind during the process of contacting, understanding and creating the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history; this is the key which leads artists to create paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. For instance, Xu Li, an artist, who once influenced the ideological understanding of artists, made a comment:

Compared with the past paintings, the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history have been improved greatly. However, the lack of adequate understanding of an historical event or the uncomprehensive understanding of a historical epoch severely restricts the artists' inspiration for the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history and will result in the failure of artistic works in the serious condition.

However, Qu Zhi, an artist, thought that artists' own understanding of a historical event was the fundamental driving force and energy source to restrict the exploration in the historical event and factors concerned and, meanwhile, the key to restrict the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

### **1.2.2 Influence of Creation Inspiration on the Creation of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History**

The influence of creation inspiration on the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly refers to that the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history is simultaneously affected by artists' creation inspiration, which also determines the success or failure of the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. The creation inspiration is the ideological guidance for artists' artistic creation and the emphasis of artistic conception; meanwhile, artists' own artistic culture, artistic appeal, innovative understanding of history and all other aspects objectively influence their application level of creation inspiration in the process of creating paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. For instance, Yu Kemin, an artist, once made the following analysis on the influence of creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history:

The influence of artists' creation inspiration is the reason why it is difficult to make breakthroughs and progress in the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history in short time. Artists' understanding of related events under the historical background of contemporary revolutions mainly influences their creation inspiration. Therefore, their understanding of contemporary revolutionary history significantly restricts their application of creation inspiration and, meanwhile, affects their artistic sense of aesthetics and overall designability in the process of creating paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

Thus, to enhance artists' creation level of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, it is firstly required to raise artists' understanding level of relevant events, guarantee that artists can propel the innovative application of creation inspiration by combining the background and emancipating their mind, guarantee to stably use their creation inspiration in the creation process of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history and thus

promote the development of creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. For instance, artists who live in different times may have different creation modes and conception angles during the creation of paintings with the same theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history due to their different opinions on life; in the meantime, such different opinions are also the key to determine whether their works is close to or around the practical life and, more importantly, the key to determine whether their artistic works created is successful.

### **1.2.3 Influence of Professional Skills on the Creation of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History**

The influence of professional skills on the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly refers to the influence of the comprehensive application of artists' drawing skills, artistic creation level and relevant artistic means on the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. Artists' level of professional skills determines the development space for their artistic works and corresponding achievements and is also the key to determine the development of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. Besides, artists' level of professional skills also restricts artists' direction for creation of artistic works. For example, Xu Li once made the following comment on artists' professional skills:

Artists' level of professional skills determines the space and range of selection of materials for artistic works, meanwhile, determines the application level of relevant historical themes, and thus influences whether all aspects of resources can be used in the creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history to win recognition of all sectors of society, so it is the key to determine the success or failure of creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

In the process of creating paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, artists' professional skills have decisive effects on the trueness of historical original appearance restored and the authenticity shown in the main idea of works created, so their professional skills are the key factors determining the success or failure of creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

## **2. COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS WITH THE THEME OF CONTEMPORARY CHINESE REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY**

The collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly refers to those collected by individuals according to their hobbies or by art galleries and such works does not

have high market liquidity. Therefore, because of the uniqueness of the value, the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history are created by artists based on their interest so their development is relatively not complete enough and slow.

### **2.1 Collection of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History Because of Personal Preference**

The collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history because of personal preference mainly refers to that related personnel, who like researching the Red Revolution, collect relevant artistic works to realize and enhance their comprehensive understanding of the contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. As a matter of fact, the collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history is mainly because of some people's personal preference and they mainly prefer to collect the works created by the artists in a specific historical period or by those they like. Because of this form of collection, the painting works with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history usually have high values, are not affected by the market economy, and are of artistic research values for the research on the Red Revolution and the creation techniques of related artists. For example, the *Long March, Red around Mountains* and other works drawn by Li Keran, a well-known Red Revolution artist usually have very high artistic research values and high market circulation value accordingly.

### **2.2 Collection of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History in Art Galleries**

The collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly means realizing the collection and management of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history in the form of art gallery and making them available for appreciation by artists and people through exhibition and exchange. This can help to realize the scientific management over the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history and to attain the goal of holding exhibitions of artistic works and highlighting the main ideas in specific periods. For instance, at the theme exhibition of *Impregnable Fortress – National Responsibility in the War of Resistance against Japanese* held by Guangdong Museum of Art in 2015, the exhibited works of the museum included the traditional Chinese paintings, oil paintings, prints, sculptures and photography works reflecting the history of the War of Resistance against Japanese as well as the outstanding works of the War of Resistance against Japanese created by specially invited famous artists based on the theme and recommended by all municipal bureaus of culture, broadcasting, television, press and publication, with a

total number of approximately 300 pieces (sets). The whole exhibition covered the course of Chinese nation of awakening, striving and its final independence and described the magnificent epic poem of ceaseless self-improvement and tenacious endeavor. Art galleries' exhibitions of artistic works can help to expand the influence of works with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, enhance the economic value of collection and also accelerate the artists' creation and development of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

### **2.3 Diversified Collection of Paintings With the Theme of Contemporary Chinese Revolutionary History**

The diversified collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history mainly refers to the collection mode combining individual collection and art galleries' collection and is also the most important collection mode at present. The application of diversified collection modes can not only help art galleries to comprehensively collect the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history but also help to enhance individuals' understanding of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history so as to enhance artists' initiative and enthusiasm in creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history. For instance, Jiang Bin, a famous collector of paintings with the theme of red revolution, possesses two art management centers under his name, which mainly collect the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, including about ten thousand of works concerning the red revolution with the economic value up to RMB several billions; meanwhile, because of his sense of social responsibility, he donated over 2,000 artistic works concerning red revolution to the government's art galleries, greatly promoting the local art galleries' collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history.

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## **3. SIGNIFICANCE OF CREATION AND COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS WITH THE THEME OF CONTEMPORARY CHINESE REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY**

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### **3.1 True Reflection of the Process of Construction of Chinese Socialism**

Practically achieving the collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history is an important basis for the research on the process of construction of Chinese socialism, so the research on the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history in specific historical periods can

provide important references for the history of Chinese revolution and is the scientific research on the history of the development of Chinese art. The paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history, which aim to outline the historical events and people's activities in a specific historical period, are the reproduction of historical scenes, so they are important bases for historiography researches.

### **3.2 Spiritual Pillar Leading the National People to Unit as One and Revitalize the Chinese Nation**

Earnestly achieving the collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history is not only an important way to publicize the national integrity, the awareness of national fate and national spirit but also the spiritual pillar to comprehensively revitalize the Chinese nation. In addition, the process of creation of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history is simultaneously the process of the construction of China's contemporary construction, so we can not only analyze the related activities in a specific period but also analyze the national spirit of the Chinese nation in a specific period when analyzing China's construction in combination with the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history; therefore, such paintings are the key for boldness and innovation. In the meantime, they are also the key to scientifically put forward the Chinese national spirit in the period of construction of socialist modernization, and the appeal to promote the national spirit of "Chinese dream and my dream" and thus to propel the need for national spirit in the process of socialist construction.

### **3.3 Helping to Promote the Comprehensive Development of Artistic Creation**

During the creation of woodcut art, oil painting and traditional Chinese painting etc., the injection of elements of red revolution and the combination with related characteristics of traditional folk arts can help to effectively combine Chinese elements with artistic works to push forward the creation of "Chinese, national and humanistic" art and have significant influences on people in various periods. Even to this day, the paintings with the theme of history of red revolution are also of great significance for the harmonious socialist construction. The paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history were the development and innovation of traditional fine art works in the 1960s and, meanwhile, met the need of construction of socialist modernization; in combination with the development and a series of achievements made, the paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history also meet the need of socialist construction and thus promote the development of art cognition from many angles such as art, history and politics.

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## CONCLUSION

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The creation and collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history are the important basis for the process of construction of Chinese socialism. Besides, the combination with the research on the creation and collection of paintings with the theme of contemporary Chinese revolutionary history can help realize the effective combination between “artistic style” and “Chinese elements” and thus propel the “national” “Chinese” and “international” development of artistic works.

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