Research on The Similarities and Differences Between Graduation Exhibition and Art Exhibition

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Abstract: A complete work of art is composed of three parts: the artist's conception, the work and the viewer's perception. The absence of either side will make it impossible for the author and the audience to empathize and communicate. Graduation exhibition is a sacrifice of self and pursuit of idealism. Art exhibition is an internal exploration and social criticism. What both have in common is that they both give art educational and social significance. The difference is that the graduation exhibition is a formal, highly targeted exhibition of achievements that paves the way for future choices. The art exhibition is an open, crystallization of an art period, and a summary made by artists for themselves.

Keywords: Art Exhibition; Marcel Duchamp.

1. Introduction

There are no two identical people in the world, and no one can fully understand others.

When an artist conveys his own ideas to the viewers, he often undergoes three layers of dilution, and the original meaning also undergoes three times of attenuation. The idea in the artist's mind is from the pure theoretical abstract concept to the carrier of the picture in the objective world through his own creation, which is the first dilution; When the viewer sees the picture, the amount of information and perception received by the viewer becomes the second layer of dilution; This is the third layer of dilution when the viewer forms his unique understanding of the picture by combining these information with the things he perceives, his life experience, education experience and other values.

2. Graduation Exhibition

2.1. Incomplete ‘three-layer dilution’

In order to make the works can still arouse the emotional or spiritual resonance between the viewer and the creator after three layers of dilution, when the creator conceives the works in his mind, he needs to express the abstract concepts such as emotions and concepts he needs to express in a more forceful and exaggerated way. Only in this way, when the original concept fades by the ‘three layers’ mechanism, the publics have the opportunity to get the real feelings and the information that the artists originally wanted to express.

Strictly speaking, compared with the relatively independent art exhibition, the graduation exhibition will not encounter a complete three-level dilution, which needs to be explained from three angles. Firstly, from the perspective of creators, the main creative group of the graduation exhibition is students. At the early stage of artistic conception, students often have vague creative impulses, which often come from some flash ideas and inspiration, and cannot form a complete system, which also lacks enough moving creative purposes and concepts for secondary output.

Secondly, from the perspective of works, students' painting skills are restricted by objective conditions such as age and knowledge, and it is difficult to grasp the main theme of creation completely. The graduation exhibition, as a display of students' achievements, is not only an entity of students' personal abilities, but also a part of the publicity of school's teaching quality. Therefore, the graduation exhibition also needs the guidance from teachers to protect students' works. The advantages are that the qualities of exhibited works are guaranteed. However, the disadvantages are obvious. Students' personalities are restrained, and some extensive energetic characteristics of students are weakened or even deleted. Under the premise of weakened personality and characteristics, it is tantamount to a fool's dream to express a strong self again.

Thirdly, from the perspective of the viewer, it has been known in advance that the works were created by the students at school. This preconceived information will be in the mind of the viewer, and will label the creator as a student. The label will make the creator confined to the identity of a student. The creator and the viewer are not communicating on the same level. Even for the viewer, the graduation exhibition is only a place to display the artistic works. It is not a place to follow the creator’s idea in spiritual level. At the stage of the creator's conception, the emotions and concepts to be expressed in the works have been greatly reduced, when transmitted to the viewer, they will be weaker. Soon after, less connection will exist between the two characters.

Graduation exhibition is the summary of students' achievements during their school years. At the same time, in order to obtain social recognition between the tutor group or the student group and pass the graduation defense, it is bound to sacrifice themselves. This kind of self-sacrifice is a compromise to reality, but it is also the easiest way to success at the current stage if you want to be recognized by the majority.

2.2. The Contradiction Between Imagination and Practice

The main creative body of graduation exhibition is students. Their works often have the problem that their ideas are too idealistic and cannot be fully expressed in actual creation. For example, the creators specially pursue profound philosophical thoughts related to traditional culture, or choose to reduce or eliminate the expression of self-consciousness in the works in order to get social recognition. There is also the pursuit of the extreme formal beauty, which makes the works empty and
thin, or the focus on the deep meaning of the connotation, which makes the pictures displayed in the works lack the aesthetic feeling that can bring visual pleasure.

In the final analysis, this phenomenon can be explained from three aspects. First, the time for students to learn drawing skills is too short. They only grasp the basic steps or can skillfully copy the works, but they are not proficient enough to bring advanced new ideas. Therefore, there is often a large deviation between what they think and the performance of their works.

Second, the students' social experience is limited and restricted by their age and living environment. Their experiences in art creation always appear pompous and unreal. This kind of ungrounded experience obtained through fantasy is empty and cannot withstand scrutiny. Therefore, the works often show a temperament that is divorced from reality.

Third, because students' experience in creation is limited after all, if they are not guided, when ideas are combined with creation, students' rich imagination will make the work without focus. If the creator wants to say too much, the focus of the work will not be the real focus.

From the results, the incomplete three-layer dilution experienced by the graduation exhibition is an inevitable result. The school should consider the depth of students' thinking in the topic selection stage, their actual drawing ability in the creation stage and publicity to the society. The final work is often a communal creation by students, teachers, schools and society. The creation is restricted by various conditions, and the creator's ideas shown in the pictures will also be affected by various factors. The works produced in such an environment lack freedom for students to express themselves; For works, there is a lack of pure artistic expression.

Graduation exhibition is a comprehensive exhibition of school teaching, and also a means to enhance the public's understanding of "beauty". Student works in the graduation exhibition are aesthetic, significant in society and consist with public environment. The graduation exhibition shows the achievements of the student group during the school period to society. Shows the charm of art to the public, and is responsible to improve the aesthetic of public.

3. Art Exhibition

3.1. Reinforcement of Self-awareness

Compared with graduation exhibitions, art exhibitions are more like media for artists to realize self-awareness and export their self-awareness through their works. As artists who are not bound by student identity, their creations often have strong personal style characteristics.

Art is defined by people. When people have aesthetic judgment on objective things, the objective world will have the difference between beauty and ugliness. This is an artificial subjective definition. When the majority of people can accept or understand this way of judging beauty and ugliness, these methods will form a set of imperceptible established rules, which will be widely spread among the public and society. As a group of artists who create art, they often have more acute observation, more delicate heart, more abundant imagination and more advanced vision than ordinary people. What an artist wants to do, in the final analysis, is to break through the existing and explore the new and unknown. This spirit of active exploration shows an unconventional way of thinking in the works and breaks away from the stereotyped thinking that people are accustomed to.

Artists are a special group who can create new aesthetic laws, which is why the rough and vivid rock paintings in the Lascaux caves were born, the magnificent Qin Terracotta Warriors and Horses appeared, the magnificent Hagia Sophia was created, and the artistic conception was depicted. The magnificent "A Thousand Miles of Rivers and Mountains" can only emerge immortal works such as "Mona Lisa" or "David" under the suppression of human nature in the Middle Ages. The galloping horses described by Xu Beihong, the sunflowers full of vitality in Van Gogh's heart, the dynamic shrimps in Qi Baishi's paintings, the urinals that Marcel Duchamp secretly sent to the exhibition... Real artists walk before the formation of aesthetic laws, they use works to break through the times The constraints imposed on oneself, re-understanding the world in a way beyond what people are accustomed to at present, and present this cognition of the world on the picture through artistic creation in one's own way, and then pass it on to more people.

This kind of advanced vision requires the artist to have the ability of sober and independent thinking, reflect and summarize in the continuous dialogue with himself, and finally surpass himself. Therefore, every artist will have a very strong self-consciousness in the process of creation. This self-consciousness is often expressed in the works in a more intense way, and it will naturally convey a strong self-color when it is presented to the viewer.

The enhanced self-consciousness, after experiencing the "three layers of dilution", can still bring the viewer a fierce visual and spiritual stimulation. The theme of the artist's creation and the emotions precipitated in the works can also be transmitted to the viewer in a more complete form, thus completing the spiritual communication between the artist and the viewer.

Art exhibition is a way for artists to export their own life experience and understanding of the world through a specific theme or social reality. The output of this self-consciousness is not only the artist's own understanding of things, but also the construction of a bridge between the artist and other individuals.

3.2. Criticism of Current Events and Social Problems

Excellent works of art are often controversial. Those artistic works that focus on practical matters or social problems are often more innovative and critical in their ideas or topics. The significance of their existence is no longer just a painting. These works of art resonate with people's thoughts through pictures, convey information with vision as the starting point, and through continuous in-depth thinking, and finally rise to the category of philosophy. Their rich social value will make the works get a new elevation.

The most compelling example of this is Pablo Picasso's Guernica anti-war theme of works. Picasso originally created decorative paintings for the Spanish pavilion at the 1937 Universal Paris Exposition, but the Guernica incident on April 26 of the same year completely angered the artist, who had moved to France far away from his hometown, so Picasso decided to use Guernica event as the theme of his painting. This cubist painting, composed of symbols and numerous body parts of victims, does not depict any artillery fire, but frankly reveals the trauma and despair brought by the war.

Guernica was sent to the Paris World's Fair, where thousands of viewers made extremely detailed personal
analyses and interpretations of the work, which ultimately provoked global complaints of war and protests against violence. With people's continuous in-depth thinking, Guernica has not only become Picasso's masterpiece in art history, but also a monument of global people's protest against the war.

When artists can achieve such social influence through artworks, such criticism of current events and social problems has philosophical depth. As a humanities subject, art is an inseparable whole as a social group composed of creators and viewers. In the complex entanglement between personality and society, the artist's creation gradually reveals the artist's own understanding of the world, and the art works are just the most tacit communication medium between the artist and the viewer.

If the analysis of a work of art can not be sufficiently clear and in-depth, then when the artist consciously guides the audience to think or criticize social problems in his personal exhibition, his art exhibition will not only be a bridge for communication between the creator and the audience, but also a medium for outputting the artist's own views. This strong influence on the general public is the responsibility of the times that every artist with a sense of responsibility and influence on the general public is the responsibility of the audience to think or criticize social problems in his personal and in-depth, then when the artist consciously guides the artist's creation gradually reveals the artist's own understanding of the world, and the art works are just the most tacit communication medium between the artist and the viewer.

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4. Comparison between Graduation Exhibition and Art Exhibition

4.1. Similarities

The author believes that there are three similarities between the graduation exhibition and the art exhibition: both kinds of exhibitions are creations within a specific period of time, the works of the exhibition have aesthetic value, and both make the exhibition have educational social significance.

First, both kinds of exhibitions show the created works by the creators within a specific period of time. The works of the graduation exhibition are usually created by students one to two years in advance, and then they are displayed as the graduation works of students upon graduation. The preparation of art exhibitions is often directly related to the number of works and the itinerary of artists. Some artists will accumulate their works to a certain amount, and then draw up a theme for the exhibition; Some artists may take the journey of finding inspiration or an unforgettable memory as the theme of the exhibition, and then start to create. Regardless of the specific reasons, the two kinds of exhibitions will eventually reflect the timeliness or the inherent meaning of the theme in the exhibition theme.

Secondly, the creators of the graduation exhibition and the art exhibition are people who have studied for a certain time and practiced in a large number, and have basically formed a relatively clear understanding of beauty. This understanding of beauty will be reflected in their works through the paintbrush in the hands of the creators. Therefore, whether it is a graduation exhibition or an art exhibition, the beauty in the hearts of the creators will become the yardstick of their own artistic creation, so the works will also have corresponding aesthetic value.

Finally, achieving the social significance of education through exhibitions is actually a process of imperceptible influence, and will not bring earth shaking changes just because of one exhibition. The original core purpose of the two kinds of exhibitions is to meet the material needs of artists. However, when people's material needs are met, the spiritual pursuit becomes more and more important. In this case, the significance of the exhibition is more to let more and more people understand that everyone can create unique art, and art is not an exclusive skill that only celebrities who exist in books can have. Education is a thing that will bloom and bear fruit only after it is slowly moistened. Art also needs time to change people's stereotype of certain things. From this perspective, graduation exhibition and art exhibition have the same social significance of education.

4.2. Differences

The author believes that the biggest difference between the graduation exhibition and the art exhibition lies in four points: the outward expression of personal emotions, the proficiency and even innovation of painting skills, the visual feeling brought by the two kinds of exhibitions to the viewers, and the creators' own sense of social responsibility and mission.

First of all, from the perspective of emotional expression, students' Graduation exhibitions are more constrained by various factors than art exhibitions. The complex social elements make the works created by the students not simple enough, nor can they transfer their own ideas to others through the works. There are too many complicated interference factors when the viewer receives the information conveyed in the works. To sum up, these restricted paintings often give people the first impression that the creator's mentality is immature or the picture completion is incomplete. However, the strong self-awareness of art exhibitions makes the works often have distinct personalities. After three layers of dilution, they still have enough exaggerated and vivid power to move people.

Secondly, from the perspective of mastery of painting skills, art exhibitions are generally more mature, more perfect and more worth seeing. This is just like when the project needs to design a scheme, the students' way of thinking is difficult to grasp the core needs of the customers. The inaccurate grasp of the needs will amplify the shortcomings of the scheme, show the immaturity of the plan, and thus the advantages of the scheme will be ignored. The practical operation possibility of the students' design scheme is far lower than that of the designers who really enter the society. The grasp of the details and the understanding of the customer's needs have a direct impact on the final presentation of the design scheme. In this regard, experienced designers can often consider a variety of problems and possibilities efficiently and quickly in a very short time, and integrate these possibilities into an overall scheme that meets customers' preferences, and prepare three to five alternatives in advance so that customers can make choices. However, the works of students are often more vigorous and straightforward, because the influence from the living environment and society has not destroyed the dream of youth. The pure heart will make their works more simple and straightforward. Perhaps they don't have so many skills to make the viewers feel amazing visually, but the students are sincere and patient, and they will make great efforts to present their paintings with delicate and true feelings. This kind of seriousness and sincerity is a talent that many artists can no longer regain.

Third, from the perspective of visual perception, the graduation exhibition shows some students' bold and careful color use methods or novel composition methods, which have a relatively complete aesthetic guidance function for ordinary viewers. However, in the eyes of people in the art industry and professional artists, the works of graduation exhibitions often
show an immature picture sense, and lack of understanding of the use of colors and the composition of works, showing a good-looking but not special overall tendency. As creators, it is also difficult for students to form a complete personal style. In contrast, artists will not stay in their own understanding of the characteristics of pigments and the composition of works. With the gradual growth of their understanding of the environment and the world, the artists’ way of understanding the world will reach a relatively mature and perfect stage. Under such conditions, the art works displayed often carry the artist's personal in-depth thinking, rather than the superficial beauty. Therefore, art exhibitions usually have a clear and unique personal style, and the aesthetic experience they bring is often more meaningful and valuable than graduation exhibitions.

Finally, from the perspective of social responsibility and mission, generally speaking, students' sensitivity to current issues and their depth of thinking on social issues cannot be compared with artists. Because students often haven't really entered the society, young people who grow up under the care of their families lack personal experience in understanding the macro world, so they can't empathize. In the face of social events, it is difficult for students to seriously consider the value behind the events with a mature, objective, calm and even indifferent attitude. Because they can't see the problems, it is difficult for them to have a corresponding sense of responsibility, and they are indifferent to the causes of the problems, and they will not think of actively thinking about ways to solve the problems. This is the limitation of habitual thinking and the normal manifestation of insufficient experience. Relatively speaking, with the continuous rise of social status, artists have a stronger sense of social identity and will take the initiative to undertake corresponding social responsibilities. When social responsibilities become an inseparable part of artists' lives, the spontaneous sense of mission will constantly urge artists to actively think about the core essence of human society, the essence of human beings and other philosophical issues, so as to find solutions to problems. These subconscious thoughts of artists will eventually be reflected in their works of art through brushes.

5. Conclusion

From a comprehensive perspective, the graduation exhibition is more like a prelude to the art exhibition. It is an open and patterned behavior that lays the foundation for the future development of students and is the product of group consciousness; The art exhibition is more like the answer that the artist gets from thinking about specific problems over a period of time. It is a sense of ceremony that is personal, personalized and completed to please himself. It is the product of personal behavior.

Strictly speaking, both of them shoulder the same heavy social responsibility, which is an indispensable way for people of different ages and social groups to improve their aesthetic quality. Through the exhibition, the creator, the organizer and the viewer can get what they need, and form a virtuous circle among the three, which is also helpful to the society.

It is worth mentioning that all artists are not born artists. They have also experienced the time of learning, which means that all artists are students before they become real artists, and they continue to learn and try to break through themselves throughout their lives. From this change of identity, there is no core difference between graduation exhibition and art exhibition. The present student union is the future artist, and the present artist is also a student in the sense of life.

References