

## MONSTERS IN WORKS OF CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

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Contemporary art is an art type that was born in the 1980s. It is a modern art form that emerged on the basis of modern and postmodern art, and has gradually become the mainstream of the art world in the 21st century. With the gradual improvement of living standards, artists' perception of life can be broadened and their experience is constantly enhanced with the support of modern technology. Contemporary artists' works are imaginative and unrestrained. After artistic creation, a large number of artistic images that ordinary people cannot understand appear in their works. In general, the works of contemporary artists have the characteristics of absurdity and weirdness. The creation of monster images in the works of contemporary artists also deviates from the traditional understanding of monsters. People are used as the source of the creation of monster images. Artists express their inner world through artistic creation, present their perception of society in their works, and provide people with a variety of art appreciation works. This article takes contemporary works as the research stage. On the basis of clearly defining the concept of contemporary art, it selects monster images in the works of contemporary artists and analyzes the absurdity of contemporary art works. It is hoped that it can communicate and explore the characteristics of contemporary art for practitioners in the art world.

Sendada's work "Dead Sun" is the pioneering work of contemporary art. Sendada gave a speech "Art is not a mouthpiece of politics" at the National Art Workers' Congress, which promoted the vigorous development of the contemporary art movement. Under the leadership of artists such as Sendada, human art history has entered the stage of contemporary art. Sendada, Li Xianting, the Gao brothers, Gu Dexin, Zhang Peili, Gao Minglu, Cui Jian and others are all representatives of contemporary art in various industries. The works they create are more closely related to real life. As the saying goes, "art comes from life, but is higher than life." The works of contemporary artists are inspired by their true feelings in real life, and their works reflect their understanding of real society [1].

Painting, music, architectural design and other fields are important art types that constitute contemporary art. The selection of monsters comes from the natural environment and real society. Through their perception and understanding of social life, they transform certain images into the image of "monsters", which is used as an important content of contemporary art creation to express their inner feelings about society. When creating works, contemporary artists use their imagination to perform special treatments on common objects in real life and transform them into artistic images that people cannot directly understand. In order to understand the connotation of an artist's work, the appreciator needs to understand the artist's life experience and the reasons for selecting the materials. In the process of art appreciation, they gradually go deep into the artist's heart. Although real life is the main source of an artist's creation, due to their extreme treatment of real materials, the monster images displayed in their works have the characteristics of abnormality, surrealism, alienation and horror, which often give people a direct and strong visual impact, allowing the monster images in the works of art to enter the hearts of the appreciators, and transition from visual impact to inner shock [2].

For example, the bride in a wedding dress in the film and television work "Corpse Bride" is actually a dead and corpse-like zombie. Compared with art forms such as painting and photography, film and television works have more intuitive impact and can more clearly and clearly express the artistic creation of the artist and the real world in his eyes. The zombie bride is a monster that does not conform to normal people's cognition,

but the artist endowed the zombie bride with human emotions when creating it, and created a dark romantic love story between the zombie bride and the young Victor. In film and television works, the zombie bride with purple skin, skeleton arms, and tattered wedding dress is undoubtedly a monster, but the director created a bond between the zombie and normal people, which is beyond the normal range of human understanding, and made the monster image of the zombie bride cute. The bugs that fell out of the zombie bride's eye sockets also seemed to be cute, diluting the atmosphere of horror, fear, and grotesqueness. Although the picture of the little bug coming out of the eye socket to comfort the zombie bride is full of horror, this behavior is full of humor because it gives the zombie bride the characteristics of "emotional frustration" of humans. The cute hobbits, mysterious elves, dwarves and hideous demons in the Lord of the Rings novel and the film and television works of the same name are all "monster" images that are beyond human understanding; the blue-skinned characters in Avatar also belong to the category of "monsters", which complement the bizarre plots. Under the director's imagination and the actors' superb performances, the monsters are given different characteristics. The surreal and abnormal "monster" images can often find corresponding images in real life. The combination of human characteristics and animal characteristics and the imaginative creation based on this are the main process of the "monster" image, presenting people with rich monster images and wonderful storylines.

The absurd monster images and bizarre plot creation are unique forms of expression in contemporary art, which can often cause people to have complex emotions such as fear, funny, thrilling, weird, and joy at the same time. From the analysis of the behavior of contemporary artists using real life as materials to create a variety of monster images, it can be seen that the creative behavior of contemporary artists is deeply affected by social changes. The rapid advancement and widespread application of technology in the 21st century have promoted historic changes in the living environment of mankind. With the improvement of economic development and the prosperity of society, people have developed new pursuits for art appreciation. Artistic creation that is simply bizarre and stimulates physiological reactions cannot meet people's artistic needs. Monsters in contemporary art works often have certain ideological connotations and exude the infinite vitality and charm of contemporary art [3].

As the level of social and economic development improves, people's pace of life accelerates, and the pressure they bear in social life is increasing. People struggle hard in the triple gap between work, life and the realization of their own value. Their inner depression, repression, sadness, pain and anxiety are reflected in artistic creation, creating countless bizarre images. Among them, the image of monsters is the release of people's inner self and the external reflection of contemporary people's survival pressure and psychological anxiety. For example, the monsters and humans bewitched by the Supreme Ring in "The Lord of the Rings" deeply reveal the difficulties of people living in troubled times and the price they pay for the satisfaction of their needs. The creators express the bizarre ideas hidden deep in their hearts and project their material pressure and mental pressure in real life onto the monster images they create.

Monsters, as images that frequently appear in the works of contemporary artists, are an important part of contemporary art creation and should be paid close attention to and studied by the art world. The essence of contemporary art can be seen from the images of monsters. Studying the creation of monster images in the works of contemporary artists can guide people to explore the inner depths of the creators from the absurd and weird appearance of the monsters, and connect with the inner heart of the audience, releasing their negative emotions such as depression and repression, so that they can get temporary spiritual relief and

emotional release in the process of art appreciation; at the same time, it also has practical significance for the increasing prosperity of contemporary art works.

#### *Sources and Literature:*

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### **THE ARTISTIC CHARM AND CULTURAL INHERITANCE OF MIAO FOLK DANCE**

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As an important part of Miao culture, Miao folk dance carries rich historical memory and national emotions. This paper aims to explore the artistic charm of Miao folk dance, including its unique dance style, movement characteristics and cultural connotation, and analyze its inheritance and development path in modern society. Through in-depth research on Miao dance, we can not only appreciate its unique artistic charm, but also better understand the profound heritage of Miao culture.

The main materials used in this study are relevant literature, such as historical documents, research papers, and books related to Miao folk dance. The research methodology includes a literature review, analysis of the artistic charm and cultural connotation of Miao folk dance, investigation of its inheritance and development methods, and identification of the challenges and opportunities it faces. Through these approaches, this study provides a comprehensive understanding of the artistic charm and cultural inheritance of Miao folk dance in modern society.

The research delves into the artistic allure and cultural legacy of the Miao folk dance, a cultural treasure of the Miao people in China, renowned for its distinctive style and profound significance. The study examines the dance's unique artistic traits, movement characteristics, and its role as a vessel of cultural heritage, as well as how it has been preserved and adapted in contemporary society.

**Unique Artistic Expression.** The Miao folk dance is distinguished by its unique style, which combines fervent and unrestrained rhythms with gentle and nuanced emotional expressions. The dance movements are meticulously crafted, reflecting a harmonious blend of the dancers' inner strength and external manifestations. This balance showcases the resilience and tenderness of the Miao people, conveyed through body movements and limb articulations.

**Rich Movement Vocabulary.** The Miao folk dance boasts a rich and diverse movement vocabulary, with choreography that mimics natural phenomena such as birds in flight and fish swimming, as seen in the "Lusheng Dance," and movements that depict agricultural activities like plowing, sowing, harvesting, and threshing in the "Drum Dance." These movements are not only aesthetically pleasing but also imbued with cultural significance and ethnic sentiment.

**Cultural Depth.** As a critical medium for Miao cultural transmission, the dance encapsulates the historical memory, religious beliefs, and ethnic emotions of the Miao people.