

psychological state. In Chinese surrealist art, while there is also room for personal interpretation, there is a stronger emphasis on the cultural and collective understanding. The use of traditional Chinese cultural symbols means that the viewer's cultural background plays a more significant role in understanding the work, and the art may be seen as a commentary on Chinese cultural identity and its evolution.

The presence of common dream - like elements between European and Chinese surrealist artists suggests that the human subconscious has certain universal characteristics. Dreams seem to follow some basic principles of illogic, distortion, and unexpected combinations across different cultures. This universality may be due to the fundamental nature of the human mind, which processes information and experiences in similar ways regardless of cultural background.

The Influence of Culture on Dream Imagery. The cultural - specific dream imagery highlights the role of culture in shaping our subconscious expressions. European and Chinese cultures have distinct histories, religions, and philosophical traditions, which are reflected in the artists' works. These cultural differences provide rich sources of inspiration for surrealist artists, and they also challenge the idea of a one - size - fits - all interpretation of surrealist art. Understanding the cultural context is essential for a more comprehensive appreciation of the dream imagery in surrealist works.

The Significance of Dream Imagery in Art. Dream imagery in surrealist art serves multiple purposes. It allows artists to explore the subconscious, which is often hidden from our daily, rational awareness. By bringing these subconscious thoughts and emotions to the surface, artists can offer new perspectives on the human condition. In both European and Chinese surrealist art, dream imagery also functions as a form of social and cultural commentary. It can critique modern society, question traditional values, and explore new ways of seeing the world. For example, the distorted figures and unexpected juxtapositions can be seen as a response to the rapid changes and uncertainties of the modern.

Conclusion. The dream imagery in the works of Surrealist artists from Europe and China from the 20th century to the early 21st century is rich and diverse, reflecting the cultural characteristics of each region while also embodying the commonalities of Surrealist art. This study helps to expand the research dimensions of Surrealist art and provides theoretical support for cross-cultural art exchanges. In the future, in-depth exploration can be carried out from more diverse perspectives and a wider range of works.

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RESEARCH ON CHINESE OIL PAINTING IN THE URBAN CONTEXT OF THE 20th AND 21st CENTURIES

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This research aims to explore the evolution and characteristics of Chinese oil painting within the urban contexts of the 20th and 21st centuries. The study seeks to understand how urbanization has influenced the themes, techniques, and cultural significance of oil painting in China, and how these artworks reflect the socio-political and economic changes of the period.

The study is significant as it bridges the gap between art history and urban studies, providing a comprehensive analysis of how urban environments have shaped and been represented in Chinese oil painting. This research contributes to the broader understanding of the interplay between art and urbanization, offering insights that are valuable for both academic and practical applications in cultural studies and urban planning.

Materials and methods. The study employs a multidisciplinary approach, combining visual analysis of representative oil paintings from key periods (pre-1949, post-reform era, and 21st-century globalization) with archival research into artists' writings, exhibition catalogs, and urban policy documents. Case studies of pivotal artists (e.g., Xu Beihong, Liu Xiaodong) and movements (e.g., Political Pop, Cynical Realism) are contextualized through sociological and art-historical frameworks [1; 3]. Comparative analysis with global urban art trends further grounds the discussion.

Results and their discussion. Chinese oil painting, introduced in the early 20th century, has evolved dynamically alongside China's rapid urbanization and sociocultural transformations [2]. In this research we have considered how urban environments encompassing industrialization, globalization, and digitalization have influenced the themes, techniques, and aesthetics of Chinese oil painting [1]. The research was at identifying the relationship between urban development and artistic innovation, and addressing gaps in understanding the local adaptation of Western media within the framework of modern Chinese culture [4; 5].

This study examines how urban contexts – spanning industrialization, globalization, and digitalization – have shaped the themes, techniques, and aesthetics of Chinese oil painting. The research aims to uncover the interplay between urban development and artistic innovation, addressing gaps in understanding the localized adaptation of Western mediums within China's modern and contemporary cultural framework [4; 5].

The findings reveal three phases of urban influence: early 20th-century works blended Western techniques with traditional motifs to negotiate national identity amid modernization; post-1980s paintings critiqued urbanization's social costs through hyperrealist and ironic styles; 21st-century creations integrate digital media and globalized narratives, reflecting hybrid identities. Notably, urbanization catalyzed shifts from collective political themes to individualized, market-driven expressions. The study debates tensions between commercialization and artistic authenticity, as well as the role of oil painting in constructing China's "urban imaginary."

Conclusion. Urbanization has been a pivotal force in redefining Chinese oil painting, fostering both continuity with cultural heritage and rupture through global engagement. The research underscores the medium's unique capacity to document and interrogate China's urban metamorphosis, offering insights for cross-cultural art studies. Future interdisciplinary explorations could further decode the symbiotic relationship between urban ecosystems and visual culture in non-Western contexts.

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