



# Exploring the "absurd" situation in painting creation

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**Abstract:** Absurdity is the emotional expression of human suffering. When human beings recognize their own absurd situation and the cruel reality of the world, we should dare to face and resist the absurdity of the world, seek self value and pursue happiness in nothingness and meaninglessness. The painting performance of absurd expression has the characteristics of reconstructed image proportion and unlimited imagination. This paper first analyzes the painting performance characteristics of "absurd" expression, and then studies the expression of "absurd" situation in painting creation.

**keyword:** Painting creation; absurdity; situation; performance characteristics

## 1 The painting performance characteristics of "absurdity" expression

One of the characteristics of "absurdity" in painting is juxtaposed image combination. Juxtaposition here refers to a form of combination. Image combination refers to the simultaneous appearance of unrelated things in life in a picture through the subjective conception of the creator, which is a way of rearrangement and combination of things.

Usually, the creators put together some things that are not in the scope of conventional cognition. They need unlimited imagination, fantastic sense of humor, unique observation ability, breaking people's habitual understanding of objects, enlarging some parts of things that are different from the general perspective or collage some images, and using realistic means of expression to make people's familiar objects unusable. The familiar ways are combined together, which makes the viewer think when appreciating and produce new association in the doubt.

Another feature of "absurdity" in painting performance is the proportion of reconstructed image. Reconstruction refers to reconstruction. The proportion of the image here is different from the size of the usual painting. It is designed by the creator himself, which does not necessarily conform to the normal logic. Usually, when watching a painting, people will not feel attracted by the large area of the picture, so the proportion of the picture object is closely related to the intention of the creator. For example, in the painting "the wrong mirror", one eye occupies the whole picture. The black pupil in this eye is very prominent and will be seen by the viewer for the first time. The viewer will completely focus on the black pupil in the process of appreciating the painting, and then continue to observe the sky around the pupil. The proportion arrangement after the design will reach an obvious level. The visual tension, the huge eyes and the local blue sky will achieve a strong sense of contrast, thus forming a sense of absurdity, which strongly shakes people's hearts.

## 2 The absurd situation expression of virtual illusion in painting

### 2.1 The transformation between dream and reality in painting

Paul Delvaux's works are one of them. He shows us a mysterious world full of fantasy and reality. In his works, most of the plots related to "dream" are used, but they are very specific and real when depicting objects. This sense of contrast connects the dream and the reality, and realizes the transformation between the virtual fantasy and the

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doi: 10.18282/le.v10i1.2230

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real nature. It expresses his understanding of love, life and death, and human nature, and reflects the absurd situation reappearance of his virtual dream painting. In Delvaux's works childhood, his living environment also had a great impact on him. He likes to take the tram and is keen on the study of bone specimens. When he studied architecture in his early years, he was familiar with the street view and other buildings, which made him still keep the rigorous description of these objects in his later paintings. The architecture or rigorous engineering deconstruction and other objects are also a major feature of his works. The architecture in his works is separated from the concept of time and space, and exists independently in the picture. Whether it is depicted in the morning or night, history or the future or the present, there is no specific meaning in his picture. It can be said that his picture is a real illusion of his own random construction.

## **2.2 the expression of illusion image in painting**

As a pioneer artist of German new figurative painting, Daniel Richter's artistic creation has far-reaching influence. The most representative feature of his works lies in the illusory image produced by the dreamlike color, the strong expression of emotion and space, and the rendering of virtual dreamland with violent, absurd and dramatic scenes. In Richter's early works, most of them were decorative style. In his continuous creation, he gradually added abstract and exaggerated elements, while in his later paintings, he gradually became figurative. It is the collision of rich colors that creates a kind of dreamland, which enables the viewer to enjoy the visual impact in the dreamland and cause spiritual resonance. He is good at blending social current affairs and human morality into painting, and expressing the real meaning behind the events in a subtle way. His paintings not only create color conflicts and line arrangement to express the absurd illusion, but also have careful layout and control, forming a contradictory contrast between the dark background and the bright color block, showing the characters and situations through the stacking of pigments and blurred strokes, which has an effect of observing the surrounding things under the thermal sensitive instrument.

## **3 The expression of "absurd" situation in painting creation**

### **3.1 Fairy tale color in self creation**

In the process of creation, there is a strong sense of fairy tale in the overall atmosphere and color of the painting. Rich color, but did not deliberately create a strong color contrast. For creation, color is a channel that can convey the strength of emotion. When colors overlap with each other, rich visual effects can be formed. For example, when the transparency of the same color is high, the superimposed picture will highlight the sense of space and hierarchy [2]; the superimposition of different colors leads to color collision and fusion of new colors, which can also add accidental vitality to the picture. With the same shape and color, when the color transparency is reduced and the stacking effect is formed, the picture will have a sense of imbalance and movement, which is easy to make people have a sense of illusion and uneasiness, thus adding a sense of absurdity to the picture. This kind of transparent stacking of colors will also appear repeatedly in artistic creation.

### **3.2 Dream and reality in self creation**

Dreams play a guiding role in painting creation. When we have dreams, we have the desire to express. This desire is the so-called absurd consciousness. From the form of expression of dreams in personal painting, the depiction of objects is interspersed with realistic and abstract techniques in order to form a contrast in the picture. For example, when painting houses, the image of cloud will be more general. In the picture, we can use some exaggerated techniques to express the unreal feelings. For example, the depiction of the trunk is more curved and twisted, which runs through the picture. The blue "unknown object" twining between the branches gives people imagination. It can be the image of a snake or the twining of fog, which makes people have weird plots. Using a large number of points to arrange and combine in the picture, this kind of dense point like object will make people feel uncomfortable and distant. At the same time, it also improves the density and texture of the object, reflecting the abstract uncertainty.

### **3.3 Dramatic narration in self painting creation**

The dramatic narration in painting works mainly refers to two aspects: one is the composition of theater style; the other is the specific description of image. From the perspective of picture space form and theater style composition, using the stack of irregular color blocks to form a repeated irregular picture can enhance the sense of space visually.

In the painting, the author deliberately arranged the picture more compact, leaving little space. It presents a more “full” effect visually. The space is divided into several parts by using the objects in the picture. If each object is regarded as a “point” of different sizes in the picture, their position and shape size in the picture also have an impact on the stability of space. Through the compact and superposition of objects to create a tense atmosphere. For another example, in the scene of a room, the author uses the irregular corner of the wall and through the wall to create a multi-level space. The objects in the house are scattered, and a number of “different time and space” are connected in series through some small tools or lines.

In the second aspect, the author uses a little montage editing technique to create a sense of conflict through the deconstruction and reorganization of the picture. After painting a work, the author cuts it and collages it in another painting to form a new way of language expression. In this way, the sense of order of the picture is destroyed, and various images of the picture squeeze each other to form a new space.

## 4 Conclusion

To sum up, in the creation of modern painting, “absurdity” is a booming art phenomenon. In this process, many artists are constantly trying and exploring, hoping to create the most touching paintings that reflect the real phenomenon and the heart, so as to convey their own thinking and understanding to the audience. Therefore, artists should observe the world from a unique perspective, without too much interference, and have a certain personal space to create and express this absurd or real living environment. The absurdity in painting, as an art style acceptable to the public, is just in line with their aesthetic needs. In this process, people can easily and cheerfully watch the paintings, and then cause some thinking. This is one of the existence values of absurdity. It builds a bridge for art creators and viewers. This bridge not only shortens the appreciators and works, but also improves the quality of art. It shortens the distance between the creator and the appreciator.

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