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**Research Article** 



# A Study on the Application of Traditional Ink Painting Art Elements in Art Design

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Received: 26 August 2024 Accepted: 01 September 2024 Learning the value of traditional art and applying it to art design is of great value to the development and inheritance of art, therefore, we propose the research on the application of traditional ink painting art elements in art design. Based on the development of ink painting, we analyze the performance and characteristics of traditional ink painting art elements from four perspectives, namely, line, ink color change, flat composition and mood beauty, and analyze the application of the above traditional ink painting art elements based on specific design cases.

Keywords: Traditional Ink Painting Art Elements; Art Design; Line; Ink Color Variation; Flat

Composition; Contextual Beauty;

#### INTRODUCTION

As an important form of traditional painting, traditional ink painting has a rich and unique composition of artistic elements. Ink painting uses ink as the main raw material and creates a rich sense of hierarchy and space through different changes in ink color such as intensity, dryness, wetness, thickness, etc. The use of ink color not only reflects the artist's skill, but also conveys the artist's emotion and mood [1-2]. White space is one of the important expressive techniques in ink painting, which creates an ethereal and far-reaching mood by contrasting the blank part of the white space with the ink color. White space is not only the treatment of the picture, but also the purification and sublimation of the soul. At the same time, ink painting emphasizes the expressive power of lines, which play the role of carrying on and embellishing in the picture. The use of lines can express the morphological characteristics of the subject, and also convey the painter's emotions and mood [3-4]. The smoothness, change and rhythm of lines are all important parts of the artistic elements of ink painting. Analyzed from an overall perspective, ink painting pursues the vivid expression of chiaroscuro, emphasizing the vividness of the picture and the expression of emotions. Through unique brushwork and use of ink colors, the artist makes the picture show flow, change and rhythm, in order to convey the artist's emotion and mood. In terms of subject matter, ink painting has a wide range of themes and subjects, covering various elements such as landscapes, birds and flowers, figures, animals, architecture and so on [5-6]. Different themes and subjects show the diversity of traditional Chinese culture and natural beauty, and also reflect the painter's thoughts and feelings about nature and life. It can be argued that ink painting emphasizes the influence of the painter's state of mind and cultivation on his works. Ink and wash painters emphasize inner tranquility and condensation, and express their emotions and realm through the use of brush and ink, Ink and wash paintings are often characterized by a profound mood and Zen, making the viewer feel the inner world of the painter and his thoughts on nature and life [7-8].

On the technical basis of the above artistic characteristics, traditional ink painting has unique inspirational and guiding value for art design <sup>[9]</sup>. Analyzed from the perspective of simplicity and white space, in the fields of graphic design and interior design, designers often draw on the simplicity of ink painting to create a fresh and elegant visual effect through clean lines and white space treatment. This design method not only meets the aesthetic demand of modern people, but also reflects the inheritance and innovation of traditional culture <sup>[10]</sup>. From the perspective of mood and emotional expression, in design, designers can create a unique mood and emotional atmosphere through the use of color, shape, material and other elements, so that the design work has a stronger infectious force and resonance. Most prominently, ink painting, as a treasure of traditional culture, has important reference significance for modern art design in terms of its artistic elements and expression methods <sup>[11-12]</sup>. In design, designers can combine the elements of traditional ink painting with modern design methods to create design works with national characteristics and cultural heritage. This combination of innovation and tradition not only enriches the design language, but also

promotes the inheritance and development of traditional culture. In addition, ink painting has an important role in inspiring interior space design through the change of ink color and the treatment of white space levels. Through the use of color, light and shadow, material and other elements, designers can create an indoor environment with a sense of hierarchy and spatiality, so that people can feel comfortable and happy in it [13].

On the basis of the above, this paper proposes the research of the application of traditional ink painting art elements in art design.

#### 1 THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADITIONAL INK PAINTING

Analyzing the mainstream trends of traditional ink painting at different stages of its development, using time as a yardstick.

Ink painting is said to have begun in the Tang Dynasty, a period when ink painting began to emerge as a new form of painting. Ink painting in the Tang Dynasty mainly focused on landscapes, emphasizing the expression of the charm and mood of natural scenery. Painters began to explore the use of ink as the main material, and through the harmonization of water and the use of brushwork, they created ever-changing images and moods on rice paper. In the Tang Dynasty, Wang Wei put forward the idea that "ink is the most important", which had a profound influence on the development of ink painting in later generations.

During the Five Dynasties period, the art field remained vibrant despite social unrest, and the techniques of ink painting gradually matured during this period, as painters began to pay more attention to the use of brush and ink and the arrangement of the composition. In addition to landscape painting, ink and watercolor painting also began to involve figures, birds and flowers, and other subjects, with more diverse styles. At the same time, many representative works of ink painting appeared, which reached a high level in terms of technique and mood.

The Song and Yuan Dynasties were the heyday of culture and art in Chinese history, and ink painting also ushered in its golden age, reaching unprecedented heights and becoming the mainstream form of painting at that time. Painters made a lot of innovations in techniques, such as the use of dry brush, wet brush, broken ink, splashing ink and other techniques, which made ink painting more expressive and diversified. In addition, Song and Yuan ink painting not only focuses on the performance of techniques, but also emphasizes the creation of mood and the expression of emotions. Through the use of ink and brush and the arrangement of the composition, the painters conveyed a deep understanding of nature, life and the universe [14-15]. In this way, they are able to convey a deep sense of nature, life, and the universe.

During the Ming and Qing Dynasties and in modern times, with the changes in the social environment and the introduction of Western culture, ink painting has faced the pressure of change in its inheritance. Painters continued to inherit and develop the classic techniques and aesthetic concepts of ink painting to maintain its unique artistic charm. At the same time, many painters have begun to try to combine ink painting with western painting techniques to create new art forms and styles. This kind of integration and innovation not only enriches the expression of ink painting, but also makes it more in line with the aesthetic demand of modern people. In the process of inheritance and change, ink painting has gradually formed a diversified development pattern. There are painters who adhere to the traditional brush and ink techniques, and there are also artists who are brave enough to explore new fields. Together, they promote the continuous development and progress of ink painting.

To summarize, the mainstream trend of traditional ink painting at different stages shows an evolutionary process from its origin, maturity, heyday to inheritance and change. Each stage has its own unique style and characteristics, which together constitute the rich and colorful artistic landscape of ink painting.

## 2 UNIFIED INK PAINTING ART ELEMENTS ANALYSIS

## 2.1 Traditional ink painting lines

Lines play a vital role in ink painting and are regarded as the skeleton of the picture. The use of lines can not only outline the form of objects, but also convey the painter's emotion and mood.

Their specific characteristics are analyzed as shown in Table 1.

haracteristics		

Characteristic	Specific manifestations		
Strong expressiveness	Lines can accurately and vividly depict the morphological features of objects, such as the undulations of mountains and rivers, the branches and leaves of trees, etc.		
Emotional carrier	The thickness, intensity, dryness, and wetness of lines can convey the emotional fluctuations and inner worl of the painter.		
Diverse techniques	se techniques  Ink painters create rich and diverse line effects through various brushstrokes such as center, side, i and backward strokes.		

It can be seen that the lines in ink painting are characterized by smoothness and variety, and through different strokes and strengths, the texture, dynamics and vitality of the objects can be expressed.

## 2.2 Traditional ink painting ink color changes

Ink color variation is one of the unique artistic languages of ink painting. Ink painters create the effect of ink color by mixing water and ink in different proportions, as well as by changing the speed and strength of the strokes to create the effect of ink color that is thick and light, wet and dry, and the real and the imaginary are born together. Their specific characteristics are analyzed as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Characteristics of ink color changes in traditional ink paintings

Characteristic	Specific manifestations
Rich layers	Ink colors can be divided into multiple levels such as focal, intense, heavy, light, and clear, forming a rich color variation.
Emotional expression	The changes in the intensity, dryness, and wetness of ink can convey the emotions and mood of the painter. For example, thick ink expresses heaviness and depth, while light ink appears light and elegant.
Unique technique	Ink painters use the technique of "dividing ink into five colors" to transform simple ink colors into rich visual effects.

From this, we can see that changes in ink color can not only express the texture, light and shadow, and volume of the object, but

also create a unique atmosphere and mood.

## 2.3 Traditional ink painting flat composition

Flat composition is one of the common ways of composition in ink painting. It emphasizes the wholeness and balance of the picture, and creates a peaceful, harmonious and far-reaching mood by arranging the objects flatly and leaving the space white. Its specific features are analyzed as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Characteristics of tiled compositions in traditional ink paintings

Characteristic	Specific manifestations
Strong integrity	Flat composition emphasizes the overall coherence and balance of the picture, creating a harmonious and unified relationship between various objects.
Blank processing	By using a large amount of blank processing, the spatial and profound sense of the image is enhanced, allowing viewers to relax and extend visually and psychologically.
Profound artistic conception	Flat composition can create a peaceful, harmonious, and profound artistic conception, allowing viewers to feel a transcendent spiritual pursuit during the appreciation process.

Combined with Table 3, it can be seen that in the flat composition of traditional ink painting, the objects often do not pursue a strict perspective relationship, but focus on the overall momentum and rhythm of the picture.

## 2.4 The beauty of the mood of traditional ink painting

Contextual beauty is one of the ultimate goals of ink painting. It emphasizes that through the use of ink and brush and the layout of the picture, the artist conveys a spiritual realm and emotional experience beyond the object itself. Its specific characteristics are analyzed as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 Characteristics of tiled compositions in traditional ink paintings

Characteristic	Specific manifestations
Vivid Charm	Ink painting pursues the expressive effect of vivid charm, through the agility of ink and the rhythm of the picture, allowing viewers to feel a lively atmosphere and charm.
Profound artistic conception	Ink painting emphasizes the creation and expression of artistic conception, through the use of blank space, simplification and abstraction of objects, allowing viewers to generate rich associations and imagination during the appreciation process.
Emotional richness	Ink painting is the carrier and expression tool of a painter's emotions. Through the use of objects and ink in the painting, it conveys the painter's emotional fluctuations and inner world.

Combined with Table 4, it can be seen that in ink paintings, the beauty of the mood is often expressed through the vividness of the picture, the profoundness of the mood, and the richness of the emotion.

## 3 APPLICATION OF TRADITIONAL INK PAINTING ART ELEMENTS IN ART DESIGN

## 3.1 Line art elements applied

In graphic design, the designer creates the unique beauty of ink painting through the changes of thickness, curvature and realism of the lines, so that the packaging work is more visually layered and deep, and also conveys the corresponding cultural heritage and aesthetic pursuit.

Figure 1 shows the Fen Liquor Celadon series packaging design.



Fig. 1 Fenjiu Celadon series packaging design

Combined with Figure 1, we can see that in Fen Liquor's blue and white porcelain series packaging design, the designer skillfully utilizes the line art of ink painting, and expresses the word "Fen Liquor" in calligraphy and white drawing in a strong and powerful way, while the poem is expressed in cursive script in an elegant and dynamic way. The use of lines not only shows the unique flavor of ink painting, but also gives the package a deep cultural connotation and visual aesthetic.

## 3.2 Application of artistic elements of ink color change

Through the clever use of lines, the new Chinese home design not only retains the essence of Chinese culture, but also incorporates modern design concepts and elements, showing a classical and fashionable style. This design style makes the home space more cultural flavor and artistic taste. Figure 2 is a typical new Chinese home design.



Fig. 2 New Chinese home design

Combined with Figure 2, it can be seen that in the new Chinese home design, the ink color change art elements of ink painting are mainly applied to wall decoration, furniture design and accessories matching. Walls can choose gray or white as the base, with color difference as the embellishment, creating an ethereal and elegant atmosphere, contrasting with the overall greyness of the space, increasing the warmth and level of the space.

#### 3.3 Application of artistic elements of tiled composition

Flat composition in graphic design is often the pursuit of simple and clear, layered visual effect. In the opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, the giant ink scroll in the center of the stadium was impressive. This design brings the artistic element of ink painting's flat composition into full play. The scroll slowly unfolds like a flowing ink painting scroll, showing the deep heritage of traditional Chinese culture and the grandeur of the atmosphere.



Fig. 3 Application of artistic elements of tiling composition in ink scroll design

Combined with Figure 3 shows that in the ink scroll design of the Beijing Olympic Games opening ceremony, the designer skillfully utilized the three-dimensional space of the stadium, combining the two-dimensional ink scroll with the three-dimensional display space, creating an unprecedented visual feast. This skillful combination of space and plane not only enriches the expression of the design, but also enhances the aesthetic experience of the audience.

## 3.4 Application of artistic elements of contextual beauty

Also analyzed on the basis of the ink scroll design of the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games, the designer creates the beauty of the real and imaginary situation through the technique of leaving white space. The ink pattern on the scroll and the blank part reflect each other, forming a strong visual contrast and sense of hierarchy, so that the audience can feel the unique flavor of ink painting and aesthetic interest in the appreciation process. Specifically as shown in Figure 4.



Fig. 4 Application of artistic elements of contextual beauty in ink scroll design

As shown in Figure 4, the application of artistic elements of contextual beauty in the ink scroll design not only focuses on the presentation of formal aesthetics, but also emphasizes the conveyance of cultural connotations, and through the selection of representative ink elements and patterns, it conveys the essence of traditional Chinese culture and national spirit. These elements not only have a strong cultural color, but also stimulate the audience's emotional resonance and national pride.

## **4 Conclusion**

Traditional ink painting shows unique charm and value in the composition of artistic elements, which has far-reaching influence and inspiration on modern art design. This paper proposes a study on the application of traditional ink painting elements in art design. By borrowing and integrating the elements and techniques of traditional ink painting, designers can create design works with national characteristics and cultural heritage, and inject new vitality and inspiration into modern art design.

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