Discussion on Some Aesthetic Features of Landscape Sculpture

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Abstract—Landscape sculpture is an important component part of landscape environment. They are harmonious and unified entirety. The relationships between them are correlation dependence and mutual promotion. Good landscape sculpture is always the visual focus of landscape environment. They are often public and regional, with epochal character and symbolic feature.

Keywords—*harmonious; public; symbolic feature; epochal character*

I. INTRODUCTION

From our aesthetical perspective, landscape is to use entity scenery in the space to create an eyeable environment. Landscapes have very strong decorative and ornamental value. As a matter of fact, its production is people's creative exploration on aesthetic life. This exploration establishes on the creativity to transform objective things. Our cognition for beauty dates from our experience and thinking, induction and summary for life. The summary in evolution helps its existing form to find and explore the law in nature and consciousness. Beauty is gradually established from the establishment of consciousness. It also changes from pure instinct to the research of thoughts.

Landscape sculpture is an artistic form of three-dimensional spatial form. It is different from the art of painting. Compared with the art of painting, it has stronger visual impact and infection to some extent. We can enjoy the sight of it and touch it from many directions. So the artistic theme presented by it is more visual and vivid. Modern art integrates "time" into landscape sculpture to make it form four-dimensional spatial art.

II. HARMONY AND UNITY OF LANDSCAPE SCULPTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

The main purpose of the production of landscape sculpture is to make it have strong ornamental and decorative value. This property also runs through the contents and forms presented by sculptures. We must firmly grasp how to make our landscape sculpture better beautify and decorate our environment and manifest culture and customs in the environment. As a constituent part of our integrated environment, landscape sculpture can also be restricted by the environment. The artistic value of a good landscape sculpture can be better embodied in a matched environment. The emphasis on

decorative effect on environment doesn't impede the artistic expressive force of landscape sculpture. One of the important characteristics of our landscape sculpture is the harmonious relationship between the environment and landscape sculpture. It decides the division of property of landscape sculpture and embodiment of ornamental and decorative functions. The art of landscape design is a complicated comprehensive art. It involves many aspects such as visual arts, ecological environment, construction planning, our economy and culture, aesthetic appreciation, behavior and psychology. The relationships between various factors are also very complex. Therefore, under different environment and cultural background, landscape art also presents its complexity and diversity. So our landscape sculpture shall also present its diversity and uniqueness.

Our country is a multinational country with vast territory. The culture and concept of each regions and nationality are different to some extent. It is one of the fundamental objectives of landscape sculpture design to make the main idea of landscape sculpture better highlight the culture and characteristics in this region and adapt to the environment. The themes and contents are the essence and quintessence of all artistic creation of human. It is the same to landscape and landscape sculpture. The theme and content of an environment explain its property and characteristics. The contents shaped by landscape sculpture must conform to and coordinate with the theme that we want to show. Just as writing an article, the content shall correspond to the headline. Or readers will not understand what you want to narrate and express what kind of ideas and opinions.

With rapid development of economy and expansion of real estate industry, people have increasingly high requirements for the environment and landscape design of residence zone. Although the present environmental facilities have improved a lot, it is not difficult for us to find that the landscape environment of many residence zones is the same without any characteristic. The landscape art of gardens in China that has high cultural connotation reserved after thousands of years of accumulation almost has nothing left. This phenomenon cannot but let our landscape designers and sculptors think deeply. It cannot be denied that garden landscape and sculpture art in Europe and America have quintessence. But we cannot blindly copy these foreign designs without thinking and analysis, but design landscape and landscape sculpture with

local cultural characteristics in China on the basis of inheriting excellent cultural traditions. We shall not let various so-called sculptures of European style overflow everywhere. This is the unification of contents and forms of our landscape sculpture at macro level. At micro level, we also need to strengthen the coordination and accordance of landscape sculpture and environment. For example, in landscape environment of a Chinese-style garden, if we set a landscape sculpture of European style, it will greatly weaken the decorative and ornamental value of landscape sculpture. Similarly, for the design of embossment on a landscape wall, we must consider the coordination of its performance contents and styles and buildings.

III. PUBLIC CHARACTER OF LANDSCAPE SCULPTURE

With further urbanization of society, people have higher and higher requirements for urban public environment. It becomes the primary task of our urban construction to create a livable modern city. It is one of the important links of our urban construction to improve the appearance of urban public landscape. Urban public landscape is the public place created for association of the public. The art of landscape design is the environment with a kind of artistic form created through organization of urban design, building, traffic, greening, ecology, context and the processing of art. Compared with private personal space environment, public landscape art is the public space with functions of public communication, public participation and public use. The difference between our street landscape and private courtyard is the difference between public space and private personal space. So our public landscape is public, communicative and artistic, with participation, openness and communication.

As an important constituent part of our landscape environment, landscape sculpture has very strong public character to some extent. Especially in public landscape environment, its public character is more obvious. These landscape sculptures let the public associate and resonate mentally; visually, it brings us very good visual enjoyment. Meanwhile, it also decorates and intersperses streets and cities very well. In our private courtyard and space, there are quite a few landscape sculptures. These landscape sculptures aim at decorating the environment and bring visual enjoyment for viewers and guests, instead of only bringing personal enjoyment for the host. The forms and contents of landscape sculpture are diversified. But in public landscape environment, it has public characteristics on contents and forms. The important functions of it are to create scenery and meet the requirements of appreciation and decoration.

IV. EPOCHAL CHARACTER OF LANDSCAPE SCULPTURE

In different times and social environments, there are very big difference in people's thoughts and concepts. These differences are embodied very obviously in representation style of landscape sculpture. The differences are very huge in different times.

In initial post-liberation period, domestic landscape sculptures basically attach the most importance to true-life style. Most of them show some revolutionary heroes and major

historical events. The creation of landscape sculpture mainly serves political thoughts and social movements. In several decades after entering the reform and opening-up policy, with the inrush of various new thinking and new concepts, it appears more abstract landscape sculptures after extraction. These sculptures bring our modern people more imagination and thinking. Its artistic ideas also become more profound. Our landscape sculptures gradually get rid of the powerful bound of political formation. In the era of informatization and networking, eastern and western cultures continuously collide and fuse. Under this broad environment, the thoughts of sculptures are greatly expanded. Their horizons also become broad. The works of landscape sculpture created by them also become diversified and brilliant. China is a country with ancient civilization that has profound cultural accumulation. Sculptors need to think about how to manifest great and profound historic culture of China in landscape sculpture.

V. REGIONALISM OF LANDSCAPE SCULPTURE

In different countries and different geographical environments, the artistic style of landscape sculpture has huge differences. For example, the Sphinx in Ancient Egypt and Statues in grottoes of our country are two kinds of artistic styles entirely different from each other. The Sphinx adopts the technique of expression of symbol and implied meaning to show sovereign divine kingship of Pharaoh in Ancient Egypt. Statues in grottoes adopt realistic approach to propagate Buddhist culture. The representation style of European classical landscape sculptures shows high degree of realism. It shapes character structure very well. The molding style of landscape sculpture in ancient mausoleum of our country is concise and wraparound.

Our country has vast territory and big cultural differences. Influenced by Central Plain Culture in the south and prairie culture in the north, the artistic style of landscape sculptures in the two regions also has huge differences. Most expressive subject matters of landscape sculpture in the north center on nomadic culture. Most of landscape sculptures in the south show Central Plain Culture. Because various regions and each nationality have different cultures and customs, the landscape sculptures present distinctive artistic style.

VI. SYMBOLIC FEATURE OF LANDSCAPE SCULPTURE

Because sculpture is an art of three-dimensional configuration, it is touchable, perceptive and intuitional. The medium and large landscape sculptures in public places are very perceptive and symbolic. Many landscape sculptures vividly reflect spiritual outlook and cultural custom of a place. These sculptures become symbols of this place after a certain period of accumulation. For example, the sculpture of Five-Rams Stone Sculpture in Guangzhou is well known by us. After so many years of accumulation and influence, it has become a symbolic landscape in Guangzhou. This sculpture is created by famous sculpture artists in Guangdong, Yin Jichang, Chen Benzong and Kong Fanwei. It was constructed in the 1960s and located in Muqiang, Yuexiu Mountain. Nowadays, it has become the famous scenic spot that guests at home and abroad want to go to evoke a sense of the past when they reach Guangzhou.

Many people like to watch Hollywood blockbusters. In films, the image of Statue of Liberty often appears. Upon seeing this scene, we will naturally associate the America, a country famous for “democracy and freedom”. The Statue of Liberty is the present given by France to celebrate the 100th anniversary of independence of America. It is located in the mouth of Hudson River in New York City in America. It is an important tourist spot in Liberty Island where the statue is located in. Bartholdi, a famous sculptor in France, spent ten years to create the statue. The design of appearance of the statue derives from the mother of this sculptor. The right hand to hold the torch aloft takes the arm of the sculptor’s wife as the chief source. The Statue of Liberty wears cloth of Ancient Greece style. The crown on her head has seven tip awns that symbolize seven continents and four oceans in the world. Her right hand holds the torch that symbolizes freedom aloft. Her left hand takes the Declaration of Independence that engraves the America. Broken handcuffs, shackles and chains are under her foot. She symbolizes freedom and people get rid of constraints from tyranny of the government. It is completed and unveiled in October, 1886. Now the Statue of Liberty has become a symbolic sign of America.

The symbolic effect of landscape sculpture shows in many large-scale enterprises and comprehensive communities. These symbolic landscape sculptures show culture and style and features of enterprises and comprehensive communities. Meanwhile, it beatifies and publicizes enterprises and comprehensive communities. For example, the sculpture of corporate image of Wuliangye winery, Fenjin Tower, has strong visual impact. It highlights the great and profound wine culture of Wuliangye winery and shows spirit style of wisdom, diligence, perseverance and absolute sincerity of people of Wuliangye winery.

The symbolic effect of landscape sculpture is obvious. Now many areas and enterprises spend a huge sum of money to construct symbolic landscape sculpture. Their subjective wishes are good. But blindly expending vast sum to carry out image project can only waste man power and money and get just the opposite. It is the most important thing to determine orientation and develop properly.

VII. CONCLUSION

Landscape sculpture plays an irreplaceable role in landscape environment. It integrates with landscape environment to form an organic whole. They promote each other and bring out the best in each other. Because landscape sculpture has relatively strong public character, epochal character, regionalism and symbolic feature, the form of sculpture and theme designed by sculptors shall be representative sculpture works that the public would like to see and hear, have the character of times and can manifest regional culture. After landscape sculpture has these aesthetic characters, the work will become an excellent landscape sculpture work naturally.

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