

On Chinese Folk Paper-cut Art

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Abstract

Paper-cut is a traditional folk art of China with a long history, a great variety of artistic forms and distinct styles. It adds gorgeous fun to people's life, enriches their spiritual world, and is the pride of the Chinese nation. This paper briefly discusses Chinese folk paper-cut art, and makes a comprehensive analysis of it from the perspectives of its national characteristics and artistic features.

Keywords

Folk Paper-cut Art; Paper-cut Patterns; Artistic Innovation.

1. Introduction

Chinese folk paper-cut art, with its rich and distinctive artistic characteristics and a long and profound historical origin, belongs to the important category of traditional Chinese arts and crafts. It is a unique plastic art form created by the working people of all ethnic groups in China in the long-term production and life practice, carrying the cultural memory and aesthetic pursuit of the Chinese nation. Paper-cut art emerged in the Han and Tang dynasties of China, with a history of more than 1,000 years. In the long-term inheritance and development, it has formed many aliases, such as window paper, engraved paper, cut paper and so on. Among them, "window paper" comes from its most common use in ancient times-pasting on windows to decorate houses and add festive atmosphere; "engraved paper" highlights its production method, that is, using carving knives to hollow out patterns on paper. Boasting a great variety of types and rich and diverse themes as well as profound national connotations and unique artistic characteristics, paper-cut art has developed steadily through the changes of dynasties. In the process of inheritance, it has constantly kept pace with the times through innovation and integration, absorbing the nutrients of the times and integrating into the new life, thus providing abundant and valuable theme resources and artistic inspiration for modern pattern design, and becoming an indispensable part of Chinese excellent traditional culture.[1-3]

2. Profound National Art of Chinese Folk Paper-cut

Paper-cut is one of the most representative traditional Chinese folk arts, which is deeply rooted in the folk soil and has a broad mass base. Unlike some elegant arts that are popular among the literati and bureaucrats, paper-cut art has the characteristics of simplicity, accessibility and strong popularity. Due to the simple materials and low cost used in paper-cut creation-only ordinary paper, scissors or carving knives are needed-it is widely popular among the general public, especially among women in rural areas. In the past, when the pace of life was relatively slow, rural women often took cutting paper as a common pastime in their spare time after finishing their housework and farm work. They used their dexterous hands to cut out various exquisite patterns with simple tools. These works not only can be used as decorations for their own homes, such as pasting on windows, doors, kang walls and other places to add a warm and festive atmosphere to the family, but also can be used as small commodities for sale in the market. Some skilled women even take paper-cut creation as a means of subsidizing their

families, which makes paper-cut art closely integrated with people's daily life and forms a good interaction between inheritance and development.[4-6]

2.1. History of Chinese Folk Paper-cut

The emergence and development of paper-cut art are closely related to the invention and popularization of paper. Paper was invented in the Western Han Dynasty of China, but at that time, paper was relatively rare and expensive, and it was mainly used for writing and recording, so paper-cut art had not yet appeared. However, the artistic concept and production technology of paper-cut have a long origin. As early as before the invention of paper, people had already mastered the hollow carving technology and applied it to various materials such as silk, leather, bamboo chips, wood chips and even leaves. They carved various patterns and shapes on these materials to meet the needs of decoration and sacrifice, laying a solid technical and artistic foundation for the emergence of paper-cut art. For example, in the Warring States Period, there were silk fabrics with hollowed-out patterns, which adopted the same carving idea as paper-cut; in the Western Han Dynasty, people used leather to carve decorative patterns and hang them in houses or on vehicles, which can be regarded as the embryonic form of paper-cut.[7]

It was not until the Tang Dynasty, when papermaking technology was greatly improved, paper became more popular and affordable, that paper-cut art officially entered a stage of rapid development. In the Tang Dynasty, society was stable, economy was prosperous, and culture and art were highly developed. Paper-cut, as a simple and beautiful art form, was widely used in various fields of social life. It was used for decoration on ceramics, lanterns, clothes, hats, fans and other objects, and also used in religious activities, weddings and funerals, festivals and other occasions. For example, during the Lantern Festival, people would cut various paper-cut patterns and paste them on lanterns, making the lanterns more colorful and lively; during weddings, red paper-cuts such as "Double Happiness" and "Mandarin Ducks Playing in Water" would be pasted on doors and windows to express good wishes for the newlyweds. In the Tang Dynasty, paper-cut art gradually formed its unique national artistic characteristics, with bold and unrestrained lines, vivid and vivid images, and rich and bright colors, laying a foundation for its long-term development in the later generations.[8]

In the Song Dynasty, paper-cut art was further popularized and developed. With the development of urban economy and the rise of the citizen class, the demand for paper-cut art was increasing. At that time, there were even professional paper-cut artists in the market, who specialized in creating various paper-cut works for sale. The themes of paper-cut in the Song Dynasty were more diverse, not only including traditional auspicious patterns, but also including scenes of daily life, operas, myths and legends, etc., which made paper-cut art more close to people's life. In the Ming and Qing Dynasties, paper-cut art reached its peak. During this period, papermaking technology was more mature, and the types of paper were more abundant, including rice paper, mulberry paper, colored paper, etc., which provided better materials for paper-cut creation. The skills of paper-cut became more exquisite, and various schools with regional characteristics emerged, such as Shanxi paper-cut, Shaanxi paper-cut, Shandong paper-cut, etc. Each school had its own unique style and characteristics, enriching the connotation and form of paper-cut art.[9]

2.2. Connotation of Chinese Folk Paper-cut Art

The tools required for paper-cut creation are very simple, only scissors, carving knives and paper. Among them, fine-tipped scissors are mainly used for cutting delicate lines and small patterns, which require the creator to have a steady hand and flexible operation; carving knives are usually used for copying several identical paper-cut works at a time, which improves the efficiency of creation. For example, when creating a batch of the same window flowers, the creator can fold multiple layers of paper together, fix them with pins, and then carve along the

draft, so that multiple identical works can be obtained at one time. This simple and efficient creation method makes paper-cut art easy to popularize and inherit among the people.

Since its birth, paper-cut art has never stopped developing and innovating. It has condensed the wisdom and creativity of the general public of all generations, and has been passed down to this day through oral teaching and hand-in-hand inheritance. After thousands of years of development, paper-cut art has formed a variety of types and styles, with different regional characteristics and artistic styles. For example, the paper-cut in northern China is bold and unrestrained, with simple lines and bright colors, focusing on the expression of momentum and emotion; the paper-cut in southern China is delicate and exquisite, with complex patterns and elegant colors, focusing on the expression of details and beauty. These diverse types and styles of paper-cut works not only add fun to people's various activities, such as festivals, weddings, funerals, etc., but also enrich people's spiritual and cultural life, making people feel the beauty of art in daily life.[10]

Paper-cut art is not only a form of art, but also a carrier of cultural connotation and spiritual sustenance. It silently arouses people's pursuit of faith and love for life, and embodies the Chinese nation's yearning for a better life. In the long-term development process, paper-cut art has formed a large number of auspicious themes and patterns, which are full of positive energy and good wishes. For example, the pattern of "fish leaping over the dragon gate" symbolizes people's pursuit of progress and success; the pattern of "plum, orchid, bamboo and chrysanthemum" symbolizes people's pursuit of noble morality; the pattern of "family reunion" symbolizes people's yearning for family harmony and happiness. These patterns not only have beautiful shapes, but also carry profound cultural connotations, enriching people's spiritual world and becoming an important part of Chinese national culture.[11]

To create an exquisite paper-cut work, several key points should be noted, which are the summary of the experience of folk paper-cut artists for thousands of years. First, the lines should be either connected or disconnected: connected lines can ensure the integrity of the pattern, making the work not easy to break; disconnected lines can increase the sense of hierarchy and change of the pattern, making the work more vivid and vivid. Second, the composition and modeling should be patternized: paper-cut art is a kind of pattern art, so the composition should be balanced and harmonious, and the modeling should be simplified and generalized, highlighting the characteristics of the object. Third, the images should be exaggerated, concise, elegant and rhythmic: exaggeration can make the characteristics of the object more prominent, conciseness can make the pattern more clear and easy to recognize, elegance can reflect the artistic taste of the work, and rhythm can make the lines of the work more smooth and beautiful. Fourth, the cutting skills should be "steady, accurate and ingenious": "steady" means that the hand should be steady when cutting, avoiding shaking; "accurate" means that the cutting position should be accurate, conforming to the draft; "ingenious" means that the cutting method should be flexible and ingenious, making the work unique and innovative. Fifth, the colors should be simple and bright: paper-cut works usually use bright colors such as red, yellow, green and blue, which are in line with the aesthetic habits of the Chinese people and can convey a positive and optimistic emotional tone. Adhering to these requirements can help create paper-cut works full of national charm and artistic value.

3. Pattern Art of Chinese Folk Paper-cut

With a long development history of thousands of years, paper-cut art is the crystallization of the wisdom and creativity of the working people of all ethnic groups in China. It has formed a rich and diverse artistic system, featuring a great variety of styles, diverse layouts and extensive expression forms. The pattern art of paper-cut is the core part of paper-cut art, which embodies the artistic characteristics and cultural connotation of paper-cut most intuitively. The pattern

art of paper-cut not only has a unique aesthetic value, but also carries the life emotions and cultural memories of the people, becoming an important part of Chinese traditional pattern art.

3.1. Rich Expressions of Pattern Art

Monotonous and single paper-cut patterns will only make people feel tedious and boring, which is not conducive to the inheritance and development of paper-cut art. The reason why paper-cut art can be passed down to this day and remain vibrant is closely related to its diverse and rich expression forms. Chinese folk paper-cut art has a fresh and simple artistic style, giving people an unadorned and natural feeling, which is closely related to the stable social and cultural structure of rural China for a long time. Paper-cut art was born in the simple and honest rural environment, and the creators are mostly rural people who are close to nature and life. Their works are not restricted by the rules of elegant art, and are full of the breath of life and the enthusiasm of the people, thus showing a certain simplicity and sincerity in their expression forms.[12-13]

In line with the traditional Chinese concept of "the heaven is round and the earth is square", which is an important concept in Chinese traditional culture, most paper-cut works adopt circular patterns. The circle symbolizes completeness, harmony and perfection, which is in line with the Chinese people's pursuit of a better life. In the creation of circular paper-cut patterns, the creators usually fold the paper with the four sides aligned, making the paper form a symmetrical structure, and then cut out the desired patterns through the flexible combination of straight lines and curved lines. Straight lines are simple and powerful, conveying a sense of stability and solemnity; curved lines are smooth and soft, conveying a sense of beauty and flexibility. The combination of straight lines and curved lines makes the paper-cut patterns both rigid and flexible, full of artistic appeal.[14]

The round flower pattern is the oldest and most classic format in paper-cut art, and it is also the most vigorous and vital expression form. The round flower pattern is usually centered on a certain theme, such as flowers, birds, animals, characters, etc., and then decorated with various auxiliary patterns around it, forming a complete and harmonious circular pattern. This pattern format has a long history, which can be traced back to the Tang Dynasty. At that time, round flower paper-cuts were widely used in decorations such as ceramics and lanterns. Up to now, the round flower pattern is still widely used in painting, architectural decoration, handicraft design and other fields. For example, in modern architectural decoration, round flower paper-cut patterns are often used in partition screens, murals, ceiling decorations and other places, adding a strong traditional cultural atmosphere to the space.

In addition to circular patterns, paper-cut art also has a variety of other expression forms, such as square patterns, rectangular patterns, irregular patterns, etc. Square patterns are usually used in decorations such as door couplets and window grilles, which are simple and solemn, conveying a sense of stability and order; rectangular patterns are often used in decorations such as banners and scrolls, which are elegant and generous, suitable for expressing solemn themes; irregular patterns are more flexible and free, suitable for expressing various vivid and lively themes, such as scenes of daily life, myths and legends, etc. These diverse expression forms make paper-cut art more rich and colorful, able to meet the different decorative needs and aesthetic tastes of people.[15]

3.2. Diverse Themes of Pattern Expression

Paper-cut art originates from life and is closely connected with people's daily life. Therefore, most of its patterns reflect the scenes and emotions of life, carrying the working people's yearning for a better life and their pursuit of happiness. The themes of paper-cut patterns are very diverse, covering all aspects of people's life, which can be roughly divided into the

following categories: auspicious and happy themes, birthday and longevity themes, festive celebration themes, daily life themes, myths and legends themes, etc.

Auspicious and happy themes are the most common themes in paper-cut art, which mainly express the working people's wishes for a happy life, smooth work and family harmony. For example, the pattern of "Smooth Sailing" takes the boat sailing on the sea as the main image, symbolizing that people's life and career can go smoothly and smoothly; the pattern of "Three Yangs Bring Prosperity" takes three sheep as the main image, using the homonym of "yang" and "yang" (meaning auspicious), symbolizing that auspiciousness will come and life will be prosperous; the pattern of "Peace All Year Round" takes peace doves, olives and other images as the main elements, symbolizing that people hope for world peace and family peace. These patterns are simple and vivid, full of positive energy, and are deeply loved by the people.

Birthday and longevity themes are mainly used to convey sincere wishes to the elders, expressing people's respect and love for the elders. For example, the pattern of "Pine and Crane for Longevity" takes pine trees and cranes as the main images. Pine trees are evergreen all year round, symbolizing longevity; cranes are regarded as fairy birds in Chinese culture, also symbolizing longevity. The combination of the two forms a beautiful meaning of longevity and health. The pattern of "May You Live as Long as the Southern Mountain" takes the Southern Mountain as the main image, symbolizing that the elders can live a long life like the Southern Mountain. The pattern of "Eight Immortals Celebrate Birthday" takes the Eight Immortals in Chinese myths and legends as the main image, expressing the wishes for the elders' birthday and longevity. These themes are full of human warmth, reflecting the traditional Chinese filial piety culture.

Festive celebration themes are mainly used in various festive occasions, such as the Spring Festival, Lantern Festival, Wedding, Mid-Autumn Festival, etc., to add a festive atmosphere. For example, during the Spring Festival, people will cut paper-cuts such as "Spring Festival", "Blessing", "Prosperity" and paste them on doors and windows to celebrate the arrival of the new year; during weddings, red paper-cuts such as "Double Happiness", "Mandarin Ducks Playing in Water", "Phoenixes Flying Together" will be pasted to express good wishes for the newlyweds; during the Lantern Festival, paper-cuts of various shapes such as flowers, birds, animals, characters will be pasted on lanterns to make the Lantern Festival more lively and colorful.

Daily life themes mainly reflect the scenes and details of people's daily life, such as plowing, herding, weaving, cooking, playing, etc. These patterns are simple and true, full of the breath of life, and can make people feel the beauty of daily life. For example, the pattern of "Weaving" takes women weaving cloth as the main image, reflecting the hard work and wisdom of rural women; the pattern of "Herding Sheep" takes children herding sheep on the grassland as the main image, showing the happy life of rural children. Myths and legends themes are based on Chinese traditional myths and legends, such as "Nuwa Mending the Sky", "Houyi Shooting the Sun", "Journey to the West", etc. These patterns are vivid and vivid, not only have high artistic value, but also help to inherit and spread traditional Chinese culture.

All these themes are closely related to the common things in the working people's life, and the expression forms of paper-cut patterns are developed around people's expectations for life. These patterns have distinct shapes and profound implications, reflecting the working people's yearning for a better life, their hope for favorable weather, national peace and family happiness. It is evident that the themes of paper-cut patterns come from life and reflect life, and they are the true portrayal of the working people's life and emotions.

3.3. Applications of Paper-cut Art

Paper-cut art has a variety of patterns, extensive expression forms, and itself contains profound cultural connotations and artistic value, so it has a wide range of applications in people's life. It

runs through all aspects of people's life, from daily decorations to special occasions, from material life to spiritual life, and paper-cut art can be seen everywhere, enriching people's spiritual life and improving people's quality of life.

First of all, paper-cut can be used as a decoration pasted directly on doors, windows or walls. This is the most common and traditional application form of paper-cut art. In rural areas, especially during festivals, people will paste various paper-cut works on doors, windows and walls to add a festive atmosphere. For example, during the Spring Festival, red paper-cuts such as "Blessing" and "Spring Festival" are pasted on the door, and window flowers of various shapes are pasted on the windows, making the whole house full of festive joy. In urban areas, more and more people begin to pay attention to traditional culture, and paper-cut decorations are also widely used in home decoration, such as pasting paper-cut murals on the wall, pasting paper-cut patterns on the glass, etc., adding a strong traditional cultural atmosphere to the home.

Secondly, paper-cut can be used as a base pattern for embroidery on clothes or bedding. Embroidery is another important traditional Chinese folk art, and paper-cut and embroidery have a close relationship. In the process of embroidery, people often first cut out the desired pattern with paper, then paste the paper pattern on the fabric, and then embroider along the outline of the paper pattern. This method can ensure the accuracy and beauty of the embroidery pattern, and also improve the efficiency of embroidery. Many traditional Chinese embroidery works, such as Su embroidery, Xiang embroidery, Yue embroidery, Shu embroidery, etc., all use paper-cut patterns as the base, making the embroidery works more exquisite and beautiful. For example, the patterns on traditional Chinese cheongsams, quilts, pillowcases and other products are often made by taking paper-cut patterns as the base and then embroidering them. Thirdly, paper-cut can be used for printing and dyeing as a plate for blue calico on clothing materials and quilt covers. Blue calico is a traditional Chinese printing and dyeing craft, which is loved by people for its simple and elegant colors and unique patterns. The production process of blue calico usually includes pattern design, paper-cut plate making, printing and dyeing, drying and other steps. Among them, paper-cut plate making is a key link. People cut out the desired pattern with paper, then attach the paper pattern to the wooden plate, carve along the paper pattern to make a printing plate, and then use the printing plate to print and dye on the fabric. The blue calico products made in this way have clear patterns, simple and elegant colors, and are full of traditional cultural charm. They are widely used in clothing, bedding, tablecloths, curtains and other products.

In addition, with the development of society and the progress of the times, the application fields of paper-cut art are constantly expanding. It is not only used in traditional fields such as decoration, embroidery and printing and dyeing, but also widely used in modern design fields such as graphic design, clothing design, environmental design, cultural and creative products, etc. For example, in graphic design, paper-cut elements are used in poster design, logo design, packaging design and other works, making the works more distinctive and cultural; in clothing design, paper-cut patterns are printed or embroidered on clothing, creating a unique artistic style; in environmental design, paper-cut art is used in the design of scenic spots, cultural venues, public spaces, etc., adding a strong cultural atmosphere.

4. Innovation of Chinese Folk Paper-cut Art

Chinese folk paper-cut art has a long and profound history, and has been passed down to this day as the crystallization of the wisdom of the working people. It is an important part of Chinese excellent traditional culture and a precious cultural heritage of the Chinese nation. However, compared with the current information age with rapid development and diverse cultures, the ancient and traditional paper-cut art is relatively backward in expression forms and

dissemination methods. If it cannot keep pace with the times and carry out innovation and reform, it will be difficult to adapt to the needs of modern society and may even be gradually forgotten. Therefore, it is necessary to reform and innovate paper-cut art, inherit its excellent traditions, and integrate modern elements, so as to make it keep pace with the times and glow with new vitality.

4.1. Integration of Tradition and Modernity

The integration of tradition and modernity is the key to the innovation and development of paper-cut art. It requires us to inherit the excellent traditions of paper-cut art, retain its unique national characteristics and cultural connotation, and at the same time integrate modern design concepts, modern materials and modern technologies, so as to make paper-cut art better adapt to the needs of modern society and meet the aesthetic tastes of modern people. The integration of tradition and modernity can be reflected in many fields, such as graphic advertising design, clothing design, decorative design, etc.

(1) Application in graphic advertising design

Chinese folk paper-cut art is an important embodiment of Chinese folk fine arts, and it is also an important research subject and creative resource of modern graphic advertising design. With its diverse expression forms, rich cultural connotations and unique artistic charm, paper-cut art fully reflects the rich wisdom and creative ideas of the working people, and is a valuable national cultural resource that embodies the profound cultural heritage and aesthetic spirit of the Chinese nation. In the current context of globalization, Western culture is constantly invading, and the cultural identity of the Chinese nation is facing challenges. Therefore, we should attach great importance to the inheritance and development of traditional culture, integrate traditional paper-cut art with modern graphic advertising design, enrich the national characteristics of modern advertising design, and inherit and carry forward national culture.

In modern graphic advertising design, paper-cut elements can be used in various ways. For example, in the design of commercial posters, paper-cut patterns can be used as the main visual element, combining modern advertising slogans and brand logos, making the poster not only have strong visual impact, but also have rich cultural connotation. For example, some food posters use paper-cut patterns of food, fruits and vegetables as elements, which are simple and vivid, making people feel the natural and healthy characteristics of the food; some cultural and creative product posters use paper-cut patterns with traditional cultural themes, which highlight the cultural attributes of the products and attract the attention of consumers. In addition, paper-cut elements can also be used in logo design, packaging design, brochure design and other fields. For example, some brands use paper-cut patterns as their logos, which are unique and memorable, helping to enhance the brand image; some product packaging uses paper-cut patterns as decorative elements, making the packaging more beautiful and cultural, improving the added value of the product.

(2) Application in clothing design

Paper-cut art has been applied in clothing design since ancient times, and has a long history. In ancient China, paper-cut patterns were often embroidered on clothes, hats, shoes and socks, which were not only decorative, but also reflected the identity and status of the wearer. With the development of clothing design, paper-cut art has been more widely used in modern clothing design. Paper-cut art has diverse expression forms, rich content and distinctive patterns, which can perfectly present both fresh and elegant styles and luxurious and noble styles, thus being highly favored by clothing designers all the time.

Integrating paper-cut art with modern clothing design can be carried out from many aspects. First of all, paper-cut patterns can be directly applied to clothing, such as printing paper-cut patterns on fabric, or embroidering paper-cut patterns on clothing. This method is simple and direct, and can quickly highlight the characteristics of paper-cut art. For example, some

cheongsams use paper-cut patterns of flowers and birds as decorative elements, which are elegant and charming, showing the unique charm of traditional Chinese culture; some casual clothes use simple paper-cut patterns as printing elements, which are fashionable and personalized, meeting the aesthetic needs of young people. Secondly, the modeling concept of paper-cut art can be integrated into clothing design, such as using the hollowing-out technique of paper-cut to design the neckline, cuffs, hem and other parts of clothing, making the clothing more layered and artistic. For example, some evening dresses use the hollowing-out technique of paper-cut to design the skirt, which is light and elegant, full of romantic atmosphere. Finally, the color matching concept of paper-cut art can be used in clothing design. Paper-cut art usually uses bright and contrasting colors, which are full of vitality. Integrating this color concept into clothing design can make the clothing more vivid and eye-catching.

Integrating paper-cut art with clothing design can not only enrich the expression forms of modern clothing design, but also help promote the Chinese nation's culture to the world and spread it more widely. In recent years, more and more Chinese clothing designers have integrated paper-cut elements into their works and displayed them on international fashion stages, making the world see the unique charm of Chinese paper-cut art and promoting the cultural exchange and integration between China and foreign countries.

(3) Application in decorative design

With the rapid development of social economy and the continuous improvement of people's living standards, people's pursuit of life is no longer limited to material needs, but begins to focus on the enjoyment of spiritual life, and pursue beauty and connotation in their housing decoration. Interior decoration design has become an important part of people's life, and paper-cut art, as a traditional folk art with unique charm, can play an important role in interior decoration design.

For interior decoration design, paper-cut art can be used in many ways to present partition screens and murals of indoor furniture. For example, in the living room, paper-cut murals can be pasted on the wall, which can not only decorate the wall, but also add a strong traditional cultural atmosphere to the living room. The themes of paper-cut murals can be selected according to the style of the living room and the preferences of the residents, such as auspicious patterns, landscape patterns, character patterns, etc. In the bedroom, paper-cut patterns can be used to design the headboard, curtains, bed sheets and other products, making the bedroom more warm and comfortable. In addition, paper-cut art can also be used to design partition screens. Partition screens are an important part of traditional Chinese interior decoration, which can divide the space and play a decorative role. Using paper-cut patterns to design partition screens can make the partition screens more exquisite and beautiful, and at the same time reflect the traditional cultural charm.

On the basis of the traditional expression forms of paper-cut art, we can also ingeniously endow it with new aesthetic connotations, making the design concise and elegant with a strong national aesthetic sentiment. For example, combining paper-cut art with modern materials such as glass, metal, wood, etc., creating new paper-cut decorative works. For example, making paper-cut patterns on glass, which is transparent and beautiful, suitable for use in windows, partitions and other places; combining paper-cut patterns with metal materials, making metal paper-cut decorations, which are durable and fashionable, suitable for use in modern home decoration. In addition, we can also use modern technology to innovate the expression forms of paper-cut art, such as using 3D printing technology to make three-dimensional paper-cut works, which are more layered and three-dimensional, breaking the limitations of traditional flat paper-cut.

4.2. Inheritance of Chinese Folk Paper-cut Art

Paper-cut art is a vibrant form of Chinese folk culture and art, which is an important part of Chinese excellent traditional culture. In the current era of rapid modernization, paper-cut art should keep pace with the times and blaze new trails, but it cannot abandon its own characteristics and cultural connotation blindly. We should adhere to the principle of "absorbing the essence and discarding the dross", inherit the excellent parts of paper-cut art, discard the backward and outdated parts, and inherit the excellent paper-cut art perfectly.

In fact, paper-cut art has already penetrated into every aspect of our life and become an indispensable part of people's life. For example, the door couplets for the Spring Festival, the double happiness character for weddings, the paper-cut decorations for the Lantern Festival, etc., are all common forms of paper-cut art in people's life. These paper-cut works are not only decorations, but also carriers of traditional culture, conveying people's good wishes and cultural memories. Paper-cut art has become a popular arts and crafts creation loved by the general public, and its mass base is very broad.

As an artistic expression form, paper-cut art also needs the inheritance and promotion of artists. Artists should deeply study the traditional paper-cut art, master its skills and cultural connotation, and at the same time keep pace with the times, carry out innovation and exploration, present the excellent aspects of paper-cut art to the general public, and enhance the contemporaneity of paper-cut art. Artists can carry out creative transformation on traditional paper-cut patterns, integrate modern elements and aesthetic concepts, make paper-cut art more in line with the aesthetic tastes of modern people, and attract more young people to pay attention to and love paper-cut art. In addition, artists can also carry out paper-cut art teaching and training, pass on the skills and cultural connotation of paper-cut art to the next generation, and ensure the inheritance and development of paper-cut art.

We should also attach great importance to the protection and inheritance of paper-cut art at the social level. The government should strengthen the protection of paper-cut art, formulate relevant policies and measures, support the inheritance and development of paper-cut art, and provide financial and material support for paper-cut artists. At the same time, we should strengthen the publicity and promotion of paper-cut art, through various media such as television, radio, the Internet, to popularize the knowledge and cultural connotation of paper-cut art, let more people understand and love paper-cut art, and enhance the cultural identity and pride of the Chinese nation. In addition, we can also develop paper-cut art into a cultural industry, integrate paper-cut art with cultural and creative products, tourism, education and other fields, promote the industrialization development of paper-cut art, and make it shine brightly in the new era.

Time flies fast. In the current era of rapid social development, we should actively inherit and carry forward the excellent national culture of China. As one of the traditional Chinese folk arts, paper-cut art has a long history and profound cultural connotation, which is the pride of the Chinese nation. We should take responsibility for inheriting and developing paper-cut art, carry out continuous innovation and exploration, build a new development platform for paper-cut art, promote its better inheritance and development, and help it step onto the world stage gradually, showing the unique charm of Chinese traditional culture to the world.

5. Conclusion

In a word, Chinese folk paper-cut art is extensive and profound with a long history, being the pride of the Chinese nation. It has abundant themes, diverse expression forms, concise techniques, vivid images, ingenious and reasonable composition, profound cultural heritage and strong practicability. It meets people's pursuit of material and spiritual life and is deeply loved by people of all ethnic groups. For paper-cut art, we should carry out continuous

innovation for it, inherit its excellent traditions, integrate modern elements, build a new development platform, promote its better inheritance and development, and let this ancient folk art glow with new vitality in the new era, making greater contributions to the inheritance and development of Chinese excellent traditional culture.

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