Ornamental Quality in Edouard Vuillard's Oil Paintings

Huixiang Bin and Jingyi Zhang
Xinjiang Arts University, Wulumuqi, China.

Abstract
The les Nabis's method of depicting reality does not follow the central perspective, but the form brought out by the concept of pure subjectivity and decoration. Edouard Vuillard, Influenced by the painting concept of Les Nabis, from the standpoint of beauty and decoration, Edouard Vuillard's works often have not only artistic value but also decorative value. The article will discuss three aspects: theme selection, subjectivity of modeling, color and composition, and try to analyze the decorative factors in Edouard Vuillard's oil painting.

Keywords
Ornamental Quality, Edouard Vuillard, Decorative Factors.

1. Introduction
Edouard Vuillard was a French painter of the late nineteenth century. In the 19th century, French painting flourished unprecedentedly, even leading the world. French painting is different from other countries' paintings, with this unique French elegance and petty bourgeois atmosphere. Impressionism ushered in a new era in nineteenth-century French painting, focusing more than ever on the momentary beauty of outdoor landscapes. The representative painter of the Nabi School, Edouard Vuillard, has developed to a new stage of painting, and the painter pays more attention to personal emotions and feelings, and the picture conveys more of a relaxed and pleasant. Edouard Vuillard 's work not only has artistic value, but also has decorative value.

2. Ornamental quality overview
Ornamental quality is one of the basic attributes of art. Works of art, especially arts and crafts, have the unique aesthetic characteristics of beautifying, modifying and decorating life. According to the principles of symmetry, balance, rhythm and other forms, it is characterized by the formal beauty of abstraction and regularity, and emphasizes the aesthetic effect of decorative forms. Including: (1) Various patterns, lines, patterns, portraits and other aesthetic attributes attached to clothing, utensils, furniture, vehicles, books and other practical items; (2) The aesthetic attributes of the axis of artistic works, such as reliefs on buildings, facial masks and clothing patterns in operas, decorative notes in music tunes, etc.; (3) The aesthetic attributes of artworks such as murals and furnishings used by people in their daily life to point the living environment. The main function of decoration is to beautify life and add interest to life, which is often associated with practicality. Decoration can be expressed in figurative artistic images, or in various abstract patterns formed according to the principles of symmetry, balance, rhythm, etc., and it harmonizes with decorative objects to form an aesthetic unity while expressing formal beauty.
3. Ornamental Quality in Edouard Vuillard's Oil Paintings

3.1. Theme selection

Edouard Vuillard is known as an "interior painter", and most of his painting subjects are based on interiors, at home[1]. The choice of the theme of "home" allows Edouard Vuillard's paintings to easily create a warm and comfortable atmosphere, convey friendly and kind emotions, and attract strong resonance from the audience. Using the interior as the background, the walls are tirelessly decorated, and the figures are used as embellishments is the way Vyal often paints. For example, "Madame Vuillard Sewing" depicts a corner of "home" where Edouard Vuillard's mother sits on the right side of the table and sews with her head down. The figures in the picture occupy a small area, and the painter focuses on depicting the surrounding environment - the tablecloth on the table, the carpet on the floor, and the wallpaper in the background, which can not only set off the atmosphere well, but also make the overall picture effect decorative.

In the choice of outdoor subjects, Edouard Vuillard prefers park scenes full of greenery and vitality, and pedestrians frolic or rest in the park, which creates a sense of laziness and relaxation on a rest day. For example, "Public Park" depicts an outdoor park on a sunny day, with a group of pedestrians and children playing on the left, a group of pedestrians holding umbrellas talking in the middle, and a person resting alone on the right. Everything is portrayed as vibrant, full of vitality, but also very leisurely.

3.2. Subjectivity of modeling

Edouard Vuillard's painting is not based on the traditional academic realistic modeling, but is simplified and deformed according to subjectivity[1, 2]. Decorative painting does not pursue realism and concreteness, but pursues the harmony and richness of the picture. For example, in "Two Women Drinking Coffee", Edouard Vuillard does not pay attention to the details of the characters, but makes a lot of simplifications, and uses a few brushstrokes to depict the leisurely feeling of the characters drinking afternoon tea. The figures and the background are integrated and unified with each other, which is in line with the overall aesthetic of the decorative painting. At the same time, Edouard Vuillard subjectively deformed the two figures drinking coffee in the picture, the two are almost blended together, the same tone, and the boundary line is not emphatically depicted. The person in front blocks the person in the back, and the person in the back shows part of his head, showing a kind of movement to the right, which harmoniously matches the arc of the round table, and contrasts with the straight line of the door on the right back, so that the overall picture has a dynamic change and a stable sense of balance.

3.3. Color and composition

Edouard Vuillard is a well-known master of color, and his colors often give people a sense of unity and harmony and give the beauty of change, bringing people visual enjoyment[3]. "The Little Girl Walking Slowly" depicts a fresh green tone, and the colors of the clothes worn by the two little girls in the picture are harmonious and have certain changes with the overall composition of the picture. The little girl in the blue dress on the right is harmonious and unobtrusive with the overall green tone, enriching the cold tone of the picture; The brown dress of the little girl on the left breaks the cold color of the picture and adds a warm color to the picture, but the brown color is not a warm color, more can give people a calm and warm feeling, neutralize the cold tone of the picture, and enrich the color of the picture. "Park" depicts a warm and rustic park scene, and the warm characters and the green of the park's trees are not strong colors, but an elegant high-grade gray tone. The articulation of characters to characters, trees to trees, and color blocks to color blocks is just right. The intricacy of the costumes of the figures, the small color blocks depicted by the branches and leaves of the trees, and the large flat color blocks on the ground form a contrast. While the tone of the whole picture is harmonious and elegant, the changes in local color composition make the picture more vivid and vivid.
3.4. Complexity and atmosphere

Most of Edouard Vuillard’s paintings are based on his own family, and the characters in the picture are mostly mothers, family and friends, so Edouard Vuillard is also known as a "family-oriented" painter, and his works can’t help but reveal his love for family and friends, and for life, which has a very strong appeal to the viewer[4]. In addition, in order to create this atmosphere of "familyism", Edouard Vuillard tirelessly depicts a large number of decorative patterns, which are full of complexity over and over again. In the work "Woman in Blue", the painter does not focus on the figure of the woman in blue, but spends a lot of time and energy on depicting the decoration of objects around the figure, such as the pattern of the sofa and the pattern of the wall. The weakening of the space is replaced by the depiction of a large number of patterns, creating a complex atmosphere, and the painting makes the picture more decorative.

3.5. Texture and brushwork

The characteristics of Edouard Vuillard’s oil paintings are different from most other painters’ oil paintings, which tend to have the characteristics of oil, as the name suggests, oil paintings use oil as a medium to paint works, so the paintings have the characteristics of oil shine[5, 6]. Most of Edouard Vuillard’s works have a matte character, and the pigments he concocts use colloidal materials as a medium, and the texture of his works is different from that of paintings painted by oily media, giving people a classical and elegant visual effect with a story. Edouard Vuillard is very good at drawing background colors and painting through the bottom, which makes the paintings more relaxed, natural and unintentional. "Open Window" uses earthy yellow tones as the background color, and the background color inadvertently revealed by the painter in the color laying stage not only enriches the picture effect, but also makes the picture more loose. The use of the pen and its ease gives the picture a flowing visual effect.

4. The Decorative Influence of Edouard Vuillard’S Oil Paintings

Nowadays, the Internet is more and more developed, the images are more and more complicated, we are in an era of more and more anxiety, so we need more and more things that can make people calm down and feel beautiful. Not the sensory stimulation that the products of those fast-paced times bring us, but a sense of calm and gentle flow, and the enjoyment of the beauty of some ordinary things in life. Therefore, I think it is still very necessary to study the paintings of Master Nabi Paiviard. Thirdly, among the many schools of painting in France in the 19th century, Edouard Vuillard, one of the representative painters of the Nabi School, has not only artistic value but also decorative value. The Nabi method of depicting reality does not follow the central perspective, but the form brought out by the purely subjective and decorative ideas. Influenced by the Nabi school of painting, Edouard Vuillard redefined nature from the standpoint of beauty and decoration, and pursued expressive colors. Edouard Vuillard often intentionally rich in physical relationship rhythm dynamics, weakening the three-dimensional sense of space in the picture, using irregular perspective to create illusion; Or clever use of lines and color blocks to make the picture image look ambiguous, never the image painting at a glance, so as to make the picture more vivid. So studying Edouard Vuillard’s works is very valuable. Finally, I believe that decorative paintings like Viard’s are the original intention of fine art. Both the expression of life attitude and the effect of oil painting express an elegant and beautiful attitude towards life and convey a warm emotion, which is very influential and helpful to the exploration of aesthetic value.
References


