



REVIEW

Discipline Planning of the Modern Glass Art

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history

Received: 23 December 2019

Revised: 30 December 2019

Accepted: 24 January 2020

Published Online: 31 January 2020

Keywords:

Glass art

Discipline

Teaching

System

Planning

ABSTRACT

The main purpose of establishing the glass art discipline in colleges and universities is to further promote the long-term development of the glass art discipline in China, and develop more talents in this field to meet the demand of social development. Nowadays, as the promotion and popularization of glass teaching subjects, the whole level of glass art teaching has also been effectively enhanced, the abundant rich ethnic culture it contains supplies more nutrition and inspiration to the explorers. Based on this, this paper makes analysis on the planning of modern glass art for reference.

1. Introduction

The construction of art discipline in colleges and universities is the inevitable demand of economic and social development as well as national cultural innovation at present. Therefore, the teaching system of glass arts in colleges and universities should be re-planned, to integrate in-depth the current situation of glass industry culture and glass art development in China under the precondition of actively learn from the teaching achievements and experience at home and abroad, specify the characteristics of talents which the glass industry in China needs, formulate academic research directions,

adopt high-tech means reasonably to explore more innovative subject teaching, build a more complete and innovative teaching system for glass arts, and comprehensively improve the teaching value and effect of glass art.

2. The Formation of Glass Art Discipline

2.1 The History of Glass Art Discipline

In 1962, Harvey Littleton, professor of the University of Wisconsin in the United States, first founded the glass studio at the Toledo Museum of Art, and organized the first international seminar on glass blowing art^[1], though it was a small conference, it was recognized as the beginning of

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Fund Project:

Research project of Tianjin Municipal Education Commission "A Comparative Study of the Artistic Aesthetic of Ukrainian Hand Blow Glass and Ancient Chinese Colored Glaze" (Project No.: 2019SK002).

the “Studio Glass Movement”, broke its original fixed material property, glass has developed from the role of raw materials into an independent artistic creation medium. Meantime, it has made a revolutionary exploration for the teaching of modern glass art, which lays an important foundation for the development of international higher glass art teaching discipline system module. Since then, teaching and exchanges related to glass academics have continued to develop and popularize, in the last century, the whole artistic medium has been reborn, which inclusive of glass art, a new page has been opened. At a later time, the Royal College of Art has also turned out the first generation of contemporary glass artists, who have played an important role in the subsequent glass art industry, and will further promote the development of the glass discipline in the world. In Germany, Italy, Czech and other countries with profound glass culture^[2], with the deepening of the new glass creation concept, the advantages of the traditional processing industry have been fully highlighted with distinctive characteristics. In the 1980s, New Glass Art has been introduced to New Zealand, Australia, Taiwan of China and other regions, which means that the contemporary glass art gained global popularity, to a large extent, the Studio Glass Movement has influenced the development of glass art education in China.

2.2 The Historical Backgrounds of Glass Art

For the glass art discipline, the cultural industry and glass industry offered a very broad platform and space for its growth and development. China is now not only a major country in glass industry, but also a great consumer of glass products, the overall development of the glass industry is making rapid progress, both production and sales of flat glass and decorative glass has ranked first in the world for many years. At the same time, with the development of the cultural industry, fresh blood and vitality have been injected into glass production, people not only care about the practicability of glass products, but also value the artistic quality of glass more, in this way, the significance of the glass design value is highlighted, the design concepts of many creative glass products occupy a very large part of the overall value of glass products, this shows that^[3], glass art has gradually made its way to people’s daily life. In this case, people raised higher request to the artistic design of glass, the asymmetry between the public aesthetic needs and the design level of glass products has become an outstanding contradiction between glass production and glass consumption, as a result, glass art is facing severe issue of transformation development. In this context, the shortcomings of design talents shortage were laid bare, which promoted the rapid development and growth of the

glass art discipline system.

Compared with the glass art disciplines in developed countries, the overall popularity and level of China’s glass art education remains low, however, the situation has reversed since entering the 21st century, nowadays, colleges and universities in China are facing new development trends which also brings new opportunities to the glass art discipline, hence, it is necessary to meet the changes and development of the times, build a new teaching system of glass art^[4], carry forward the national traditional handicraft art, and cultivate more new talents to provide sufficient strength for China’s social and economic development.

3. The Current Situation and Development Problems of Glass Art Discipline

3.1 The Current Situation of Glass Art Discipline

As early as 2000, art academies such as the China Academy of Art, Tsinghua University and Shanghai University have set up glass studios, according to incomplete statistics, nowadays, more than 30 colleges and universities in China have established glass arts discipline, followed by relevant glass art research and creation. After years of exploration and research, there have been remarkable academic achievements in China’s glass art discipline, the reason for this lies not only in cultural transmission and academic exchanges, but also the cultural and economic needs of society, which lays a solid foundation for the development of glass art. When it comes to the construction of the glass art discipline system, first of all, because of the broad application of glass art^[5], no matter in public space or architectural space, or some accessories, objects, glass products have their unique value, this lays the foundation for the development of glass art. Second, with exchanges between countries become more and more in-depth, the trendy design concept of western glass art has further promoted the growth of China’s glass art discipline, many experts and abroad students returned to China to participate in the construction of glass discipline in China, which has made great contributions to the development of China’s glass art. Third, with the raise of aesthetic understanding, people makes greater demands for the design and creation of glass products, thus creating new space and opportunities for the development of glass arts.

At present, after decades of development, the teaching strength of the advanced glass arts discipline is constantly increasing, has formed a basic teaching framework, and the teaching direction is becoming increasingly diverse, but this is not enough, only keep in pace with the development of the times, innovate the teaching system of glass

arts, can we seek a greater say in the world, and promote the rapid development of China's glass industry.

3.2 Development Problems of Glass Art Discipline

China is a world-renowned ceramic power, the brilliance of ceramics has influenced the development of glass art to a certain degree, the development of glass art in China is intermittent. And this resulting in the rare reserve of talents in glass art. Specifically, it includes 3 aspects: 1), There is a lack of harmony between the contemporary glass art and the current social needs of China^[6], which can be divided into two parts: the harmony of aesthetic demand and the harmony of market demand, this indicates that there is still a lot of room to grow for China's glass art in terms of design and aesthetic. 2), there is a shortage of high-end talents in glass art design, and the overall level of glass art and design is relatively low, its characteristics are mostly represented in 3 aspects when it comes to talents: R & D personnel, processing and technical personnel, promotion and planning personnel. 3), there is not yet a complete glass art aesthetic framework, on the one hand, China's glass art disciplines is relatively weak in practice and exploration, the whole creative vision is obviously limited, there isn't an objective, scientific and mature aesthetic system; on the other hand, there are some contradictions on the combination between China's higher education system and western new glass art culture. Furthermore, though the glass art discipline has been widely promoted in China, the recognition is poor and remains on the surface, there is a lack of effective expansion to make trans-boundary exchanges, as a result, the connotations of glass art isn't fully embodied.

4. The Planning of Glass Art Discipline

4.1 Clarify the Development Direction of Glass Art Discipline

For the planning of the glass art discipline in China, it must be planned according to the objective laws of economic development as well as education and teaching, which is also the inexorable development trend of higher education and social economy. The glass art today was produced under the development of society and higher education. In this case, the glass art discipline education itself has strong advanced consciousness and exploration spirit^[7], the key point in the planning of glass arts is the mutual promotion and integration of scientific research and education.

Glass has very wide applications in today's life, how to

make better use of educational research results is the main problem in the future development of glass art science, in other words, glass is full of possibilities in material innovation, application space expansion and design concept reform. In the meantime, the development of cultural industry has also become the main innovation standard for the development of glass art discipline, and has provided two-way development opportunities for the glass art discipline and glass industry as well. Only by strengthening the teaching orientation, designing a benign glass promotion and application mode, and creating a modern glass research and creation platform, can we boost the development of glass art in China.

At this stage, in order to further enhance the reform and innovation level in the glass industry, it is necessary to further popularize and promote glass art culture as well as glass art education, to serve the public and society with research results, bring convenience to people's daily life, appreciate glass art, and that is exactly the major development direction of glass art glass discipline.

4.2 Balance Development, Raise Innovation and Research Level

Currently, the continuous improvement of the glass art teaching system together with the guidance of glass aesthetics have promoted the in-depth development of the glass industry. The major characteristic in the glass art teaching in developed countries is the studio teaching system, which is also a normalized teaching mode in the world, it is usually presided over by a professor with rich experience to clarify the research direction and take charge of the relevant teaching and research work. In the glass art teaching in China's colleges and universities, the studio teaching mode has been explored extensively and thoroughly and widely applied, this has further raised the research and innovation level of glass art.

Nowadays, the culture background of blowing glass in China is weak, both academic research and teaching research started rather late, which led to unbalanced development of several subjects in the glass art discipline, the key to maintain a balanced growth is to enable students to try various techniques from different perspectives to achieve the purpose of innovation and deepen students' understanding of glass art.

4.3 Take Various Measures to Enhance the Teaching Value of This Discipline

Modern glass art discipline belongs to a huge academic teaching system, the teaching of glass art not only includes the teaching of various glass techniques, but also

attaches importance to the promotion of glass art culture and the cultivation of talents. The process of establishing glass art discipline can also be regarded as the process of integrating glass art and social culture, which requires the educational workers keeping enriching their knowledge, expand their careers, get rid of the small circle of traditional arts and crafts, and seek new glass with more experimental ideas and application value while deeply promote the development of glass handicraft^[9]. Meantime, it is necessary to fully realize that the scope and field of glass art will never be the same, but is closely linked with the development of science and technology. In the planning of glass art discipline, on the one hand, it should reflect the mode of combination and parallel of glass technology innovation and glass art research, so that technology and art can penetrate and promote the other; on the other, it should be combined with national characteristics, take the regional culture features into account, research the subject teaching of new handicraft art, drive the synchronous development of aesthetics forms and academic standards of glass art, give full play to spread China's national characteristic culture, highlight the regional features, and promote the further development of glass art discipline.

5. Conclusion

In summary, glass art discipline has close ties to the development of cultural industry and social economy, in the developing situation at present, in order to better serve the society and people, the future development of glass art should be planned and envisioned so that the design of glass art could be further improved.

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