Global Journal of Arts Humanity and Social Sciences ISSN: 2583-2034



Glob. J.Arts.Humanit.Soc.Sci

ISSN: 2583-2034

Vol-2 Iss-11, page 825-827



The ancient Greek culture has initially explored its humanistic spirit—constellation myths, architecture, and statues

BY

Lingran Liu

School of Arts, Southeast University, Nanjing Jiangsu 211189, China



Article History

Received: 09/11/2022 Accepted: 13/11/2022 Published: 15/11/2022

Corresponding author:

Lingran Liu

Abstract

Ancient Greek culture is the spiritual product of the primitive clan society in the ancient Greek world, and it is the main birthplace of humanistic thought in western culture. As the representative of the classical culture, the ancient Greek culture occupies an extremely important position in the West and even in the world. It is not hard to see that the profound life consciousness, humanistic consciousness and freedom concept are the basic spirit of the ancient Greek culture. The author will mainly start from the constellation mythology (intangible cultural heritage) and architecture and sculpture (material cultural heritage), and initially explore the humanistic spirit reflected in the ancient Greek culture and the reason for the core of "people-oriented" in the early stage of its creation.

Keywords: Ancient Greek culture and art creation, constellation myth architectural statue humanistic spirit

Introduction

Greece is located in a very special location, and it is adjacent to the Aegean Sea. In the Aegean Sea, there are about 1,000 islands scattered everywhere, so Greece has many bays and islands, and the navigation industry is relatively developed, which has extensive commercial and cultural ties with other regions, especially with Egypt and Western Asia. The sea was the main channel for the ancient Greeks to communicate with the outside world. The development of the navigation industry promoted the development of Greek commerce and culture, and communication between the Greeks and the outside world became more and more frequent, which made Greece form an open society. Such a geographical location created the simple, free and open character of the ancient Greeks

When the democratic system was established in the Greek states, the personal role and values of the ancient Greek citizens were perfectly reflected, making human nature highly respected, and freedom became the pursuit of the ancient Greeks, which also led to the growth soil of humanism in the ancient Greek civilization. In this context, the ancient Greeks were free to think, express their opinions, and create freely. Thus, "for the first time in the world,

there was a freedom of thought," which made the ancient Greeks far ahead of that of the other nations at the time.

In addition, the ancient Greeks had only a reverence and no fear of the gods. Different from our eastern people, who regard the gods as superior beings, in the concept of the ancient Greeks, the god was the existence of coexistence with human beings in another world, not sacred and inviolable. Their free ideology determines that they think that they live in a world ruled by familiar and understandable forces, and thus feel comfortable and carefree. Therefore, the humanistic spirit in the ancient Greek civilization was not strangled by religious belief. The ancient Greek culture simply showed the world outlook of the ancient Greeks, and the humanistic spirit of the ancient Greeks was fully demonstrated in their culture, art, and other social life.

As we know, art is a social ideology, a spiritual production that creates aesthetic objects. Art creation refers to the artist in the creative desire, using has mastered the art creation ability, to life material for material, around certain themes, artistic thinking, to form a relatively complete art image in the mind, and can use artistic language and various skills, put it into artistic image for

Global Journal of Arts Humanity and Social Sciences ISSN: 2583-2034

people to appreciate, in short, all the works of art creation activities, and generally can be divided into artistic experience, artistic conception, objective three important stages. Art comes from life and is higher than life. Therefore, no matter what kind of artistic creation is, it will more or less receive the influence from the local environment at that time, and artistic creation is the embodiment of the artist's spirit. Ancient Greek art is one of the representatives of ancient Greek culture. Ancient Greek art can also be called a precious cultural heritage. Ancient Greek artists received the influence of the social background of that time when making their artistic creation, and their artworks of art also reflect the humanistic spirit in different forms. Next, the author will take the ancient Greek constellation myth (intangible cultural heritage) and ancient Greek architecture, statues (material cultural heritage) as examples, try to analyze.

The constellation mythology of ancient Greece

Ancient Greek mythology formed a basic scale on the basis of the primitive Greek people, and later developed into a text art, and the ancient Greek mythology is known as the constellation mythology. In these constellation myth, all the origin of the constellation is given a strong humanistic color, the character has a distinct character, the story like human is also full of contradictions and conflict, theory is god, humans, or ghosts, are according to people's life habits and temperament for the template.

For example, the story of Aquarius is that in Troy. His beautiful appearance, even the beauty in the city are inferior. One day, the gods would hold a banquet, but the girl who poured the wine for Zeus was injured, so no one could do the job instead. So Zeus was very distressed, and he did not know what to do. The gods see Zeus so worried, very want to help to find someone to replace, but introduced to the girl, but can not let Zeus satisfied. One day, the god Apollo came to Troy and saw the handsome prince playing with the maid. He thought that there was such a handsome prince, so Apollo returned to the gods and reported to Zeus what he had seen and heard in Troy. Zeus was very surprised, and he wanted to see the face of Prince Troy. And when Zeus saw the Prince of Troy, he thought it every day, and Zeus had an evil idea. Zeus came to the city of Troy again, when the Trojan Prince acted alone, Zeus became a big eagle, while the prince is not looking, caught the prince back to the divine kingdom. The Prince of Troy came to the divine kingdom, and Zeus asked him to replace the injured girl and pour wine for Zeus. The prince had no choice but to stay in the divine kingdom. However, the prince misses his hometown and his family very much, and the King of Troy also misses the prince very much. He does not know where he went. Zeus felt ashamed and could not bear the prince to lose weight day by day, so he dreamed the king and told him how the prince was in the kingdom. In order to comfort the king, he gave the king a few horses for comfort. And Zeus also let the prince go back to Troy to see the king, and then come back to the gods to pour wine for Zeus, the prince of Troy turned into a water bottle in the sky, responsible for pouring wine for Zeus.

As can be seen from Greek mythology, Greek culture is mainly a people-centered culture of secularization, highlighting the

important position of people. This is obviously very different from our Oriental mythological figures, which are often ascetic, ruthless, and always bound by all kinds of etiquette and regulations. The personification of the artistic images in the ancient Greek mythology shows that the ancient Greeks were rich in emotion and opposed to asceticism. These images were not perfect. They all had their own seven emotions, their joys and sorrows, and their own advantages and disadvantages. This is the ancient Greek respect and love for "people", "human" nature, so from the Greek mythology, we can very clearly see the early humanistic spirit.

Ancient Greek architecture

Ancient Greek architecture is dominated by temples, which are named after the gods, placed inside, and arranged with columns outside, as the place for gathering. The ancient Greeks put special emphasis on pillar change, never sticking to one form, and even turning the portrait variant into the pillar form. Has said before, the ancient Greek "god" is "the essence of" man ", so named after the god, placed god like all reflect the ancient Greeks to the humanistic spirit and attention, and" freedom "is the important connotation of the humanistic spirit, the portrait variant for the pillar form this isn't it embodies the" freedom "and" people "?

Take the statue of six women carved from marble at the southern end of Iretion Temple. When architects built the Iktion Temple, a problem occurred. Their blueprint for the temple was to change the monotonous column into a sculpture of a girlish, but the girl's neck was too slender to bear the weight of the temple, and it had to be thick enough to mount a heavy stone top, but this would affect its appearance. After clever and rigorous thinking, the architect finally came up with a clever idea, which was to keep a thick wisp of hair behind each girl's neck, and then add a flower basket above her head, which successfully solved the problem of architectural aesthetics. This not only reflects the core humanistic spirit of the ancient Greeks' "human text", but also reflects their humanistic aesthetic concept.

Statues of ancient Greece

Hippolyte Adolphe Taine said in his Philosophy of Art in The Sculpture of Greece: "The Greeks also have a more universal art of expressing the human body, more suitable for customs and ethnic spirit, and perhaps a more perfect art, which is sculpture."The Greeks tried to model the beautiful human body, only to be considered an idol: as a hero on the earth, and as a god in heaven. "This mythological spirit of human body worship was later transformed into a human-oriented consciousness, and the resulting life cognition and attitude towards life. Sculpture belongs to one kind of the ancient Greek art, and it is also an important part of the ancient Greek culture. The greatest achievement of the ancient Greek art is the sculpture. From its art form, we can see the humanistic spirit of the ancient Greeks.

Ancient Greek sculpture mainly depicts the beauty of the human body, so most sculptures often appear in naked or semi-naked art forms. Even if you wear clothes, you will not wear a lot, but also to express the beauty of the lines and power of the human body with very realistic artistic techniques. Of course, such a dress is also related to the climate of ancient Greece. For example, Venus

Global Journal of Arts Humanity and Social Sciences ISSN: 2583-2034

statue, Aphrodite statue, Ares statue, Apollo statue, the competitor with a discus, seated woman statue, the goddess of victory Nick statue, etc. It is not difficult to find that the ancient Greek sculpture also often takes the "god" as the theme, which also confirms the words mentioned above.

Take the above-mentioned statue as an example, the Venus statue and Aphrodite statue are semi-naked female statues, the statue of Ares statue, Apollo statue and the competitor with discus are all naked male statues, the seated woman statue and the statue of Nick, the goddess of victory, who are statues wearing complete typical Greek costumes. The completely naked male statue mainly shows the beauty of muscle and strength, while the half-naked female statue mainly shows the line beauty and soft beauty characteristics of the female body, while the statue wearing a complete typical Greek dress not only reflects a variety of beauty of the human body but also conveys the information about the ancient Greek dress. Wearing complete typical Greek dress statue is not like half naked or naked statue intuitive transfer the beauty of the body, but with a lining of indirect performance is both direct and hazy beauty of the human body, this is thanks to the hand of ancient Greek craftsmen, further is thanks to the ancient Greek strong humanistic spirit of support and promote.

Ancient Greek art believed that "a sound spirit must live in a sound body". Guided by this kind of thought, they created works of art, discovered the beauty of the human body, and paid special attention to the depiction of people's personality and psychological activities. It can be seen from the above discussion that the form of ancient Greek art creation is eclectic and emphasizes the change in form. Open thinking, active artistic style, and rich and colorful content all reveal their primitive and secular humanism spirit.

The worship of the human body in ancient Greece has created the brilliant statue art of ancient Greece, and the worship of the human body is also the embodiment of the ancient Greeks advocating the humanistic spirit.

Conclusions

The humanistic spirit of ancient Greece gave the ancient Greeks a rich imagination and open and active thinking while telling people that human actions and thoughts were extremely free and that religion and the gods they believed in could not control their thoughts or determine their destiny. The Italian thinker Vico once said: "It is not God who created man, but man who created God in his own model."God is just a beautified person, and the ancient Greek constellation myths and buildings and statues are often related to God, from which we can see the humanistic spirit contained in it. To sum up, the ancient Greeks will have the modern society of the humanistic spirit, and its unique geography, history, cultural environment caused by the aesthetic, values are inseparable, and this is the spirit of humanism is demonstrated by a variety of different forms of art and culture.

References

 Li Yanna. Humanism in Ancient Greek mythology [J]. Journal of Shandong University (Philosophy and Social Sciences edition), 2008 (5): Vol. 25, No.3.

- 2. Liu Lvyu. The humanistic spirit of Greek mythology [J]. Nandu Studies (Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences), 2006 (11): Vol. 26, No.6.
- 3. Sun Fengling. A Brief Analysis of the Humanism Thought of Ancient Greece [J]. Journal of Changchun University of Education, 2004 (6): Vol. 20, No.6.
- 4. Schwab. Ancient Greek mythology [M]. Beijing: North Literature and Art Publishing House, 2012.
- 5. EDIS Hamilton. The Greek Way- -The Source to Western Civilization [M]. Zhejiang People's Publishing House, 1988.
- 6. Wang Shuliang, Introduction to Zhuang Yuhua Art [M]. Chongqing University Press, 2012.
- Ling Ling. The Constellation Myth (above) [J]. Contemporary Vocational School Student-Star Seat, Issue 09,2008
- 8. Wu Jialei. Psalms given to the Earth by —— Heaven [J]. Anhui Construction, Issue 2002,2012
- 9. Hippolyte Adolphe Taine. The Philosophy of Art [M]. Shanghai Calligraphy and Painting Publishing House, 2011.
- 10. Sun Dingguo. The Encyclopedia of Western Culture [M]. Jilin People's Publishing Press, 1991.