

Text on the exhibitions “The World ARTISTS DIALOGUE” in Beijing and Bremen

Nowadays the world is going through a process of globalization. This new age order not only redistributes global resources but also enhance the knowledge of mankind. Moreover, the new order is replacing the discourse mechanism of the previous national system. All of these is forming a new environment in terms of questioning the mind, the self-identity and the knowledge in value-proposition among humanists and artist intellectuals from different countries. And it also made them to react in their own manner to the globalization. In the transformation of ideologies from large social cultures to a cluster of mini-cultures, foreign cultures and arts issues arise in international relationships and culture differences, which have emerged truly and strongly in the new century.

The cultural exchange and dialogue between China and other countries is an important way of cultural communication in the 21st century. The two women artists, Ms Zhao from China and Ms Zietz from Germany, painted in accordance to her own countries cultural spirit and then displayed these paintings at the same exhibition, in order to demonstrate the harmonious and bright light of the art of communication in cultural diversity. The exhibition itself is a meaningful discourse of communication between China and Western countries. The paintings by Ms Zhao and Ms Zietz are, as it were, an extraordinary dialogue between Chinese and German cultures and a direct communication between women discourses from these two countries.

Ms Zietz, a German artist, appreciates highly Chinese traditional cultures. Her lines which contain a touch of Eastern spirit not only display the depth and original elements of the magnificent Eastern culture, but also get the mysterious Eastern feeling of the famous Chinese artist Zhao Wuji. Her appreciation, understanding and active pursuit of the different Eastern cultures impressed me greatly.

Associate professor Zhao Hong received strict academic and artistic training in a family full of Chinese cultures and atmosphere of arts. She dedicated herself to continue and develop the Chinese traditional cultural spirit. Ms Zhao has a profound understanding about art vitality of the „theory of the six-principle of painting“ developed by the Chinese painting critic Xie He of the Southern Dynasty. She is proficient in figure paintings and good at combining her own spirit with portraits. In the present international dialogue of work of arts, she has chosen the Chinese-oriented viewpoint, mainly painting quite realistic but full of childlike innocent figures. All her works convey Eastern spirit, where the figures are natural and of transparent sincerity with skill and concise drawing techniques, that look simple but are full of meaning. Ink lines are spontaneous but skillful, that represent the appearance, the spiritual beauty and the bearing of oriental figures.

Through further study at Peking University Ms Zhao Hong has achieved a higher level in terms of theory and practice. She has taken this exhibition as an international display of Chinese cultures, a direct dialogue and interaction between Chinese and foreign countries. In these four years of dialogue and creation, the two artists have deliberately found the most tiny and wonderful points in their own national culture spirit. The lines symbolize the national strength; the colors illustrate the cultural variety and characteristics. Therefore, their art exhibition shows more about their national differences than various forms of art and the desire of constructing harmonious human culture rather than cultural difference.

I have noticed that Ms Hong and Ms Reinhild Zietz painted themes that they have agreed together. Under the 24 English words that they have selected, they planted the art in the deep and wide culture of their own country and carried on the dialogue between the Chinese

national culture and German national culture which all have a long history to draw on. The aim of the exhibition is to give there own answer to the same question on behalf of the two cultures and to observe the cultural themes of common concern from their unique points of view. This kind of exploration starting from cultural key words is quite original, the cultural clash and fusion give the artists new angles of view and arise new questions. I can see that they use their spirit to paint and did their best to find a deeper human issue from a new perspective. Every time when they carried on a painting dialogue, they tried to touch the contemporaneous worldwide frontier issues, for the purpose of reflecting the consciosness of their own nation and share many resources of mankind.
I wish them a complete succes to their international art exhibition.

16 April 2009, Peking University
Prof. Wang Yuechuan