

Contemporary perspectives in Personal Research

—————Using Chess Strategies to Defend



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What is the aesthetic taste of China in the 21st century?

- **Origin:** middle class, official academy of fine arts, a city with revolutionary tradition
- **Philosophical background:**
 - France in the 18th century, **the idea of elitism**: beauty without interest is taste.
Immanuel Kant, Guyer, P. and Wood, A.W. (2007).
- **Sociological background:**
 - France in the 19th century **Different classes** have different aesthetic tastes. By attacking the tastes of other classes, the existence of one's own taste is determined.
Bourdieu, P. (1984).
 - France in the 20th century relied on slum theory and used intergenerational inheritance to study the aesthetic taste of **different groups**. (Loïc Wacquant's 2008)
 - China in the 21st century, do a **comparative study** with the flow of French aesthetic taste, understand the aesthetic taste of contemporary, and establish **a personal** aesthetic taste system. Fei, X. (2001).

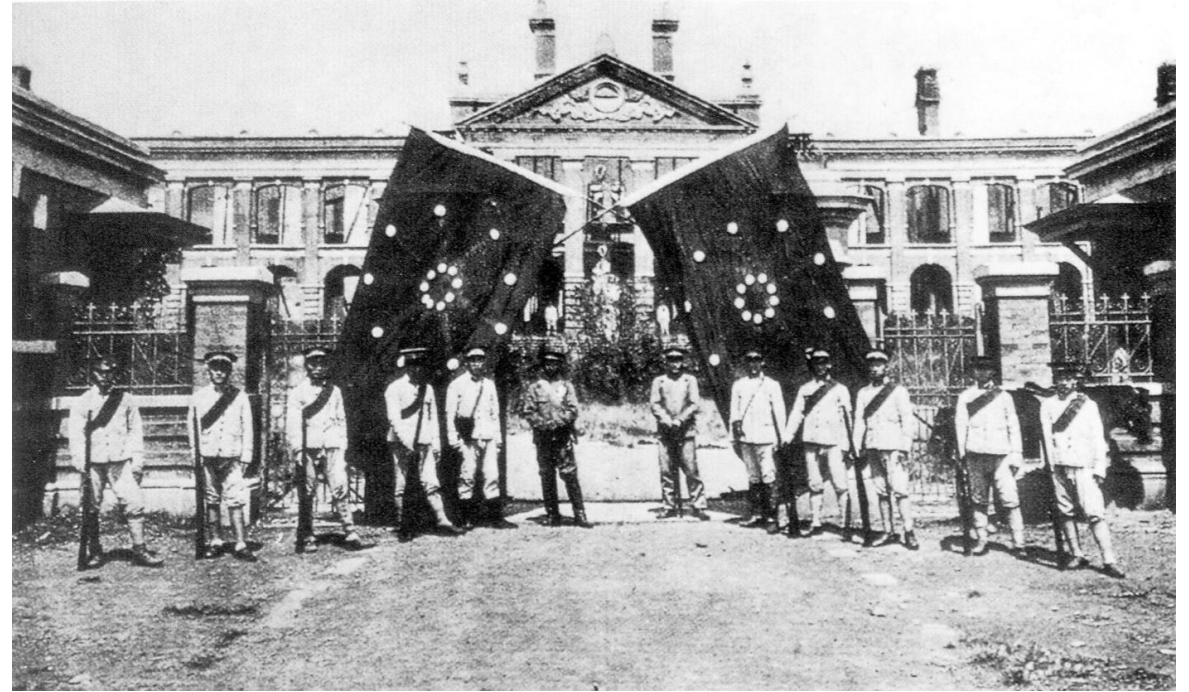
The purpose of the paper

- Use: sociological **group differentiation** theory Bourdieu, P. (1984).
- Based: the Chinese aesthetic taste **in the 21st** century
- Compare: the evolution of French aesthetic taste **after the 18th** century
- Clarify self-positioning: find **a solution** to the economic, cultural, political and capital oppression Baudrillard, J. (2016). Debord, G. (1998).
- Guide the choice of life path: establish a **personal aesthetic taste system**
- React: own artistic creation **practice**
- Focus on: **Constructivism** or **Relativism**

Why choose the French aesthetic taste of the 18th century ?



French Revolution
"Liberty Leading the People"



Wuchang Revolution
"Gather in the governor's office"

Why choose the Chinese aesthetic taste in the 21st century ?

- I was **born** in Wuhan, China in 1997.
- After 27 years of study and life, the works I created naturally have a **contemporary consciousness** of the city.
- After experiencing the **COVID-19 pandemic**, I **personally** experienced the despair of being starved to death at home.
- My **feelings have changed** significantly, and I have created a group of dark, painful, closed, and death-like works that **have touched many people**.

What is the contemporary multiple definitions ?

Ary field:

Conceptual art is the main concerns, and pay attention to whether **the communication of concepts** is successful

Sociology field:

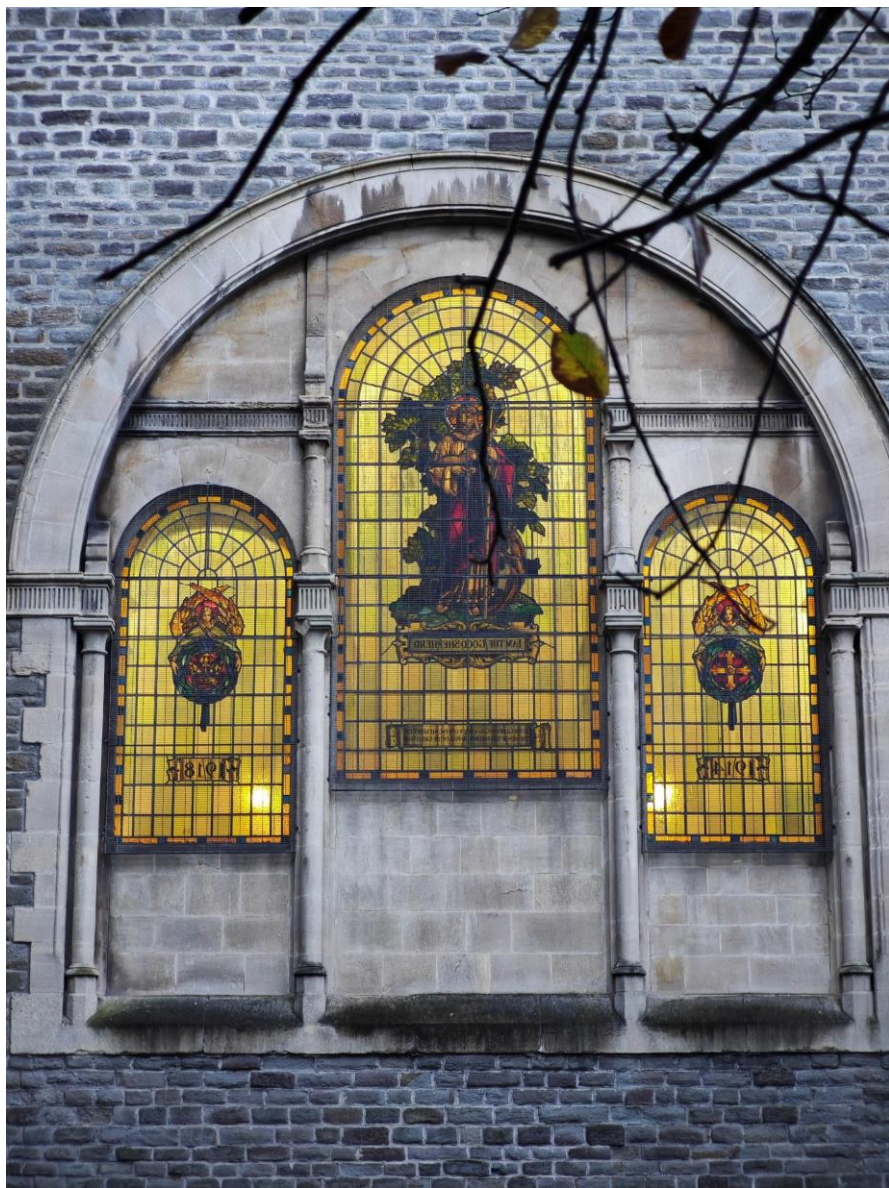
Record what is happening at present and emphasize **immediacy**

Personal Practical significance:

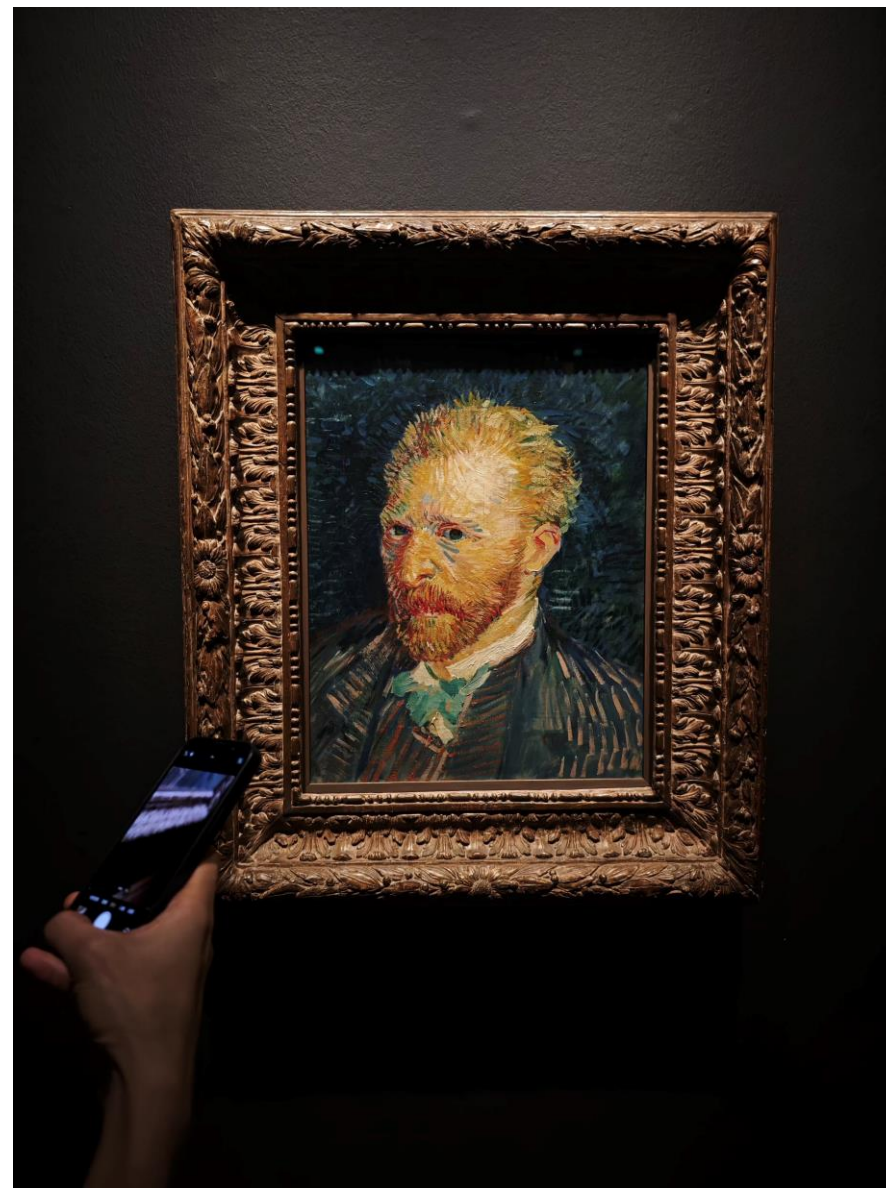
Artistic creation needs to be combined with reality to provide **value or inspiration**

Robertson, J. and Mcdaniel, C. (2022).

classical



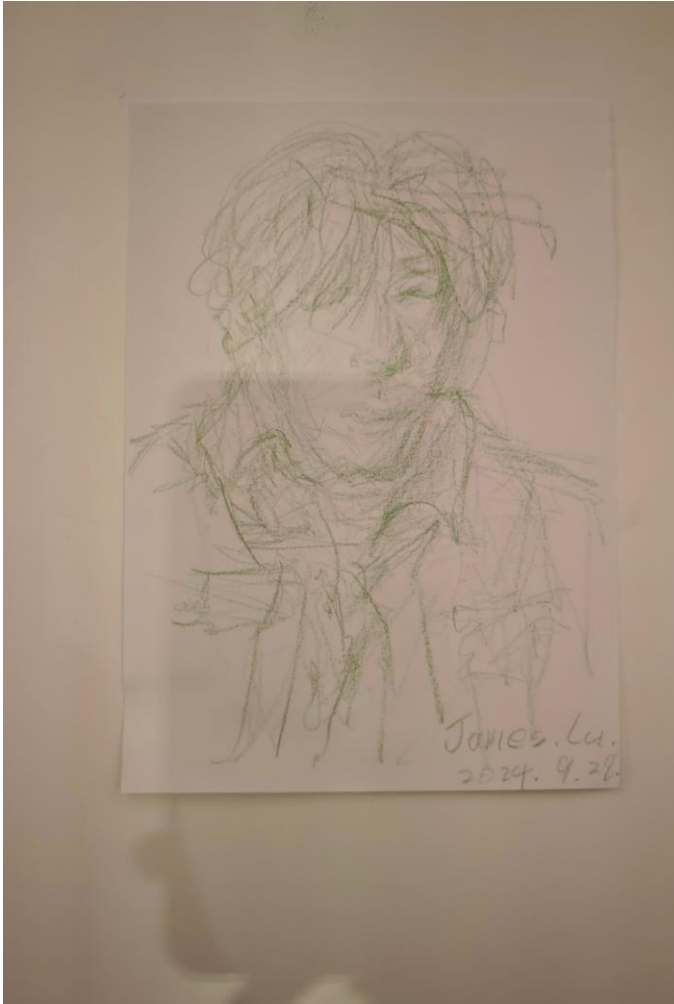
Modern



Not Contemporary

Contemporary **Yes**

Modern
+
Contemporary



The work is the Medium
The concept is the core



Capture the present
Record it instantly

Contemporary

Aesthetic differentiation from the perspective of sociology



Social class and aesthetic taste

the **product of social class** differentiation

economic conditions, educational background and **cultural environment** form different **aesthetic standards**

The **upper** class pursues **elegant art and exquisite life**, and the **lower** class tends to **popular culture and pragmatism**

Pursuing **personalization and diversification**, and **breaking the boundaries** of the traditional class (Pierre Bourdieu's 1979)



The social function of aesthetic taste

reflecting **social status, cultural literacy and attitude towards life**

become a kind of **social interaction**

Good aesthetic taste can bring **social recognition and respect** to individuals

important for **social and cultural development** (Guy-Ernest Baudrillard 1970, Guy-Ernest Debord 1967)



Aesthetic education and social integration

Cultivate aesthetic **appreciation ability, creativity** and **critical thinking**

diversity and inclusiveness, and **respect the needs** of different cultures and classes

cross-cultural exchanges and **appreciate the aesthetic value** of different cultures (Cai Yuanpei 1961)

Aesthetic Practical experience :

(clothing, painting, video academic research)

1. Clothing is not about price but about fit. The best is the one that fits you.
Leather, textile, waterproof coated boots + Tarpaulin trench windbreaker
+ Italian fabric jacket + Merino wool scarf

(British clothing) Gunn, T. and Calhoun, A. (2012).

2. The content, form and concept of artistic creation
(Tempera + oil painting + watercolor) Gombrich, E.H. (2016).

3. Personal aesthetic taste system
(Economic statue + Cultural identity + Political expression)



1. Explore the inner contradictions of contemporary young people
Scott, J.C. (2009).

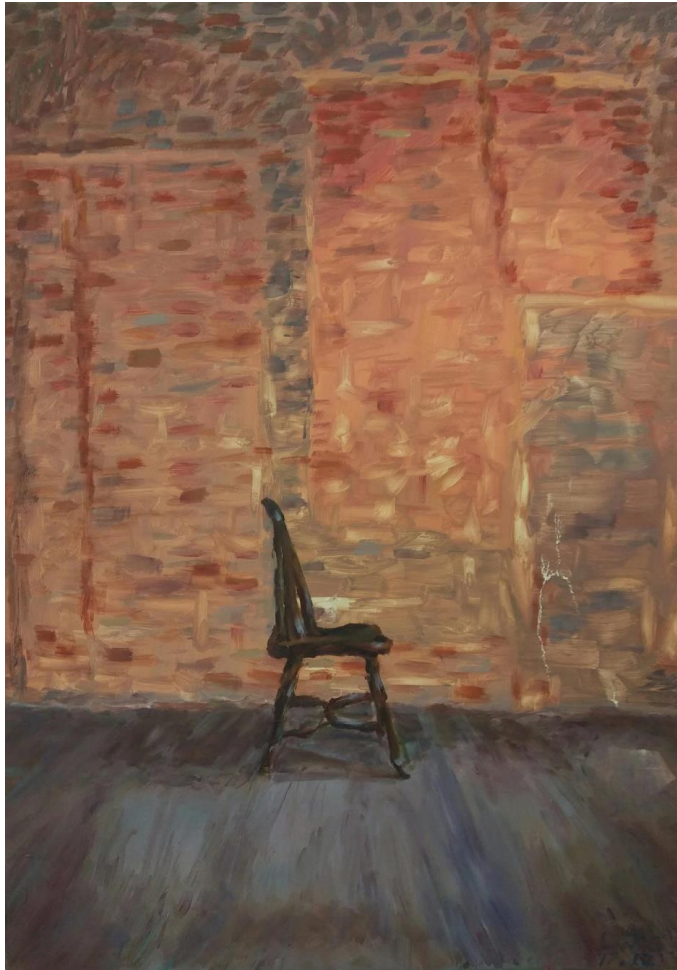
British clothing

(18th elitism vs 21st individualism)
Middle-class aesthetic taste



2. Records and criticism of social problems Robertson, J. and Mcdaniel, C. (2022).

Industrialization



《Chair》 56*76cm
oil painting on canvas
Jiachen Lu 2017

War



《The flower of evil》 38*53cm
Watercolor painting on paper
Jiachen Lu 2022

epidemic



《Born in the sun》 30*30cm
Water-based Tempera
Jiachen Lu 2024

3. Not pursue aesthetics, but triggers the thinking Giannetti, L.D. (2014).

Crime



Juvenile problems



Vietnam War



Underworld



Dede Allen

"Bonnie and Clyde"

"The Breakfast Club"

Walter Murch

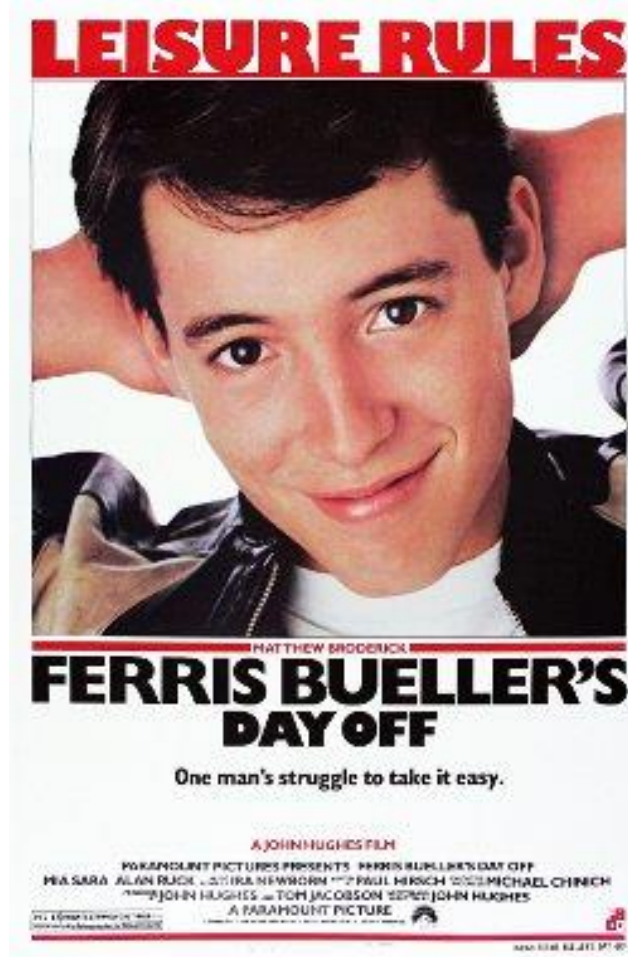
"Apocalypse Now "

"The Godfather"

Nazis + Second World War



Breaking the fourth wall



LGBT + Psychosis



Paul Hirsch
"Star Wars"
"Ferris Bueller's Day Off"

Craig McKay
"The Silence of the Lambs"

How to do it in the contemporary context ?

Economic statue

Unable to obtain high-quality aesthetic resources, affecting the development of aesthetic taste

Seeking **low-cost and high-quality** aesthetic experience

Lifelong learning , and constantly improving aesthetic ability

Scott, J.C. (2009).

Cultural identity

Express your cultural identity and values through aesthetics

Participate in cultural activities, strengthen cultural identity

Open mind, learn the aesthetics of other cultures

Gladwell, M. (2008).

Political expression

Express Through Aesthetic expression of criticism of reality

Works of art become tools for political expression

Convey political information and critical spirit

Express political concepts and social attitudes through

artistic creation and cultural consumption

Benjamin, W. (2017).

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The End

Thanks for your watching