

Color Expression in Lacquer Painting: The Interact of Materials and The Multiple Layering Technique

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Abstract

This study explores the unique color expression in lacquer painting, an East Asian art form that utilizes pigments derived and processed from lacquer tree sap, applied through a multi-layering technique involving various natural and synthetic materials. The research aims to uncover how these materials interact within the layering process to influence color depth, texture, and visual impact. Through qualitative analysis and observational methods, the study examines the techniques of using lacquer pigments, media, and diluents in creating intricate textures and layered colors, which are then polished to achieve a unique effect. Results reveal that lacquer painting's color expression differs significantly from other art forms; its colors gain depth from layered textures hidden beneath polished surfaces, highlighting elements like metallic foil and pearl to create profound visual depth. This study provides insights into the potential of material choices and multi-layering techniques in enhancing the aesthetic complexity of lacquer painting, offering valuable guidance for artists and contributing to the theoretical understanding of lacquer as an expressive medium.

Keywords: lacquer painting; color expression; multiple layering technique; lacquer pigments; material interaction