

# Innovative Application and Practical Research of Watercolor Technique in Oil Painting Creation

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**Abstract:** Watercolor painting has experienced the evolution of nearly a thousand years. The tools used in watercolor painting include watercolor box pigment, brush, paper and water. With the development of science and technology, people have gradually broken the old ideas, and the tools and materials are constantly updated. The research of applying watercolor techniques to oil painting creation needs to start with the connection and difference between watercolor creation and oil painting creation. Watercolor techniques can make the painting content show a clear and clear artistic conception, and well neutralize the thick and thick style of oil painting. The innovation and development of watercolor techniques is not only an important factor in the formation of artists' personal style, but also enriches the technical language of watercolor art. Many techniques of watercolor painting can be applied, which can draw special effects different from watercolor and traditional oil painting. Watercolor painting and oil painting are two different kinds of paintings, and they also have their own unique painting methods. However, from the perspective of the application of techniques, it is not said that any technique is unique to a certain kind of painting. Between painting types, the techniques are used for reference. The continuous pursuit of different personality expression in painting will produce more and more various techniques. This paper explores the connection and difference between watercolor creation and oil painting creation, and the specific application of watercolor techniques in oil painting creation. The purpose is to better integrate watercolor techniques with oil painting creation and improve the artistic conception and effect of oil painting creation.

## 1. Introduction

From the perspective of the development history of painting, two new types of painting appeared in Western Europe during the Renaissance, among which watercolor is the main one. Watercolor painting has rich color scales and is drawn with water as the medium and mixed with pigments. It has strong adaptability. It is one of the most convenient paintings for tools to use. It can create paintings of different styles [1]. The creation of oil painting presents a relatively heavy feeling, which requires more oil painting pigments; In contrast, watercolor creation presents a fresh and free feeling. The two have similarities in many aspects, both related and different [2]. Watercolor painting, with its unique transparent and clear characteristics, does not use thick coating, but can pursue leisure, quality, quantity and the language and rhythm of illusion in painting, so that it can reach the top and go deep into the field of modern painting [3]. He mainly focuses on oil painting, but he has always been interested in watercolor. Recently, he tried to apply watercolor techniques to oil painting and achieved some unexpected results [4]. The impression of oil painting is generally thick and solid, which seems to run counter to watercolor. However, from the perspective of materials, oil painting and watercolor have one important feature in common - transparency [5]. The pigments needed for oil painting creation can obtain a more transparent effect after being diluted with media. In oil painting creation, the technique of transparent color coating is very practical [6].

Watercolor pigment itself has strong transparency, which is also an important point in watercolor technology [7]. Of course, to integrate watercolor techniques into oil painting creation, we need to pay attention to the painting of the smooth effect of the picture, ensure the uniformity of the painting, pay attention to the mixing of oil and color, and try to obtain a mixed effect. In the process

of painting, it should be noted that there are obvious differences between oil painting and watercolor techniques, so painters need to make full use of their commonalities [8]. With its unique transparent and clear characteristics, watercolor painting can pursue the ethereal sense of ease without thick coating, and the illusory language and rhythm in the picture can make it occupy a place in the field of art. The unique artistic charm of poetry and song formed by the unique dripping and moistening water taste and crystal clear and flowing sense of watercolor painting is the basis for the survival of watercolor painting.

## 2. Watercolor technique

### 2.1. Materials of watercolor techniques

The origin of Chinese watercolor painting dates back to the Neolithic Age 5000 years ago. After nearly 1000 years of development, it has formed an independent art form and gradually formed its unique basic techniques. Watercolor painting includes painting, dragging, wiping, dyeing, sweeping, kneading, swinging, pointing, etc. its pen is more flexible. Generally, wet painting uses more water in painting. Wet the paper first, or spray a large amount of water in the middle and later stages of painting, and carry out special effect treatment according to your preferences. The drawing board is placed horizontally, and the angle of the drawing board can also be adjusted according to the needs of the painter, in order to better control the water flow. In wet painting, it is very important to control the water. It is best to prepare a clean sponge in advance to absorb more water, show a soft effect and give full play to the advantages of watercolor. When using the techniques of watercolor painting, materials are very important, such as paper, pigment, brush, pigment additives, media materials and so on. The commonly used media of watercolor painting include viscous paste, gum, glycerol, blank solution, thickener, gum buffalo bile, desiccant and so on. You can also use other materials to make different attempts to produce good results on the surface. Pay attention to the strength of the knife when using it to avoid getting through the paper. With its unique transparent and clear characteristics, watercolor painting occupies a place in the field of art and forms a unique artistic charm like poetry and song.

### 2.2. Painting method of watercolor technique

Watercolor painting has many painting methods. Dry painting is a multi-layer painting method. Use the method of layer by layer superposition to color on the dry background without seeking the infiltration effect, so you can color again and again more calmly. Wet painting is the protagonist of the unique artistic charm in Raskin's watercolor language. It is a method to control the drawing when the water is not dry. First wet the watercolor paper or soak it in the water, then take it out, and then color it. After the wet pen is overlapped, draw various color blocks and color lines on the wet color bottom, or drip water and color when the color bottom is not dry, so as to produce the mutual penetration of water and color, which makes the picture obtain rich and wonderful effects, as if lyrical music gives people a relaxed and comfortable feeling. As shown in Figure 1, it is the painting method of watercolor technique:

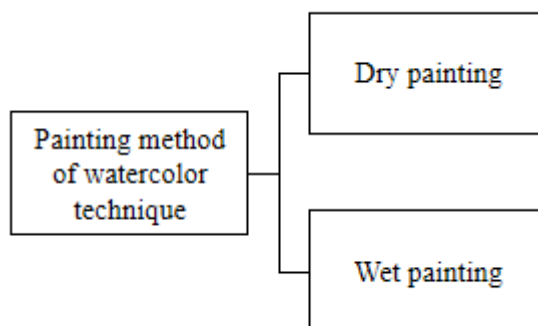


Figure 1 Painting method of watercolor technique

The wet painting method of watercolor painting is similar to the ink splashing and color splashing techniques of "thick breaking light and light breaking thick" in Chinese ink painting. The picture effect of water color blending has the feeling of smoothness, moisture and no emptiness. Watercolor techniques can be extended to other kinds of paintings. After trying and practicing the techniques, you can also get other special effects and textures. The closest thing to watercolor in pigment and picture effect should be oil painting. Oil painting is made with oil as the medium and mixed with pigment. Although oil painting itself has its own special techniques, the transparency of oil paint provides the possibility for the application of watercolor techniques in oil painting creation.

### **3. Innovative application of watercolor techniques**

#### **3.1. The difference between watercolor and oil painting**

The difference between watercolor and oil painting needs to be analyzed from many aspects. From the analysis of watercolor and oil painting pigments, the painting pigments of oil painting are relatively viscous, the color penetrates on the picture for a long time, and its permeability is lower than that of watercolor pigments. When using the same or similar painting techniques, the oil painting color is more vivid and the picture effect is more remarkable. Watercolor creation can leave no trace in painting processing, but the processing trace in oil painting creation is more obvious. On the basis of ensuring transparency, watercolor creation also has ideal picture texture. Therefore, integrating watercolor skills into oil painting creation can produce unexpected results. In the process of painting, painters need to reasonably match the painting techniques in combination with the actual painting requirements, so as to use the most convenient techniques to obtain the most ideal painting effect. In the process of watercolor creation, painters often reserve some blank space to present the bright color in the picture, but they often add some white powder to the bright color, which easily leads to the picture being too pink. In this regard, oil painting has certain advantages, which can make up for the shortcomings of watercolor techniques. Therefore, the combination of watercolor techniques and oil painting can present a better picture effect.

#### **3.2. Application of Watercolor Technique in Oil Painting Creation**

Watercolor techniques can be used in oil painting creation. This creative method needs to be adjusted according to the characteristics and content of the work, so as to ensure the creative effect. Oil paintings are more colorful than watercolor works, so we should pay more attention to pigment matching in color matching. Many pictures need to be paved with very thick pigments, but some pictures requiring lighter or lighter colors can be created by watercolor technology, which will not affect the overall picture and increase transparency. The function of oil is equivalent to that of water in watercolor to a certain extent. The washing technique in watercolor painting is applied to oil painting, and water can be used as a medium for modification when drawing watercolor painting. Oil painting can also be used to make pictures. Using oil on it will make the color mix naturally with the flow of oil. When the oil flows on the picture, the color will move naturally with the oil, leaving traces. Figure 2 shows the difference between watercolor and oil painting:

In order to make the pigment form a natural special effect, some turpentine can be appropriately added to the watercolor pigment, because water and oil are two immiscible media agents, which will produce mottled effect. In the creation of oil painting, white latex can be used as the base on the canvas to make it show a smooth effect, and then the black oil painting pigment adjusted into liquid shape can be dipped with a pen. In addition, the flow can be weakened by changing the inclination of the picture frame. Due to the slow flow speed of the pigment, part of the base color flowing through the pigment can be penetrated from the trace, and the flow speed and time can be adjusted by changing turpentine. The mixed dyeing method in watercolor painting actually involves the mixing of water and other media to make the pigment form a natural special effect. Add turpentine, gasoline and other volatile oils into the watercolor pigment, because water and oil are two immiscible media, which will lead to the separation of oil and water, resulting in mottled effect.

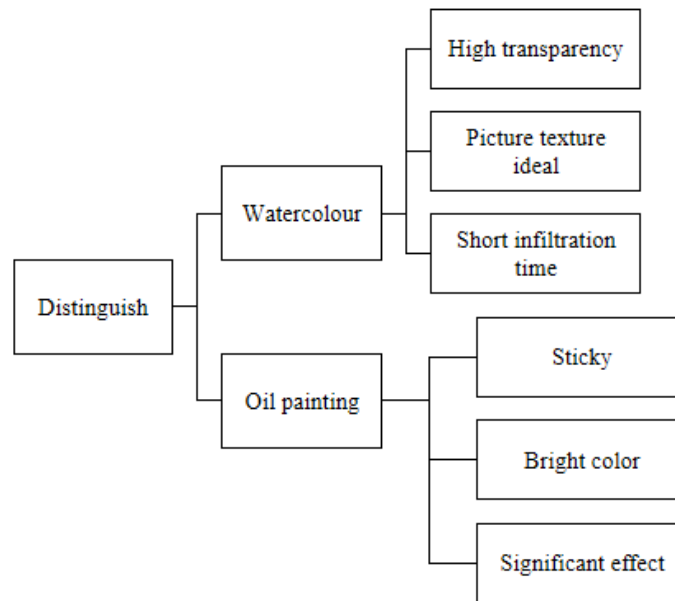


Figure 2 Difference between watercolor and oil painting

#### 4. Conclusion

In modern painting, more and more artists try constantly. Although we can use watercolor techniques to change water into oil and other media to achieve the effect of flowing, dripping and splashing, it is not as light, flexible and bright as watercolor on paper. Although the surface of oil painting and watercolor painting seems incompatible, the integration of watercolor techniques into oil painting can complement each other in practical application and obtain a harmonious picture effect. There are many techniques for watercolor Materials. More and more artists give full play to their imagination through continuous attempts. When painting oil painting, the technique of watercolor is used to achieve the flowing effect by changing water into oil, which will produce new effects in the process of replacing water and oil. In the process of using watercolor techniques in oil painting, although there are many watercolor techniques and materials, there are still many worthy of our attention. At most, more than three different techniques can not be used in one picture. In the process of replacing water and oil, it will produce new effects and new picture possibilities, which require us to think patiently, try and give full play to our creativity. After all, the technique is to serve the picture. The appropriate use of techniques and materials should be used appropriately, so as to achieve the possibility of new pictures. Therefore, we should think patiently, try and give full play to our creativity in practice, and reflect the fun of watercolor in oil painting.

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