

A COMBINATION OF TWO ARTS: NATIONAL UZBEK PAINTING AND COPPER CHASING

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Annotation

This article explores the compatibility of two exquisite art forms: Uzbek national painting and copper chasing. It describes the materials used and their interaction in the creative process. The technical aspects of combining chasing and painting are also, analyzed.

Keywords

Uzbek national painting, copper chasing, tools, paints.

Introduction

The art of copper chasing and Uzbek national painting holds a significant place in Uzbekistan's cultural traditions. Each of these art forms has a rich history and unique characteristics that reflect not only technical mastery but also the philosophical worldview of the Uzbek people. In the context of mutual influence between traditions, the fusion of these two types of decorative and applied arts produces a new artistic outcome that exemplifies harmony between different techniques and visual styles.

The purpose of this article is to explore the historical roots and distinctive features of the interaction between copper chasing and Uzbek painting, as well as their modern applications in art.

Historical Context

1. Copper Chasing in Uzbekistan

Copper chasing is one of the oldest techniques of decorative and applied arts, known in Uzbekistan since ancient times. Craftsmen engraved images, ornaments, inscriptions, and symbols onto metal surfaces, creating both utilitarian objects and pieces of artistic value. Chasing developed as an art



closely related to the decorative embellishment of weapons, tableware, and various architectural elements.

Chasing masters used different tools to carve and emboss intricate patterns onto copper surfaces, allowing them to create refined and detailed imagery.

2. Uzbek National Painting

Uzbek national painting has evolved over centuries, dating back to the Samanid and Timurid periods. The patterns used in this art form include geometric, floral, and zoomorphic elements, reflecting the richness of nature as well as the philosophical and religious beliefs of the people.



Traditionally, painting was applied to walls of buildings, furniture, ceramics, and textiles, serving both decorative and symbolic functions.

Synthesis of Two Traditions: Copper Chasing and Painting

The combination of these two arts is not accidental. Painting and chasing were often used within the same cultural and architectural environments. Architectural landmarks such as madrasas, palaces, and mosques were frequently adorned with both painted decorations and chased metal elements.

Copper chasing, designed as ornamental patterns, was often complemented by vibrant paintings, creating a unified visual composition.

A prominent example of this artistic interaction can be seen in copper doors and grilles, where relief patterns echo those found in wall and ceiling paintings. In such works, the interplay between metal and color is essential – painted details add vibrancy to the metal surfaces, while chasing enhances texture and depth.

This synergy creates a harmonious composition that not only showcases the artist's craftsmanship but also conveys the complexity of cultural and philosophical symbolism.

Technical Features of Combining Chasing and Painting

1. Materials and Their Interaction

Copper, bronze, and silver were commonly used for chasing, as these metals are easily malleable. Their surfaces could be treated with various types of patinas and lacquers, creating a dark background that made the lighter colors of the painting stand out more vividly and contrast sharply.

Painting was typically applied to an already chased surface, which helped highlight the ornaments and imagery, creating striking contrasts. The use of gold and silver paints further enhanced the visual impact, making the artwork particularly expressive.

2. Ornaments and Symbolism

The patterns used in both chasing and painting often share common motifs. Geometric shapes, floral designs, and depictions of animals serve as a bridge between these two artistic forms. For example, images of flowers and trees frequently seen in paintings can be adapted into chasing, while geometric motifs from metalwork can inspire painted compositions. This approach maintains a unified style and symbolism, despite the differences in technique.

Ornaments and Symbolism

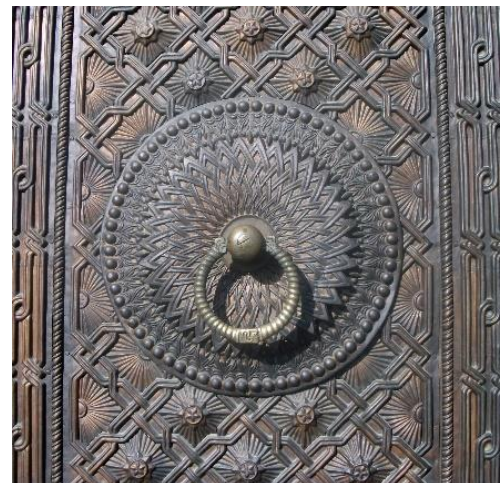
The patterns used in both chasing and painting often overlap. Geometric designs, floral motifs, and animal depictions serve as a connection between these two art forms. For example, images of flowers and trees, which are frequently found in paintings, can be transferred to chasing, while geometric motifs from metalwork can be adapted for painting. This approach ensures a cohesive stylistic and symbolic unity despite differences in technique.

3. Modern Trends and Applications

In contemporary Uzbek art, there has been a resurgence of interest in combining chasing and painting. Artisans actively employ both techniques to create modern artistic pieces such as decorative panels, furniture, tableware, and architectural elements.

Integrating traditional methods and symbols into a modern context allows for innovative artistic solutions while preserving historical heritage. The demand for such handcrafted works continues to grow daily.

Modern craftsmen not only merge different art forms but also experiment with diverse materials and techniques. The inlay technique has gained popularity among applied art masters, who boldly combine various materials and transform



everyday forms into unique designs. These handcrafted items are highly sought after by both local populations and visitors to Uzbekistan.



Conclusion

The fusion of Uzbek copper chasing and painting represents a unique synthesis of two significant traditions in decorative and applied arts. This interaction not only enriches visual aesthetics but also serves as a bridge between historical periods, symbolizing the continuity of cultural traditions.

As a result of this artistic harmony, works are created that inspire both artisans and audiences, maintaining a deep connection with Uzbekistan's cultural identity.

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