

## The Art Research on the Statue of Guo Moruo

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### Abstract

**Guo Moruo is a distinguished cultural great man in China's modern history, Institutions, government organs, research institutes, and other units mold statues for paying respects to him throughout the country, however, the artistic quality of statues of Guo Moruo varies around the country, some statues are imbalanced, stiff and inaccurate structures, shape and spirit do not like Mr. Guo, which seriously affected Guo Moruo's image in people's hearts. Building the third-party professional team, stipulating related systems, rationally planning the statue of Guo Moruo, supervising the statue sponsors with strict system, and requiring the statue makers with high standards of artistic quality are important channels to protect the image of Mr. Guo.**

### Keywords

**Guo Moruo; Statue; Art.**

### 1. The Artistic Quality of Many Domestic Guo Moruo Statues is Uneven

Guo Moruo is a famous poet, scholar, writer, historian, social activist, paleographer, playwright, and revolutionist in modern China. In order to commemorate him, institutions, government organs, research institutes and other units are all statues for mold statues for paying respects to him. The sculpture group of New Century Square in Leshan, Sichuan shows the life experience of Guo Moruo, it is the landmark sculpture of Leshan; the "Celebrity Sculpture Museum" of the China Millennium Monument in Beijing lays bronze statues of forty Chinese cultural celebrities from the Spring and Autumn Period to modern times, including the statue of Guo Moruo; a statue of Guo Moruo is also laid on the Three Gorges Square in the central area of Shapingba District, Chongqing City; there is a seated statue of Guo Moruo with white marble material in Fushun No.1 Middle School in Liaoning; there is a standing statue of Guo Moruo in the No.1 middle school of Haikou City, Hainan Province, in addition, University of Science and Technology of China, Shanghai Duolun Road, Beijing Guo Moruo's Former Residence, Chongqing Guo Moruo's Former Residence, Shiyuan Cultural Celebrity Garden and other places are all installed with the statues of Guo Moruo.

Throughout the province and elsewhere, the artistic quality of Guo Moruo's commemorative statues varies throughout the country, some of which are created by famous domestic great master of sculpture, for example, statue of Guo Moruo in the "Celebrity Sculpture Museum" at the China Millennium Monument in Beijing is made by doctoral supervisor Professor Li Xiangqun from the Academy of Fine Arts of Tsinghua University. Made, he is a moving force in modern Chinese realistic sculptures, this sculpture is one of his masterpieces, which has a very high level of art, and sculptors often depict the frames when making glasses the authors depict the lens with ulterior motives, and techniques are innovative. In addition, the author studied Mr. Guo's classic works, and integrated his understanding for Mr. Guo into the sculpture, so as to experience Mr. Guo emotions and feel his existence.

The statue of Guo Moruo in Chongqing Three Gorges Square was created by Professor Zhang Qiwen, former dean of the School of Fine Arts of Southwest University, the author presented Guo Moruo's new poem collection "Goddess" in the form of high relief sculpture next to the main figure, and then engraved the inscriptions on bones or tortoise shells of the Shang Dynasty on the front base, this sculptures are uniform in form, rich in contents, and the use of props and backgrounds fully explains Guo Lao's literary and historical attainments.

Artistic quality of some Guo Moruo's statues are too poor, for example, the face image of Guo Moruo statue in a middle school in Hainan Province is far from him, the actions are relatively stiff, and the local body structure is very inaccurate, the statue of Guo Moruo in a middle school in Sichuan copies the statue of Guo Moruo's former residence in Shapingba District, Chongqing City, just changes the color of the statue, it is actually a "knock-offs", these statues greatly affect the image of Mr. Guo in people's mind..

## **2. The Art Technique of Statues of Guo Moruo Is Relatively Simple in China, and Freehand Brushwork, Abstract, Decorative and Other Artistic Techniques Can Be Used**

### **2.1 Many domestic statues of Guo Moruo are mostly realistic techniques, and their artistic style is not enough**

Throughout history the statues of Guo Moruo in China, most of them are mainly academic realistic sculpture technique, the sculptors mostly take Guo Moruo's photos as references, and use real figures, proportions and structures as research objects, moreover, the "form" and "spirit" of characters are shaped. Most of the postures are standing and sitting, and the dynamic design is slightly single, there are few postures such as creating poetry at the desk, holding tools, engagement in archaeological studies and so on. At present, the artistic techniques of many statues of Guo Moruo are relatively simple, and there are few innovative statues. In order to avoid the "stereotyped" statue of Mr. Guo, the creator should combine modern and contemporary sculpture techniques and creates the statue of Guo Moruo in various artistic forms.

### **2.2 Use "freehand sculpture " techniques create statues of Guo Moruo**

In the past decade, the "freehand sculpture" style prevails in the China, sculptors represented by Wu Weishan, president of the Chinese Sculpture Academy, have successfully created hundreds of statues of ancient and modern Chinese celebrities, including Lao Zi, Confucius, Qi Baishi, Lu Xun, Ba Jin, Lin Sanzhi and so on. Wu Weishan proposed the idea of "freehand sculpture" at the 8th China Sculpture Forum held in Xiamen in 2002, and demonstrated the necessity of freehand spirit in the development of sculpture art today. The "freehand sculpture" he proposed and practiced is not only an artistic creation behavior, but also a cultural form combining traditional Chinese philosophical ideas and aesthetics; it is also an action to promote the spirit of Chinese culture through artistic innovation [1]. Freehand sculpture is to capture the "key point of expression" of the object, exaggerate it into an influential and impactful modeling key, and blur and save other unimportant modeling materials, as Qi Baishi said; excellence is between resemblance and dislike "[2]. The freehand sculpture technique is used to create the statue of Guo Moruo is also an attempt.

### **2.3 Use abstract art technique create statues of Guo Moruo**

Abstract sculpture is another kind of sculptural expression technique that is different from realistic sculpture, the abstract sculpture does not have strict requirements for the shape on the surface, but it does not mean that the abstract sculpture do not have requirement, and it is a combination of physical or geometric symbols and ideas [3]. By simplifying generalization and summarization, modest deformation, partial exaggeration and so on, abstract sculpture makes the whole sculpture resemble a specific thing, moreover, it has beautiful features and inherent meanings, different people appreciate an abstract sculpture works, they have different feeling and experience [4]. Chinese National Academy of Art has collected a head sculpture of Lu Xun, created by sculpture master Xiong Bingming, this sculpture represents Lu Xun in an abstract artistic way, this statue has no forehead, no ears, no mouth, only one eye and one eyebrow, and the whole head sculpture has only a few large faces, without any details, but the look of the statue is very similar to Lu Xun, which is recognized as a masterpiece by the industry.

### **2.4 Use other artistic techniques to create statues of Guo Moruo**

The statue of Li Dazhao, created by Qian Shaowu, a leading Chinese sculptor, won the academy gold medal of "China Exhibition in the 20th century", this statue won the prize with simple, bright and

decorative artistic techniques. Li Dazhao's temperament and image features are highly summarized and sorted out by the author, upright head rises from the ground with great momentum, and the author exaggerates shoulder width and highlights the personal character "iron shoulder bear justice", this sculpture has become a landmark sculpture of Tangshan City and the city card of Tangshan City [5]. The statue of Guo Moruo in Duolun Road, Shanghai, integrates traditional paper-cut art into urban sculpture, which is also an innovation in artistic techniques. In addition, we can try to create statue of Guo Moruo by means of metal welding, wire modeling art, installation art and comprehensive art, etc.

At present, art is a hundred flowers in bloom, no matter the expression of ideas, the exploration of forms, the use of materials, etc., there are great breakthroughs, the creation of the statue of Guo Moruo should conform to the times, follow the trend and continue to innovate, so that excellent statues of Guo Moruo can be made.

### **3. The Strategies of Protecting Statue Image of Guo Moruo**

#### **3.1 Superior fund is the prerequisite for creating a high-level statue of Guo Moruo**

Enough fund is the guarantee for a high-quality statue of Guo Moruo. The price determines the quality, the superior funds can invite high-level responsible sculptors at home and abroad, and they will complete the statue with professional quality. Try to use more durable materials such as cast copper, cast aluminum, forged copper and stone materials as far as possible. If the fund is limited, the material can be replaced, such as considering the cheaper glass fiber reinforced plastics. In production technology, clay sculpture is a crucial step, and its quality directly affects the most comprehensive effect. In a word, sculpture can't ignore the artistic quality of sculpture only compare with the price.

#### **3.2 Seek professional team to make statues**

The professionalism of the statue creators determines the artistic quality of the statue. The academic background, professional skills, aesthetic level and creative style of the creators directly affect the artistic quality of the statue. Professional sculptors have a deeper understanding and knowledge for sculptures, and are more professional in space volume, turning orientation, generalization and summarization, physical handling of sculptures, etc. [6]. Teachers from professional art colleges are used to create statues of Guo Moruo, they can often control the artistic quality of sculptures, such as the sculpture professor at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing or the sculpture professor of the Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts in Chongqing.

Sponsors can also seek sculpture-related associations to create statues of Guo Moruo. For example, the Chinese Sculpture Society, the Chinese City Sculptors Association, the Sculpture Art Committees under the Art Association around China, etc. There are many well-known domestic sculptors in these teams, most of them have graduated from professional art colleges and have been engaged in sculpture art for many years, they have certain attainments in sculpture.

#### **3.3 Establish related teams for supervision**

Organizing one supervision teams who are composed of Guo Moruo's family members, Guo Moruo research institute staff, domestic sculpture experts and other relevant personnel is an important way to protect the artistic quality of statues of Guo Moruo. Guo Moruo's family members are the core members; they have lived with Guo Moruo for many years and are familiar with Mr. Guo's true face, professional personality, and living habits, the excellent statue of Mr. Guo should be a living Guo Moruo with a soul, family members are more able to experience this feeling. The staffs of the Guo Moruo research institute conduct research from the perspective of Mr. Guo's professional career. Mr. Guo was engaged in literature, history, archeology, calligraphy art, and social activities in his life, etc., the location of the statue determines the age of Mr. Guo, what kind of occupation, and what are professional props, and the staffs of Guo Moruo research institute will become more familiar with these issues and have a deeper understanding. The sculpture expert will give guidance on the composition, dynamics, shape, space, materials, facial expressions, local details, and artistic style of the sculpture itself; make the statue more artistic, and thus more realistically reflecting Mr. Guo's

character and occupation, expression, spiritual connotation, etc. The third-party team formed by the three can stipulate relevant systems, conduct strict review, and demolish the existing inferior sculptures of Guo Moruo through active negotiation and related laws, so as to put quality before quantity. The statue of Guo Moruo to be produced in the future needs to be repeatedly reviewed and strictly monitored, only the three parties work together to create an excellent statues of Guo Moruo.

#### 4. Conclusion

The celebrity statue art is mostly used to commemorate his life, pay respects to his contribution, and promote his spirit. Bad statues not only fail to achieve this function, but will seriously affect the glorious image of celebrities. It is the bounden responsibility for Guo Moruo's family, sculpture producer, sponsors, and Guo Moruo's research institute to protect the positive image of statues of Guo Moruo and ensure the excellent artistic level of the statue. Only by strictly supervising the statue sponsors and the statues with high standards of artistic quality can we protect the image of Mr. Guo outstanding cultural greatness, moreover, it has a very important role in promoting the culture of Guo Moruo and promoting the spirit of Guo Moruo.

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