

## **Roaming in the Home Boudoir**

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Lan Chiao-Ju is the student of oil painting department in Central Academy of Fine Arts, I was invited by the head of the department Mr. Dai Shihe to teach a class called “Formalism Original”, where lectures and discussion stake up most of the proportions in a class, this different from the original art educations in China. At that time, I am a heavy smoker and rarely leave the classroom, although I know that smoking is inappropriate, when I’m carried away with lecturing, I’d involuntarily smoke one, and some students may perhaps follow me. One day as I am smoking, a young girl suddenly says, “Can we take a rest for a bit, you go out and smoke.” I freeze for a moment, thinking that she indeed is being reasonable, and stubbed out the cigarette. I smile and say to her, “When I’m at home I don’t listen when my wife when she manages me, today I’m managed by you.” She said, “When I’m at home I also don’t let my father smoke, I let him smoke on the balcony.”

She is Lan Chiao-Ju. I therefore have a more understanding of her –born in Taiwan, comes from Australia, pampered at home, likes to paint, pure, straightforward, and unsophisticated. In my class, she is very serious with her work, some of them are selected to be published by Sanlian in my book. I somewhat feel that, her love for art stems from her temperament, but also very ambitious to have an aura of shine around her; she lives with a little superiority, yet seems to be lonely more; there is a wild and rebellious in the heart of the pampered, and even intentionally, she tries to find some suffering to withstand. If it is said that her roaming is to study, one might as well say that she is searching for her cultural identity, and art is the spiritual home that she could carry everywhere.

Today, she goes to Europe and the United States and leaves a lot of work on the way. As I read these new works, while confirming the original feeling for her, yet clearly a much more matured one. In particular, this maturity is reflected in the narrative form of those fairy-tale works, this is not a random arrangement of a child’s self-gratification, but a mature female’s experience sustenance and awakened thoughts. The use of ready-mades, embroidery, fabric of the traditional female red techniques and strong colors enabled me to see that she has already established a comfortable boudoir within her “roaming home”, and here, more conveniently, she throws an art silk ball toward the broad culture of the earth.

I am delighted to see the work of Lan, the form is different from any of the works of contemporary art in China, Europe and the United States, they seem to be very quiet, yet full of fanaticism and the fury of the inner self of passion; they don’t talk about the world, but it is an overall understanding and perception of the world panorama; they are colorful, but not for showing off the beautiful to attract the attention of passers-by’s eyes, but calling the will-minded people of the world, taking this fanaticism and the fury, understanding and perception toward life far away to walk all the way.

In the continuing journey, Lan roams the boudoir at home, as sesame flower steadily blossoms.

## 游走家园中的闺阁

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蓝巧茹是中央美术学院油画二画室的学生，我是受当时的系主任戴士和先生之邀为他们班上一门叫做“造型原本”课程。这完全是一门有别于中国专业美术教育原有造型基础的课，讲授与讨论的时间比重很大，我几乎不怎么离开教室，那时烟瘾很大，尽管我知道在教室抽烟不合适，但讲到忘乎所以时会不由自主点上一根儿，同学中会抽烟的看我抽也可能顺势效仿。有一天正在抽烟，同学中一个小姑娘突然发言，说：“可以不可以休息一会儿，你们出去抽完烟再接着上课。”我愣了一下，觉得人家说的在理儿，就马上掐灭了烟，笑着对她说：“我在家太太管我都不听，今天被你整住了。”她说：“我在家爸爸抽烟我也不让，叫他到阳台去抽。”

她就是蓝巧茹，我也因此对她有了更多地了解——生于台湾，来自澳洲，喜欢画画，率真单纯，不谙世故等等。我的课她很认真，作业做得也卖力气，有几张还选进了我后来三联书店出版的书中。我约略感觉到：她热爱艺术始发乎性情，但又很渴望有一个光环闪耀四周；生活中有些小优越感，但似乎孤独的时候更多；她在娇生惯养的内心存有一份野性与反叛，甚至有意去找一些苦难让自己经受；如果说她的到处游走是求学，倒不如说是在寻找自己的文化身份，而艺术是她可以携带到处的精神家园。

而今，她经过欧洲又去美国，一路上留下很多新作。我读这些新作，更证实了原本对她的感觉，却分明成熟了许多。这个成熟反映在那些童话般作品的叙述方式中尤为清晰，这已经不是一个小孩子自我满足的随意编排，而是一个成熟女性丰富经历的寄托与醒思。现成品的运用，刺绣、布艺的传统女红手法以及浓烈的色彩，让我看到她已经在“游走的家园”中自己为自己建立起一个舒适的闺阁，在这里更方便向著广博的文化大地抛撒艺术的绣球。

让我欣喜的是，蓝巧茹的作品不同于中国与欧美当代艺术中任何模式的作品，它们看来很安静，但充满了自我内心激情的狂热与骚动；它们不谈世事，但却是对世界万象总体的理解与感悟；它们五彩缤纷，但不为炫耀美丽吸引路人的眼球，而是呼唤人间的有心人揣著这份狂热与骚动、理解与感悟，向著生命的远方一路同行。

在继续的远行中，蓝巧茹游走家园中的闺阁，将如同芝麻开花节节高。