

Lecture Outline of Six Dynasties Art and Calligraphy

1. The beginning of scroll paintings, painting masters and painting theories; The new period of aestheticizing art in China
2. The format of scroll and the way of viewing it (unrolling and rolling; section by section movement);
3. The Admonitions scroll
 - (1) The narrative nature of the work; text before image;
 - (2) Compare with Wu Family Shrines (Jin Ke Assassinating the First Emperor) of the Eastern Han;
 - (3) Its function as imperial didactic art that teaches palace ladies how to behave properly;
 - (4) The personalization of the scroll; picture as creative interpretation rather than passive illustration. [Adorning the Face; Lady Ban's refusal to Emperor Cheng]
4. Nymph of the Luo River
 - (1) The story of Prince Cao Zhi meeting with the goddess of Luo River;
 - (2) Text and image relationship (interpretation vs. illustration)
5. New techniques of representing figures; realism
6. Calligraphy and the art of the brush
 - (1) The physical nature of the brush with the soft water absorbent tip and (2) the bodily movement of the hand;
7. The birth and development of cursive script and its relationship to the Han linear style and cloud imagery: painting and calligraphy as one.