Exhibition as a Contemporary Approach to Art Education - the Case of Teng-fang Lee’s Ancient House

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The pathway to contemporary art education is no longer confined to schools as it was in the past, spaces such as art galleries and museums have already become familiar living area for people. When we talk about education and promotion activities, they tend to be independent from exhibition studies. However, the author thinks that good exhibitions can provide audience with unique aesthetic consciousness, from the perspective of space, light and color, its impact is intangible yet profound.

Monuments and historical buildings are the main objects for heritage preservation, historical memories and life trajectories that they carry are also important intangible cultural heritage. Through narrative texts, story interpretations and situational exhibition designs, the life of these cultural assets can be continued again. Teng-fang Lee’s ancient house located in Taoyuan County is a second-level national relic in Taiwan, apart from aesthetic forms of the architecture itself, more importantly it expresses oriental family spirit and traditional sinological thoughts of a “juren” [1] (scholar) mansion.

This article will take the Teng-fang Lee’s ancient house in Taoyuan Daxi as a case study, discuss how to convey the importance of intangible heritage through narrative writing and exhibition planning, as well as respond to the aesthetic concept of “art is life” in a modern way, so that exhibitions and education promotion are no longer two separate parts, but combined as a stacking and symbiotic new approach to contemporary art education.

[1]A successful candidate in the imperial examinations at the provincial level in the Ming and Qing dynasties