

Taoism and the aesthetic consciousness of Qing during Six Dynasties (220-589)

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Abstract

The metaphysics of Taoism exerted tremendous impact on the formation of aesthetic consciousness, taking “Qing” (清) as beauty. That “Qing” (清) is considered as beauty emphasizes the beauty of material and spirit, that is, the beauty of ontology. The beauty of “Qing” (清) is also the non-secular beauty. It is based on the “quietism” of Taoism, and indicates the aesthetical ideal of Taoism, which tends to foreground “Qing” (清). It was in the metaphysics of Wei and Jin Dynasty that “Qing” (清), as a important concept of the philosophy and aesthetics of original Taoism, turned to be a general aesthetic standard and category. The conscious of foregrounding “Qing” (清) is what influenced by the metaphysics and is also a great contribution to the Chinese traditional culture made by the aesthetics of Six Dynasties.

Keywords : Taoism, Six Dynasties, “Qing” (清), aesthetic consciousness.