以生命譜寫的道德神話 ——戰後臺灣義人塑像初探

Myth of Morality Written by Life

— An Exploratory Research of Dedicators'
Statues in Postwar Taiwan

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摘要

在台灣人的視覺經驗中,對人物紀念塑像應不陌生。因爲在戒嚴時期,人物紀念塑像不斷被製造與設立;而在當時生產的作品中,有不少到今日依舊存在。這些作品表現的對象多爲當代的重要政治人物;因此,在普遍的社會認知中,這些塑像往往與政治畫上等號。

但實際上,戰後大量出現的人物紀念塑像並非如此單純而均質,當代政治人物亦非作品題材的唯一選擇。在此時期紀念雕塑的歷史中,甚至出現過一系列特殊的作品:以「義人」——爲拯救他人而犧牲生命者——爲表現對象。這些「義人」原均爲平凡的市井小民,他們與當時統攝一切的國家機器距離遙遠,和著重「國族歷史」的大敘事體系更缺乏直接關聯;但因他們捨身救人的行爲,而被國家重視、表彰,進而採用建造塑像的方式加以紀念。這種現象在紀念塑像發展史中並不常見,與普遍觀點中將人物紀念塑像視爲威權時代領袖崇拜風氣產物的論述似乎也有所落差。

因此,本文將以美術史觀點,探究義人塑像作品在造型上的可能意涵;同時將這一論證根植於歷史學觀點上,考察它們在時代、社會脈絡中的位置,並嘗試爲其賦予具有歷史意義的詮釋。希望能爲此類型作品提出可能的觀看與詮釋方式,同時也重新反省過去論者面對人物紀念塑像時所秉持的化約式論述所可能造成的問題。

關鍵字:人物紀念塑像、義人、道德論述、神話學

Abstract

Taiwanese ought to be familiar with memorial statues, for the reason that there had been a lot of them sculptured and founded during the period of martial law. Furthermore, a lot of memorial statues still remains until now. Those memorial statues were mostly dedicated to important political figures; thus, in accordance with the common associations and comprehension, people oftentimes simply draw equal signs between those statues and politics.

However, the established memorial statues were not that simple nor did possess equivalent qualities of integrities. In fact, political figures of that era were not the only choice of subject matter in the field of memorial statues. During this period in the memorial statues history, a new series of innovative and unique artworks took "dedicator" -who had sacrificed themselves to help and rescue others-as subject matter had emerged. These virtuous men were originally merely laymen who were remotely connected to governmental local authorities or even hardly possessed direct association with grand narrative schemes who always emphasized on the history of nationhood. Nevertheless, these brave virtuous men were willing to sacrifice themselves to help and save others. Thus, the nation built memorial statues to show their appreciations, honors and commemorations towards these heroic virtuous men. Such phenomenon was rarely to be seen in the development of memorialization history and quite different from the conservative perspective-which used to regard memorial statues as common practice to show deepest and greatest admiration towards leaders from the authoritarian period.

Hence, this study applies art history's vantage point to probe into essence of aesthetics and forms that can be derived from this series of these unique statues; furthermore along with the historical viewpoint, this research is also delving into influences and inspiration of these memorial statues towards entire society during the whole period, and eventually making an attempt to make an approach to historical interpretation. This type of unique artworks is also expected to provide possibilities open to another path of new studies in the future, as well as reflections of plausible problems induced by reductionism and general discussion discourses proposed by the preceding theorists.

Keywords: memorial statue, dedicator, moral discourse, mythology