



The Application of Blue and White Porcelain Aesthetics in Interior Spaces – – A Case Study of the Design Proposal for the Blue and White Feast-themed Restaurant in Jiujiang City, Jiangxi Province

Tian Fu

PhD in Arts University of Castilla La Mancha C/ Altagracia, 5013071, Ciudad Real Spain

309116167@qq.com

Abstract. With the rapid improvement of the national culture and economic level, the public service industry has flourished, and the culturally rich spatial environment has become an indispensable part of people's quality of life. Nowadays, people's demand for public spaces is no longer purely functional, but rather focuses on satisfying inner needs. Therefore, traditional culture and public spaces themed around it have become popular, while also contributing to the inheritance and development of outstanding traditional cultural art. Blue and white porcelain, as a treasure of our traditional culture, has unique artistic charm and has been closely linked, influenced, and integrated with indoor spaces since its inception, forming a distinctive thematic cultural form. However, contemporary space design rarely uses blue and white porcelain aesthetics as a design theme, and there is a lack of summarization regarding the application of blue and white porcelain aesthetic elements in interior design, the integration with modern elements, and the lack of adequate conclusions. Therefore, there is an urgent need to summarize and practice the application methods and types of blue and white porcelain aesthetics in contemporary interior design. By focusing on blue and white porcelain aesthetics, this study delves into its application in interior space design, providing theoretical basis and design guidelines for this theme. Taking a themed restaurant design in Jiujiang City, Jiangxi Province as a case study, it analyzes the design principles and combinations of blue and white porcelain aesthetics, fully showcasing the artistic charm of traditional Chinese blue and white porcelain aesthetics, and providing a reference for creating Chinese art-themed spaces with the "blue and white porcelain aesthetics."

Keywords: Blue and white porcelain aesthetics, Porcelain cultural space, Interior design, Themed restaurant.

1 Introduction

Chinese culture is profound and extensive, having gone through five thousand years of great changes. Among them, indoor space culture has played an important role since

© The Author(s) 2024

Y. Chen et al. (eds.), *Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference on Culture, Design and Social Development (CDSO 2023)*, Advances in Social Science, Education and Humanities Research 834,

https://doi.org/10.2991/978-2-38476-222-4_64

ancient times. Modern scholars such as Yaling Zhou also hold this view.^[1] With the progress of society, people's demand for indoor space has become increasingly diversified. Therefore, indoor space is not only a place for shelter, but also a place for residence, shopping, leisure, entertainment, and socializing. Theme spaces are more popular in such a context. Through the creation of distinctive thematic atmospheres, especially by incorporating traditional culture into indoor space design, people can deeply appreciate cultural connotations and enhance the core competitiveness of service providers. At the same time, this injects new elements into the diversity of interior space design and actively promotes the inheritance, innovation, and development of Chinese traditional cultural arts. However, in the fierce market competition, similar theme spaces continue to emerge, leading to consumer aesthetic fatigue.

2 The Origin and Artistic Features of Blue and White Porcelain

From the polychrome ceramics of the Tang Dynasty to the porcelain forms and painting techniques of the Yuan and Ming Dynasties, the aesthetics of blue and white porcelain has undergone thousands of years of development, becoming a representative of Chinese culture. In the 17th century, blue and white porcelain entered Europe, sparking enthusiasm among local artists and becoming a prized collection of European royalty and nobility. Its variety and forms became more diverse. It can be divided into two types: commercial trade exports and domestic use and appreciation. "Blue and white porcelain includes various forms such as bottles, pots, jars, boxes, bowls, and plates"^[2]. (Figure 1) As an indispensable part of blue and white porcelain art, decorative patterns possess profound aesthetic connotations and unparalleled artistic value. Meng Fanfang mentioned in his paper that in the early period, blue and white decorations mainly consisted of fish and plum blossom patterns, as well as some basic geometric shapes such as diamonds, with simplicity and delicacy ^[3]. With the progress of time and the improvement of aesthetic standards, the styles of blue and white decorations have been widely developed, covering various aspects such as animals, figures, plants, and auxiliary elements, and incorporating poetry and literature elements in a very limited way, making them more diverse (Figure 2). "Some scholars believe that the characteristics of blue and white porcelain are mainly reflected in the porcelain body, glaze, and decoration"^[4]



Fig. 1. various categories of blue and white porcelain. (Image source: Zhimo.com)

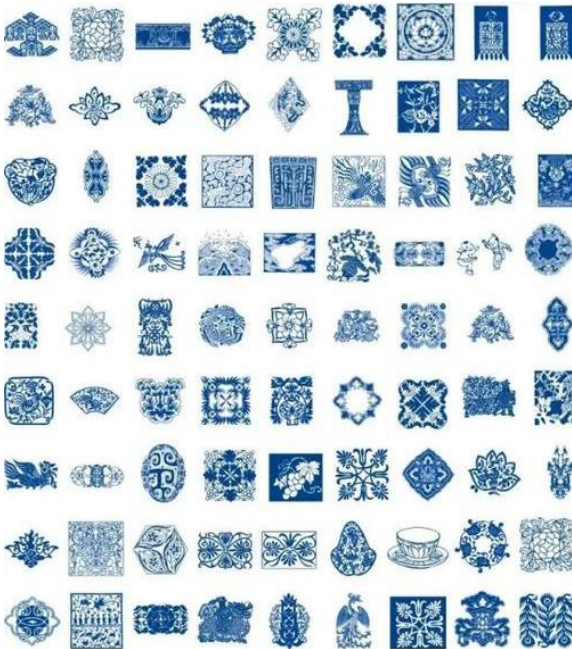


Fig. 2. various patterns of blue and white porcelain (Image source: Zhimo.com)

(1) Porcelain Body: The porcelain body of blue and white porcelain is delicate, hard but not brittle, with a uniform texture and a clean color.

(2) Glaze: The glaze of blue and white porcelain is glossy like a mirror, with a clear and bright color, exuding a charming charm.

(3) Decoration: Blue and white porcelain is typically adorned with blue and white colors, characterized by deep, pure, and rich blue, with a certain degree of transparency and three-dimensionality.

(4) Color: The blue and white color scheme, with a white background and blue patterns, displays elegance and beauty.

3 Creating techniques for the aesthetics of blue and white porcelain in interior spaces

3.1 Blue and white color and pattern design

The aesthetic culture of blue and white porcelain has significant aesthetic value in space design. To understand these patterns, one needs to have a deep cultural literacy. In interior space design, it is necessary to combine cultural connotations and modern styles to achieve better results. Many scholars believe that when using traditional elements, necessary artistic processing and treatment are also required. In practical design, blue and white patterns can be applied through direct references, deconstruction and reconstruction, deletion and addition, and flattening, as well as necessary artistic processing and treatment. These methods can create rich aesthetic and emotional factors that conform to modern life and aesthetic needs.^[5]

Blue and white art can be applied to walls, floors, and ceilings, adding a cultural atmosphere and a novel sensory experience to the space. In furniture and tableware design, blue and white porcelain can highlight the characteristics of Chinese traditional culture and enhance design and artistic value. At the same time, applying blue and white art to lighting fixtures and artworks can inject artistic and Chinese traditional cultural characteristics into the space. (Figure 3).



Fig. 3. blue and white with patterns(Image source: Zhimo.com)

3.2 Spatial Interface Design

Interior space design is a comprehensive spatial form composed of multiple spaces with different attributes. The design of spatial interfaces directly influences the overall atmosphere. The ceiling, floor, walls, and partitions divide the space and define its boundaries. The height of the ceiling is a key factor, as high ceilings give a sense of spaciousness, while low ceilings create a sense of security and a cozy atmosphere. Blue and white porcelain artistic patterns can be used to adjust the spatial perception, and different patterns can be applied to ceiling design. For example, diamond patterns from blue and white patterns can be used in the reception room, while representative patterns can be painted on the ceiling of private rooms to create an elegant atmosphere. The floor bears many elements such as dining tables, chairs, and equipment, and it needs to be designed to achieve a comfortable and harmonious effect. Petal patterns from blue and white porcelain artistic patterns can be used as markers for area division. "Walls and partitions are key factors determining the level of spatial connection, and the design should be based on different needs." The combination of blue and white porcelain artistic patterns with wall design adds vitality to the space. Special shapes and styles can be applied to the design of decorative wall interfaces to enhance the spatial three-dimensionality and aesthetics^[6]. (Figure 4)



Fig. 4. a restaurant space interface.(Image source: Xiaohongshu.com)



Fig. 5. soft furnishing sample.(Image source:znzmo.com)

3.3 Soft Furnishing Display Design

When creating an interior cultural space, the choice of display items is vast, including dining tables and chairs, handicrafts, soft furnishings, tableware, lighting fixtures, and ornamental plants. The design of display items needs to consider different spatial attributes and harmonize with the overall cultural space to create an interior cultural environment with thematic features, thereby enhancing people's spiritual emotions. To make the space decoration more exquisite, blue and white porcelain artistic patterns can be used to design decorative paintings or combined with lighting fixtures to create a leisurely and traditional Chinese cultural atmosphere. The color tone of the entire space should be unified and harmonious, and the design of the service staff's attire should also correspond to the blue and white theme, in order to enhance the overall atmosphere and thematic presentation. The soft furnishing design should harmonize with the overall cultural space, create a space with thematic features, improve the quality of the entire space, and enhance people's spiritual emotions. (Figure 5).

4 Indoor Design of Qinghua Feast-themed Restaurant in Jiujiang City, Jiangxi Province

4.1 Background

Jiujiang City is located in the northern part of Jiangxi Province, China. It belongs to the eastern region of China. In ancient times, Jingdezhen, known as the "Porcelain Capital" of China, was under the jurisdiction of Jiujiang Prefecture. Jiujiang City is renowned for its picturesque scenery, as described by the saying "Nine branches of Xunyang

Prefecture, clearly resembling a painted picture". It is a city with a long history of ceramic art and cultural prosperity.^[7] With the design background of Blue and white porcelain, it brings people a brand new dining experience.

4.2 Pattern Design

In the blue and white porcelain-themed aesthetic restaurant, references to blue and white colors and pattern decorations are found everywhere, like exquisite paintings that adorn the entire space like poetry and paintings. Various patterns such as flowers and birds, animal patterns, dragon patterns, and landscapes are displayed on lamps, doors, walls, public areas, and private rooms, creating a unique sense of beauty.



Fig. 6. private room and toilet pattern design. (Image source: drawn by the author)

Firstly, patterns with flowers and birds as the main theme present the wonders of the natural world. The walls of the restaurant are adorned with lifelike patterns of various flowers and birds, with blooming petals and dancing birds, as if transporting people into a world of blooming flowers and chirping birds. These delicate and exquisite patterns, with their unique colors and lines, portray serene and lively paintings, bringing a sense of tranquility and joy. The use of animal patterns and dragon patterns fills the entire space with mystery and power. The intricate details and smooth lines of the patterns give a solemn and dignified feeling, evoking a sense of awe. The use of landscape patterns fills the entire space with tranquility and vastness. In the walls of the private rooms, one can see layered landscape paintings, with flowing water and towering mountains, as if leading people into poetic and picturesque landscapes. The warm colors and smooth lines of these patterns create a sense of tranquility and comfort, as if being embraced by nature. The application of pattern decorations not only reflects the unique aesthetics of blue and white porcelain but also showcases the profoundness of Chinese traditional culture. "With their unique forms and artistic conception, they adorn the space like poetry and paintings, giving people a sense of being there"^[8]. Dining in such an environment, people can not only enjoy delicious food but also experience the charm of art and indulge in a unique aesthetic enjoyment. These pattern decorations are not simply copied, but have undergone processing through methods such as fragmentation, reconstruction, and direct references, making each pattern unique and presenting a distinct artistic charm. (Figure 6)

4.3 Blue and White Color Design

The expression of blue and white in this restaurant is not limited to walls and artworks. Even the details such as tables, chairs, and utensils are filled with elements of blue and white. The blue and white patterns on the tablecloth and the blue and white porcelain patterns on the utensils showcase a unique beauty. Blue represents tranquility and depth, while white symbolizes purity and freshness. The combination of the two makes the entire space more harmonious and comfortable. The expression of blue and white color is fully displayed in the blue and white porcelain-themed restaurant. Whether it's the murals on the walls or the decorations in the public areas and private rooms, the combination of blue and white gives the space a unique charm. Dining here, one can feel a different aesthetic enjoyment, a serene and elegant atmosphere. The expression of blue and white color makes people feel like they are in a scroll of blue and white porcelain, experiencing the unique charm of Eastern aesthetics(Figure 7).



Fig. 7. the color design of the private room. (Image source: drawn by the author)

4.4 Spatial Interface Design

In the interface design, in the public dining area on the first floor, the blue walls resemble a tranquil sea, immersing people in a peaceful blue ocean. On the white plasterboard ceiling, the glowing canvas with blue and white porcelain dragon patterns emits a soft light, resembling scattered stars. The large-scale blue and white ink patterned floor tiles combine the classical with the modern, creating a flowing ink painting. Blue and white porcelain plates and vases are strung together by hemp ropes, forming unique partition devices, showcasing the collision of tradition and innovation. The ground of the staircase is cleverly inlaid with broken blue and white porcelain pieces. These recycled fragments, like art collages, witness the inheritance and continuation of history.

In the reception area, the water feature curtain wall made of blue and white porcelain pieces complements the 16 wall paintings in various patterns at the entrance, filling the air with an artistic atmosphere. As for the private rooms on the second floor, the walls mainly feature ceramic panel paintings and ink paintings, complemented by blue protective wall panels, creating a distinctive artistic atmosphere for the private rooms. The ceiling lights, all professionally fired blue and white porcelain, are dazzling like stars

in the sky. The walnut-colored wooden floor adds warmth and comfort to the entire space.

This restaurant, focusing on blue and white porcelain aesthetics, cleverly combines tradition and modernity, classics and innovation through unique applications in spatial interface design. Whether it's delicate wall patterns, clever partition devices, or staircase with mosaic of fragments, they all demonstrate a profound understanding of blue and white porcelain culture and creative design^[9]. Here, people can not only savor delicious food but also experience the charm of tradition and the innovation of the modern world. (Figure 8)



Fig. 8. Common Dining Area. (Image source: drawn by the author)

4.5 Soft Furnishing Design

The soft furnishings in the restaurant are carefully selected with classic blue and white porcelain patterns, such as lotus, peony, and lotus leaves. Each dish seems to embody the soul of blue and white porcelain, showcasing a rustic and elegant beauty. As diners savor the delicious food, they unintentionally immerse themselves in the unique charm of blue and white porcelain. The tableware also extends this aesthetic, with each knife, fork, bowl, and plate themed around blue and white porcelain. They are not just simple utensils, but also an artistic experience. In the delicate textures and deep blue colors, one can feel the unique sentiment brought by blue and white porcelain, as if being in the study of a literati. The cushions of the sofas and chairs are made with blue and white porcelain fabric, presenting intricate patterns on soft materials, providing people with comfortable enjoyment. Sitting on such a sofa feels like being in an ocean of blue and white porcelain, immersed in its splendor and grace. Whether it's tea sessions or enjoying food, one can feel the unique charm brought by blue and white porcelain. The dining table is custom-made and fired with blue and white porcelain, providing a special dining experience. The door curtains are also a beautiful part of the entire soft furnishing design, using blue and white porcelain patterned fabrics. These delicate patterns seem to be swimming, giving a sense of vitality and liveliness. As the door curtains gently sway with the breeze, it brings a feeling of tranquility and serenity, as if traveling through a time tunnel, returning to that ancient era.

"The expression of blue and white porcelain soft furnishings is not only a tribute to traditional culture but also a pursuit of beauty and innovation^[10]". With its unique form of expression, it combines ancient blue and white porcelain art with modern life, showcasing a different kind of beauty. In this restaurant, people not only taste delicious food but also immerse themselves in a cultural atmosphere, feeling the fusion of art and life. The expression of blue and white porcelain soft furnishings, with its unique charm and elegant temperament, brings a different aesthetic enjoyment to people. It allows us to reevaluate the value of traditional culture and feel the allure of ancient art^[11-12]. In this restaurant filled with blue and white porcelain aesthetics, people can indulge in delicious food while also experiencing the accumulation and heritage of culture. The expression of blue and white porcelain soft furnishings takes us into a unique and mysterious world, allowing us to feel the perfect fusion of art and life. (Figure 9).



Fig. 9. display of soft furnishing.(Image source: drawn by the author)

4.6 Application of Styling Tools Design

The partition design on the first floor cleverly utilizes blue and white porcelain plates and blue and white porcelain bottles. By linking these blue and white porcelain ornaments with hemp ropes, a unique partition effect is created, which not only separates the space but also incorporates the beauty of blue and white porcelain. This design not only showcases the perfect combination of tradition and modernity, but also highlights the unique charm of blue and white porcelain.

The design of the lighting fixtures is also ingenious. The lamps, designed in the shape of blue and white porcelain or with paper burning and cutting techniques, emit a soft and warm light, resembling stars scattered in the space. These lamp designs not only retain the classic elements of blue and white porcelain, but also combine them with modern technology, demonstrating the perfect fusion of tradition and innovation.

The expression of blue and white porcelain shapes is fully displayed in the blue and white porcelain-themed restaurant. Through the large blue and white porcelain bottles, the partition design of blue and white porcelain plates and bottles, the embedding of shattered blue and white porcelain pieces, and the innovative design of lighting fixtures, the whole space exudes a strong artistic atmosphere and cultural heritage. This expression not only showcases the beauty of blue and white porcelain, but also conveys traditional cultural values and aesthetic concepts. (Figure 10)



Fig. 10. the dining area is partitioned by lamp shapes and blue and white porcelain bottles. (Image source: drawn by the author)

4.7 Recycling Design of Blue and White Porcelain Pieces

The design of the water feature wall fabric and staircase floor is truly astonishing. The shattered blue and white porcelain pieces are skillfully embedded in the wall fabric and floor, forming unique patterns and textures. The delicate art of blue and white porcelain painting is displayed in these shattered pieces, as if a series of beautiful scroll paintings unfold before your eyes. The design of the water feature wall fabric and staircase floor not only adds artistic sense to the space, but also allows people to feel the profound cultural heritage of traditional culture. (Figure 11)



Fig. 11. Recycling of ceramic tiles on the water curtain wall and staircase floor. (Image source: drawn by the author)

5 Conclusion

This study aims to ingeniously incorporate blue and white porcelain art into restaurant space design, combining traditional blue and white porcelain art with modern restaurant space design, and deeply analyzing the application of blue and white porcelain aesthetics in interior spaces. First, through an overview of blue and white porcelain art, we understand that different types of blue and white patterns create different visual effects. For example, the scroll pattern gives a sense of lightness and agility, while the lotus pattern gives a sense of solemnity and integrity. Therefore, when applying patterns, it is necessary to choose suitable designs based on the characteristics of the space and the form of the patterns. Secondly, the value and expression of blue and white aesthetics in interior space design are studied. Finally, through the example of the design of a blue

and white banquet-themed restaurant in Jiujiang City, the aesthetics of blue and white porcelain are applied to restaurant space design, creating a fresh and culturally artistic atmosphere. The research findings are summarized as follows:

(1) Understand the development process of blue and white art, the origin and production process of blue and white porcelain, and the evolution of blue and white patterns in different dynasties.

(2) Clarify the application of blue and white art in spatial construction, the color expression of blue and white elements in interior decoration, and the shaping and scene creation of blue and white patterns in spatial textures.

(3) Establish the application prospects of blue and white art in future space design. The aim is to promote the integration of blue and white art and modern space design by reviewing the development history and artistic characteristics of blue and white art, and create a theoretical research system.

(4) In restaurant design, the ingenious use of blue and white porcelain elements can effectively enhance the aesthetic value and cultural connotation of the restaurant, create an elegant and exquisite atmosphere, and form a complete theoretical research system by seamlessly integrating traditional blue and white art with modern space design.

The innovation of this study lies in the in-depth research of blue and white porcelain aesthetics, extracting decorative and representative points, and applying them to themed restaurant design using modern design techniques, presenting blue and white porcelain aesthetics in a completely new way in dining spaces. The blue and white decorative art in the blue and white porcelain themed restaurant not only adds a cultural atmosphere, enhances the competitiveness of the restaurant, and attracts numerous customers, but also inherits and innovates blue and white porcelain art culture in a novel way.

References

1. Zhou Yaliang. Application Research of Personalized Ceramics in Interior Design[J]. *Modern Decoration (Theory)*, 2016, (4):50-51
2. Li Jianan, "Overview of China's Underwater Archaeology on the Maritime Silk Road," *Cultural Relics Protection and Archaeological Science*, April 2019, p. 6.
3. Meng Fanfang, "Application Research of Blue and White Porcelain Art Decoration in Restaurant Space Design—Taking Jingdezhen Blue and White Porcelain Themed Restaurant as an Example," *Shandong Jianzhu University*, September 1, 2023.
4. Zeng Baodong, "Analysis of Blue and White Porcelain in Early Ming Dynasty Jingdezhen Official Kiln and Folk Kiln," *Collection and Investment*, 2017, Issue 4, pp. 10-12.
5. Jia Yajing. Application of traditional cultural elements in online advertising design [J]. *Audiovisual*, 2018, (11): 190-191.
6. Feng Qin. (2010). Research on modern product design based on blue and white porcelain art decoration. *Art and Design: Theoretical Edition*, (9X), 3.
7. Dong Zhong. Study on the spatial layout and urban characteristics of Jingdezhen Forest City Construction. *Green Science and Technology*, 2014, (12): 107-109.
8. Tang Xi, *Modern Chinese Restaurant Design*, 2017.p1-2.
9. Du Xiaoping. Application of Chinese traditional cultural elements in modern landscape design[J]P1-2.

10. Yao Shuying. The Development of Religious Patterns in Blue and White Porcelain of the Ming Dynasty. Jingdezhen Ceramics University. 2018, p3.
11. Simpson, R. J. (2003). Theme and experience in restaurant design: a theory (Doctoral dissertation, Washington State University).
12. Paist, H. B. (1916). Design and the Decoration of Porcelain. Ceramic Studio Publishing Company.

Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

