

UC Irvine

2016 Conference Proceedings

Title

Hand Scroll and the Seeing: An Embodied Analysis of Chinese Traditional Painting, Abstract

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3pj432d4>

Author

Zhi, Yu

Publication Date

2018-01-08

Peer reviewed

BODY of KNOWLEDGE

Hand Scroll and the Seeing: An Embodied Analysis of Chinese Traditional Painting

Yu Zhi

Hand Scroll (手卷、长卷、卷轴、横卷、横轴) is a genre and the classical mood of existence of Chinese traditional painting. It can be only appreciated while a person deploys it to several viewers, rather than to be suspended or hanged in a public space such as a museum or gallery. In comparison with Western oil painting, Hand scroll has many embodied characteristics: “Embodied presence”, “Roll of hand and extension of body”, “mobile viewing and point of view” and “private space and communication of body”. We can find these embodied elements in some celebrated hand scrolls, for instance Thousands Miles of Rivers and Mounts (《千里江山图》) by Wang Ximeng (王希孟), Along the River During the Qingming Festival (《清明上河图》) by Zhang Zeduan (张择端) and Dwelling in the Fuchun Mountains (《富春山居图》) by Huang Gongwang (黄公望).