

The Gate of Hope

Xinyi Mai

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for degree of Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts May 2022

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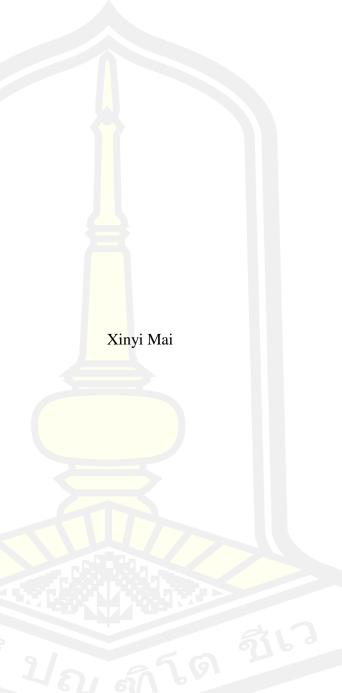
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The Gate of Hope



A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements for Master of Fine Arts (Visual Arts) May 2022

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### **ABSTRACT**

This visual arts creation thesis, The Gate of Hope consisted of two purposes, which were 1) to study hope is something everyone has, and hope is good, holy, and wants to show through the gate. and 2) to create the visual arts which was Installation art that expressed via form Chinese gates, arches and Western Gothic architecture combined was used from bamboo, Chinese paper-cut, spray paint and other materials are used to make them using the techniques of splicing, tenon and mortise and interspersed which conveyed the a fusion of Chinese and Western expressions of the concept of hope, and re-presented in a new way. The operation of this creation was collected field data [6], documentary data [13], and influence from creative work [15]. The data analysis was clearly analyzed in order to theme, form, technique, and process to satisfy of concept and specially character for [67] piece.

The result of this creation was found combining these meanings of Chinese bamboo and paper-cutting, as well as the meaning of the spires of Western Gothic architecture, several works have been created. And this creation also brought about the new particularly appearance.

Keyword: The Gate of Hope consisted

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# CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

#### **Inspiration**

As one of the architectural elements, the gate is an integral part of the building envelope system and a basic architectural shape. The main function of the gate is to separate and connect the building space. Gates in China can be divided into two major systems. One is the gate that divides the area, and the other is the gate that is an integral part of the building itself, House-style gates, etc. The gate of the building itself is a component of the building, such as the actual gate, chessboard gate, screen gate, partition gate, etc.

Ancient Chinese architecture has a unique position in the history of world architecture development. In addition to the wooden structure system of houses, its characteristic is that buildings mostly appear in the form of groups. Therefore, the door of the building is the difference between them. The building groups are very different, and the situations are diverse. The larger ones can be considered cities, palaces, and small ones. It can be a courtyard house, so there are many types of gates. The gate is the entrance to the building, so its location is prominent, and it's more exquisite. In ancient times, the family style (gate style) and Ziwang (doorway) represented a family. Its form and content are the history and culture recorded by the gate. The carvings and decorations on the gate and the treatment of colors all show the ancient cultural connotations, feudal rituals, ethics, and ideal pursuits to varying degrees. The morphology also shows the characteristics of various ethnic groups and various religions in multiple regions. The door also leads a variety of colorful folk cultures: Spring festival couplets and Fu are posted on the gate on New Year's Eve, chickens are posted at the gate on the first day of the first month, five send the poor to go out, lanterns are displayed at the gate on the Spring Festival, and willows are inserted at the Qingming gate. Gu Yumen stickers forbidden scorpions, silkworm moon day closed, April eighth married caterpillars, dragon boat gate hanging wormwood, July half gate hanging Magu, dogwood wine sprinkled on Chongyang gate, winter solstice gate on glutinous rice round.

Judging from the present and the past, many things are impressive, and the gods are a little weird. The various functions of the gate have a sense of mystery coupled with imagination. The result is that everything is animist; this door, this household was regarded as a god by the ancients and sacrificed to it. And along the year, I put so many cultural information hairpins on the gate and gate leaf, adding another scene before the gate, leaving a long and lasting taste for the modern people looking for the gate culture.

Bamboo culture also has a significant position in Chinese traditional culture. In the long-term production practice and cultural activities of the Chinese working people, the morphological characteristics of bamboo have been summarized as a kind of spiritual style of life, such as humility and integrity, and its connotation has formed the character, endowment, sand spiritual symbol of the Chinese nation. In daily life, people use bamboo in a variety of ways. From the perspective of clothing, bamboo played an essential role in the origin and development of Chinese clothing. In the Qin and Han dynasties, bamboo shoes, bamboo hats, and bamboo umbrellas were used bamboo to make cloth, crowns, and bamboo to make rainproof articles appear, and they are still in use today. From the perspective of food, bamboo shoots and bamboo fungus are trendy, delicious mountain treasures, and bamboo fruit is a vital crop material for saving famine in the past dynasties. According to pre-Qin documents, bamboo shoots were delicacies on the table for more than 3,000 years. There are many ways to eat bamboo shoots, and thousands of delicious foods can be cooked. Bamboo also has unique medical value. There are historical records of bamboo curing diseases in China's earliest medical books. The whole body of bamboo is a treasure. Bamboorugu and bamboo leeks made from leaves, seeds, roo, ts, and stems are restorative materials with remarkable healing effects. Bamboo yellow and bamboo fungus are also good medicines for curing diseases. Bamboo also plays a vital role in transportation. The origin and development of ancient transportation tools and facilities are closely related to bamboo. Older people used bamboo to make bamboo carts, rafts and boats, and bridge projects, creating world transportation. Many of the first cases in history have contributed to developing the world's transportation tools and facilities. (Bourdieu, 2015)

In traditional Chinese culture, paper-cutting is also unique. Chinese papercutting is a kind of folk art that uses scissors or carving knives to cut patterns on paper to decorate life or cooperate with other folk activities. In China, paper-cutting has a broad mass base, blends with the social life of people of all ethnic groups, and is an essential part of various folk activities. Its continuous visual image and modeling format contains a wealth of cultural and historical information. It expresses the social cognition, moral concepts, practical experience, life ideals, and aesthetic tastes of the general public. It has awareness, education, expression, lyricism, and Multiple social values such as entertainment and communication. Folk paper-cutting is good at combining different objeher and producing ideal and beautiful results. Regardless of the combination of one or more images, they are all shaped by notions to imply pictures rather than based on objective natural forms. At the same time, they are good at creating a variety of mascots with bixing techniques. Combine the image of the convention to express your psychology. Pursuing the auspicious metaphor has become one of the ultimate goals of the image combination. The geographical isolation and cultural limitations and the intrusion of adversity such as natural disasters have stimulated people's desire for a happy life. People pray for adequate food and clothing, prosperity, health and longevity, and good luck. This simple wish is conveyed through papercutting. (Dong Shizhong, 2005)

Through understanding doors, bamboo, and paper-cutting, I became more and more interested in Chinese traditional culture. I couldn't help but admire the wisdom of the ancients, which also had a significant influence on my thinking.

## **Purpose of Creation**

- 1. To study the Chinese gate, a culture of bamboo, and Chinese cut paper through the combination of Chinese and Western cultures, more people will understand Chinese culture, which is also new hope for the revival of Chinese traditional culture.
- 2. To create the visual arts w,hich was Installation art expressed via, the form was used from Bamboo, wood, and other natural materials and splicing, painting, spray painting, and other processes that conveyed the Gate of Hope.

### **Scope of Creation**

#### 1. Content

Gate is a good wish or ideal and the object of the desire or purpose. So I want to combine the different ways of expressing hope between China and the West as a kind of cultural exchange.

#### 2. Form

In China, gates are used in various ways, including the famous Tiananmen Square in Beijing, the Zhonghua Gate and Xuanwu Gate in Nanjing, other magnificent gates, and the Chuhua Gate Suiqiang Gate, and Ruyi Gate in homes. At the corner of Ruyimen's door and the brick walls on both sides, flower decorations in the shape of Ruyi are often made to imply auspiciousness, so it is named Ruyimen. The number of Ruyimen is the largest because it is used by ordinary residential buildings. Due to the large number, there are many forms of Ruyimen, which can be complex or simple. The Chuhua Gate is the gate inside the courtyard of the ancient Chinese civil residential building. It is a very particular gate in the courtyard. It is the dividing line and the only passage between the inner house and the exterior house (front yard). Because its eave pillars do not fall to the ground and hang under the eaves, they are called vertical pillars. There is a bead under it, usually painted in the form of petals, so it is called Suihuamen. The entire building of Suihuamen occupies the sky and no land. This is one of the characteristics of Suihuamen, so there is a lot of space inside the Suihuamen.

There are many doors in Western countries, including the Arc de Triomphe in France, the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, and the Alcala Gate in Madrid, Spain. The Gate of Alcala stands on Independence Square in the city center, at the beginning of Via Alcala, just a few steps from the Retiro Gardens. The building is in neoclassical style with five-door openings, of which 3 are semicircular arches, and the other 2 are flat arches. It was an unprecedented architectural masterpiece in Europe in the 18th century. The Arc de Triomphe in Paris is a representative Empire-style building. The rise of this style is inseparable from Napoleon's advocacy. Its prosperity and decline have always been closely linked with Napoleon's destiny. These buildings are inspired and modeled by the majestic and solemn buildings of the Roman Empire. They are huge in scale and simple in appearance, pursuing majesty, calmness, and majesty.

#### 3. Techniques

The creators used splicing, painting, and other production techniques to express hope in the form of doors. They added some combination of Chinese traditional culture and Western culture to express hope for the future.

#### **Conceptual of Frame Work**

The gate is a critical architectural element, and the different appearance of the gate gives people different feelings. At the gate of the house, the gate is the face of the owner. When the owner goes out every morning, everything inside the gate can shelter the owner from wind and rain, no matter what happens outside. When the owner works hard every day, when passing the gate, everything inside the door is happy and warm. When passing the gate, the owner can put aside the day's fatigue and enjoy the warmth of the home.

The gate of the house is different from the gate of the city. The city gate is the face of a city. There are magnificent gates such as Tiananmen Square in Beijing, Meridian Gate of the Forbidden City, Zhonghua Gate, and Xuanwu Gate in Nanjing. Standing under the city gate gives people a glorious feeling. The city gate was a defensive function in ancient times, and it was also a landmark of the city. Many soldiers, scholars, and people in business were unable to return home for a long time because they were away from home, but when they came back through the city gate, they felt a sense of peace of mind and went home.

#### **Definition of Terms**

1.Gate: In the history of ancient Chinese architecture, doors have been a highly valued architectural type since ancient times. As the primary way of entering and leaving, the breath of breath, the symbol of poverty and lowliness, and the carrier of culture, the door has already broken through the narrow category of only open and closed architecture. Its form and content penetrated the intense colors of Chinese traditional culture, and also reflected the strong national interest of the ancient people.

2. Hope: Refers to a good wish or ideal, and the other refers to the object of the wish or ideal.



# CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

According to the purpose of the creation, this thesis study focuses on The Gate of Hope. To support the study purpose, the framework of process is selected accordingly. This chapter reviews related literature, covering the following topics:

- 1. Field Data
- 2. Documentary Data
- 3. Theory
- 4. Influences from Visual Arts

#### Field Data

In recent years of travel, from the majestic and magnificent atmosphere of Tiananmen Square and the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, to the unpredictable and eclectic gardens of Suzhou, to the small bridges and flowing water in my hometown. Each has its own characteristics. Beijing is the modern capital of China and the capital of the ancient Ming and Qing dynasties. Therefore, the importance of the capital will be highlighted in terms of architecture. The construction of the gate is also magnificent, giving people a strong sense of oppression. Suzhou is located in the south of the Yangtze River and has a superior geographical location. It is also an important city in ancient China. In ancient times, many literati and ink guests gathered in Suzhou, which made Suzhou's cultural heritage very strong. Therefore, Suzhou gardens give people a feeling of changing scenery and recreating the universe within a few minutes. The garden occupies a small area and has its own artistic characteristics in layout, structure and style. The doors in Suzhou gardens are also more elegant, giving people a sense of great power inside the door.

Our hometown also belongs to the south of the Yangtze River. Compared with Suzhou gardens, there is no such thing as a step-by-step change of scenery of Suzhou gardens. It is within a few minutes of recreating the universe, but it also has our characteristics. Our hometown has many rivers and creeks, so there is a simple feeling

of people with small bridges and flowing water. Huizhou architecture pays attention to specifications and etiquette, and there are also differences between government and businessmen. In addition to the magnificent Huizhou merchants' homes, the residences of small families are also elegant and exquisite. The Hui-style architecture combines the spirit of Huizhou's mountains and rivers with the essence of Chinese customs and culture. It has a unique style, rigorous structure, and exquisite carving. It fully reflects the vividness of the planning concept of villages and towns, or the comprehensive application of plane and space processing, and architectural sculpture art. Local characteristics. Folk houses, ancestral halls and memorial archways are the most typical. They are known as the three great ancient architectures in Huizhou, which are valued and admired by the Chinese and foreign architectural circles.( Dong Shizhong, 2015)

From north to south, the appearance of the building is very different due to geographical location, politics, economy and other reasons. The door is the facade of the building, and different doors give people different feelings.



Figure 1 Suzhou Gardens 1 Photo by Xinyi Mai, Date April 11, 2017



Figure 2 Suzhou Gardens 2
Photo by Xinyi Mai, Date April 11, 2017



Figure 3 Tianjin Theatre
Photo by Xinyi Mai, Date September 12, 2014



Figure 4 Hekou Ancient Town 1
Photo by Xiaoyan Li, Date October 17, 2021



Figure 5 Hekou Ancient Town 2 Photo by Xiaoyan Li, Date October 17, 2021



Figure 6 Hekou Ancient Town 3
Photo by Xiaoyan Li, Date October 17, 2021



Figure 7 Zhenjiang Ancient Temple Photo by Xinyi Mai, Date January 4, 2020

#### **Documentary Data**

There are many types of doors. Combining my works, I used the French Arc de Triomphe and the pointed arches of Gothic architecture. As its name suggests, the Arc de Triomphe is a gateway to the triumph of the army that is out on the march. It is the largest round arch in the world today, located on the roundabout in the center of Charles de Gaulle in the center of Paris. Gothic pointed arches are pushed inward layer by layer, and there are a lot of reliefs, which seem to have a strong attraction for those who are about to enter the gate.

China is the country with the richest bamboo resources in the world and is known as the Bamboo Kingdom. In China, bamboo is considered to be the plant with the most spiritual connotation and the most versatile. No plant has such a profound impact on human civilization as bamboo. Bamboo penetrates into all aspects of material and spiritual life, and has accumulated into a long-standing Chinese bamboo culture. In 5000 years, Chinese bamboo culture has been passed on, promoted, innovated and developed, and has become one of the mainstream cultures of Chinese civilization, forming a profound historical and cultural connotation. In other words, contemporary Chinese bamboo culture has been inherited and developed continuously over the 5000-year history of Chinese civilization. On the basis of 5,000 years of inheritance and development, the symbolic image of contemporary Chinese bamboo culture has been fully developed, and the cultural connotation has achieved three great innovations and leaps.

- 1.The image of a gentleman: from the ancient self-identified gentleman to oneself as a gentleman; from paying attention to personal self-cultivation, to paying attention to the people and shouting for the people, to the perfect image of a true gentleman who struggles and dedicates himself to the nation.
- 2.Spiritual connotation: From ancient time caring about personal accomplishment, people's sufferings ascending to national liberation, prosperity, and then to the highest realm of a community with a shared future for mankind.
- 3. Spatial scope: from individuals, literati, and Li people, to the Chinese people, and then to the vast scope of all mankind. (Ren Jingjun, The historical and cultural connotation of Chinese bamboo culture.2020: Online)

In China, auspicious symbols and patterns seem to be very inconspicuous, but they are everywhere and no one uses them. If you understand auspicious culture, you will also understand Chinese culture and a very important aspect of Chinese people. The scope of the auspicious culture is broadly classified, and its external manifestation extends from tribal totems to all aspects of people's clothing, food, housing and transportation; its internal predictive meaning extends from the simple appeal of intuitive good wishes and sublimates to foretell good luck, happiness, longevity, wealth, and prosperity. The cultures of official jinjue, descendants and grandsons, etc, constitute a unique auspicious culture in the national cultural phalanx.

Paper-cutting is also a way to spread auspicious culture and has a long history. It is popular because of its easy-to-obtain materials, low cost, immediate effect, wide adaptability, various styles and vivid images; moreover, it is most suitable for rural women to make in their leisure time. It can be used as a practical object and can beautify life. Paper-cuts can be seen all over the country, and even different local styles have been formed. Paper-cutting not only expresses the people's aesthetic hobbies, but also contains the deep social psychology of the nation. It is also one of the most distinctive folk art in China, and its modeling characteristics are especially worthy of study. As the embodiment of Chinese original philosophy, folk paper-cutting has the characteristics of comprehensive, beautifying and auspicious in form of expression. At the same time, folk paper-cutting uses its own specific expression language to convey the connotation and essence of traditional culture.

#### Theory

Charies Richard Snyder and his colleagues put forward the theory of hope: children or adults' life eleven goals are based, and their thinking about goals can be understood as two components: agency and pathway. Agency refers to a set of self-belief systems that initiate an individual's actions and support the individual to move toward a goal and continue to advance along a predetermined path; a path is a group of beliefs and recognitions about the individual's ability to find an effective path to achieve the desired goal. Know. The initiation and maintenance of the will and the design and adjustment system of the path are all essential components of the hope.

Hope is a subjective consciousness, and it is an indispensable part of human beings. When human beings have this idea, they will develop in this direction consciously or unconsciously. Because there is hope, there will be motivation for everything in our lives.

In summary, research and analysis of hopes are carried out. In cultures around the world, humans have different expressions of hope, and everyone has different ideas. Therefore, creators use this theory as a conceptual framework to create works of art,

#### **Influence from Visual Arts**

#### 1. Visual Arts from Other Artists

Wish is composed of three different sizes of flowers of high, medium, and low, representing father, mother, and self respectively. He hopes that these giant dandelions can help people send love and blessings to relatives and friends around and far away with the wind, so as to spread the seeds of happiness and hope for everyone. This work inspired me by using the characteristics of dandelion and modern technology to express hope, which is also a good expression of hope.



Figure 8Artist: Robert James Buchholz

Title: Wish

Size: 1500(High) cm

Technique: ceramics, LED

From: Robert James Buchholz , (2013: Online)

Bamboo culture also has a very important position in Chinese traditional culture. I have benefited a lot from seeing Japanese artist Fourth-generation Tanabe Chiku'unsai using bamboo as a material to innovate traditional bamboo art and display it in the form of installation art.



Figure 9 Artist: Fourth-generation Tanabe Chiku'unsai

Title: Shu no Mon(Gate)

Size:  $250 \times 180 \times 220$  cm

Technique: Bamboo

From: Fourth-generation Tanabe Chiku'unsai,

(2020: Online)

Paper-cutting is a culture that has been passed down for thousands of years in China. When I saw the paper-cutting works of artist Gao Fenglian, rooted in the deep and simple Yellow River and Loess culture of northern Shaanxi, it reflects the primitive and simple consciousness of life and reproduction of human beings, and shows the harmony of Yin and Yang. The Chinese philosophical concept of metamorphosing all things, all things are endless. And the artist's own suffering experience and tenacious and optimistic personality have also injected a steady stream of energy and spirituality into her works. Her paper-cutting content is extensive, and myths and legends, drama stories, folk customs and colorful real life are all in hand, just like a natural fit. Even if it is a masterpiece of several meters in length, it is still well-informed and made bold and resolute in one go, showing the extraordinary grandeur of a female folk artist from the loess area. Through the research of the artist Gao Fenglian, I want to add paper-cutting to my work, and innovate it, to show it in a new way.



Figure 10 Artist: Gao Fenglian

Title: Kylin brings children

Size:  $38 \times 45$  cm

Technique: Paper

From: Gao Fenglian, (2004: Online)



Figure 11 Artist: Gao Fenglian

Title: Bellyband embroidered pattern

Size:  $55 \times 65$  cm Techniqu: Paper

From: Gao Fenglian, (2014: Online)



Figure 12 Artist: Gao Fenglian

Title: Bellyband

Size:  $58 \times 62.5$  cm

Technique: Paper

From: Gao Fenglian, (2005: Online)

## 2. Visual Arts from Pre - Thesis

## 2.1 Pre – Thesis work 1

Using the melted lines of hot melt glue as the material, and the appearance of the door of Gothic architecture, I want to express the feeling of being restrained when passing through this door full of black lines. But the door is transparent, and the surrounding light can be seen. The restraint is only a momentary feeling.



Figure 13 Title: The Gate of Bondage

Size: 220 x 120 x 100 cm

Technique: Wood, Plastic cloth, Hot melt adhesive

I found some inspiration about bondage in the painting course through the line. In a sense, bondage is also a manifestation of darkness, so I also showed the darkness, and there is destruction in the darkness. I deliberately damaged some of the appearance of the door. Although the door cannot be passed through, there is hope behind the door.



Figure 14 Title: The Gate of Dark

Size: 250 x 120 x 100 cm

Technique: Wood, Plastic cloth, Acrylic paint

3. Visual Arts of Thesis Proposal

#### 3.1 Thesis Proposal work 1

- Idea/ Concept: Combined with the last work before, there is hope behind the door, so this is the content of my current work The Door of Hope. Gate of Hope,I combined the characters from the paper-cuts in traditional Chinese culture, the window lattice patterns in ancient buildings and the spires in Western Gothic architecture. In Gothic architecture, the higher the spire, the more away from God. Recently, the more religious the faith. I combine the hopes and desires of Chinese and Western cultures, which is also an innovative and new attempt.
- Form: The modeling in this work comes from the study of the pointed arches of Western Gothic architecture, and the structure of ancient Chinese architecture is added. The fusion and innovation of the two have created a tall door, the wood is used, and the symbolic shape of hope is expressed through the refinement of Chinese paper-cuts.
- Technique: Choose wood, splice it into squares, and stack them into the shape of a door. The structure is large and sharp. The frame is painted with black paint to improve durability, and red is painted in the paper-cut characters and the texture of the windows to enhance the feeling of hope.
- Result: Combining the last work before, so this is my current work content Gate of Hope. Gate of Hope I combined the characters from the paper-cuts in traditional Chinese culture, the window lattice patterns in ancient buildings and the spires in Western Gothic architecture. In Gothic architecture, the higher the spire, the more away from God. Recently, the more religious the faith. I combine the hopes and desires of Chinese and Western cultures, which is also an innovative and new attempt.

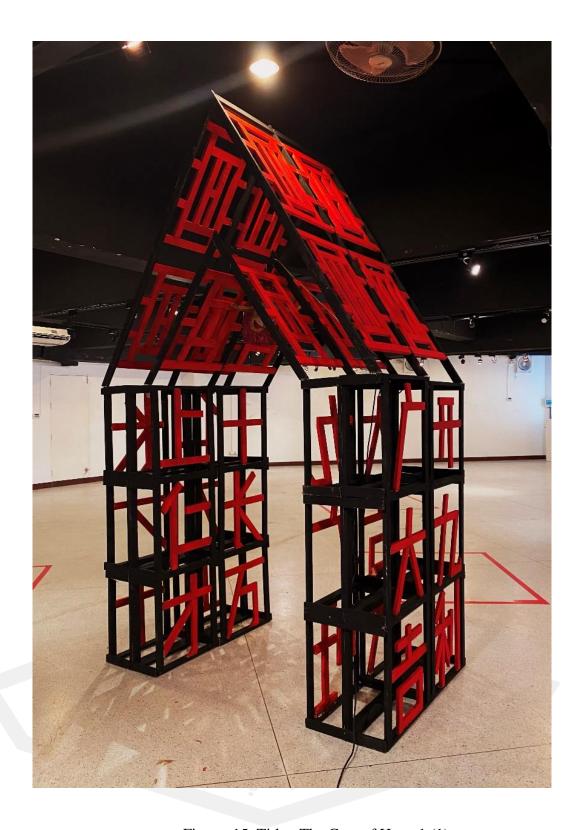


Figure 15 Title: The Gate of Hope 1 (1)

Size: 120 x 100 x 300 cm

Technique: Wood, Nails, Acrylic paint



Figure 16 Title: The Gate of Hope 1 (2)

Size: 120 x 100 x 300 cm

Technique: Wood, Nails, Acrylic paint



Figure 17 Title: The Gate of Hope 1 (3)

Size: 120 x 100 x 300 cm

Technique: Wood, Nails, Acrylic paint

### 3.2 Thesis Proposal work 2

- Idea/ Concept: Bamboo is a spiritual symbol in China. In Chinese culture, many artists like to express their emotions through bamboo. Fu in China has the meaning of blessing and good luck, so it is used to decorate the exterior.
- Form: The modeling in this work comes from the study of the Arc de Triomphe in France, and the use of bamboo and Fu, which are spiritual symbols, is the fusion and innovation of the three.
- Technique: Choose bamboo and construct it into the appearance of the door through interspersed techniques. Through the method of burning, the bamboo surface is increased with patterns. Then paint the surface layer to make it more beautiful. Through cutting and perforating the wooden board, and using Chinese lines to write the word Fu on the cut wooden board, and then use the rope to perforate, hang the word Fu on the bamboo.
- Result: The Arc de Triomphe represents the return of victory and peace. Bamboo also means peace in Chinese culture. Horizontal nine bamboo, vertical nine bamboo, Nine means long. Homophony is a common auspicious way in daily life, and Nine is no exception. The advantage of the homophonic Nine, through the emphasis and repetition of the Nine number, also has the characteristic of persistence. The word Fu is blessed in China. Fortune means luck. The word Fu is posted on the Spring Festival. Whether it is now or in the past, it embodies people's yearning for a happy life and wishes for a better future. In order to fully reflect this yearning and wish, the folks simply put the word Fu upside down, indicating that happiness has fallen and blessings have arrived. The appearance of the Arc de Triomphe adds Chinese bamboo culture and the word Fu to express the symbol of hope.



Figure 18 Title: The Gate of Hope 2 (1)

Size: 260 x 240 x 100 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Wood board, Paint, Twine



Figure 19 Title: The Gate of Hope 2 (2)

Size: 260 x 240 x 100 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Wood board, Paint, Twine



Figure 20 Title: The Gate of Hope 2 (3)

Size: 260 x 240 x 100 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Wood board, Paint, Twine



Figure 21 Title: The Gate of Hope 2 (4)

Size: 260 x 240 x 100 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Wood board, Paint, Twine



Figure 22 Title: The Gate of Hope 2 (5)

Size: 260 x 240 x 100 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Wood board, Paint, Twine

# 3.3 Thesis Proposal work 3

- Idea/ Concept: A continuation of the previous work, using bamboo as the material to create a gate. The city gate is the face of a city. It has the function of defense and political etiquette. The gate is the only place for soldiers to go and return, and it is also the faith and hope in their hearts.
- Form: The modeling in this work comes from the study of the Zhonghua Gate in Nanjing, and the use of bamboo to innovate the ancient gates of China and show it in another form.
- Technique: Choose bamboo as the material and break the bamboo apart to form bamboo strips. Use complete bamboo to create the shape, and then use bamboo strips for cross-fixing to create the shape.
- Result: Zhonghua Gate in Nanjing, Zhonghua Gate is the largest existing gate in China and an outstanding representative of ancient defensive architecture. It occupies an important position in the history of city wall architecture in the world. It is also the world's most well-preserved, most complex, and largest fortress. In China, there is an old saying A country can have a home. So I designed two gates, one is the city gate and the other is the home gate. The city gate is to shelter the house from wind and rain. The city gate is a kind of belief and pillar in people's hearts, and it is also a hope in people's hearts.



Figure 23 Title: The Gate of Hope 3 (1)

Size: 260 x 300 x 150 cm Techniqu: Bamboo, Nails



Figure 24 Title: The Gate of Hope 3 (2)

Size: 260 x 300 x 150 cm Technique: Bamboo, Nails

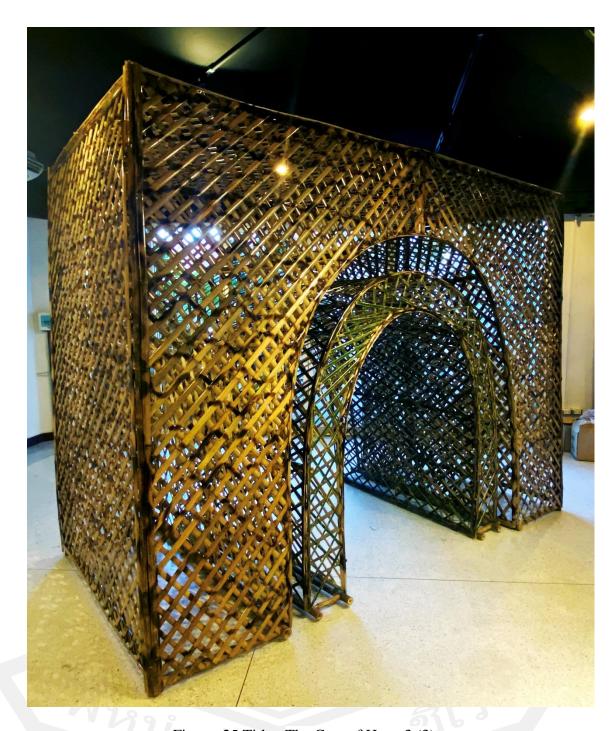


Figure 25 Title: The Gate of Hope 3 (3)

Size: 260 x 300 x 150 cm Technique: Bamboo, Nails

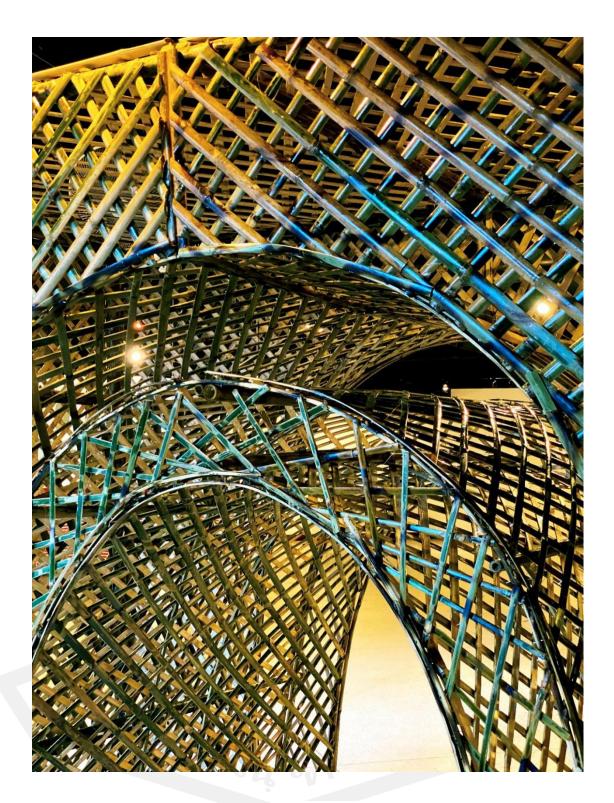


Figure 26Title: The Gate of Hope 3 (4)

Size: 260 x 300 x 150 cm Technique: Bamboo, Nails

# CHAPTER III CREATIVITY METHODS

This chapter gives an outline of the study design and procedure. The procedure of the study concluded from chapter two and other frameworks which involve with The Gate of Hope. This creation will be presented according to the following topics:

- 1. Collection and Analysis Data
- 2. Visual Arts Experimentation
- 3. Creation Process
- 4. Dissemination Process

#### **Collection and Analysis Data**

#### 1. Data Collection

In the process of creation, I first analyzed my previous works, found out my strengths and weaknesses, and corrected the bad things. Give full play to the advantages and overcome the shortcomings in the current creation. Find what you are good at and related to the creation and previous works. Hope is a symbol of a beautiful beginning. Hope has aspirations, blessings, ideals, and many, many new things. Hope also symbolizes the future. People are looking forward to the future. The future is also full of unknowns. Things in the future may not develop in a good direction, but we cannot be without hope. Without hope, everything is gone. So I hope that for people, although invisible and intangible, it is a very important thing. In order to create, I started to look up a lot of materials, and finally decided to use installation art as a method of presentation.

### 2. Data Analysis

#### 2.1 Analysis of theme

Hope is a good wish or ideal, and the object of the wish or ideal. The things that different people hope for are different, and the things they hope for are beautiful. And what can be achieved in the end is also beautiful, and may be beyond expectations. For example: in the paper-cutting of traditional Chinese culture, people

will exaggerate some things, such as big fish, big peppers, big silkworms, big grains, etc. Through paper-cutting, people make up beautiful images to comfort themselves. The soul is here to promote the great creativity of people to conquer nature, in order to build their ideal world, and affirm the strength of people, and inspire people's courage to continue to struggle.

In different ages, people want different things. In peace times, I hope I will prosper, make progress, and be safe, but in war years, most people are displaced and homeless, so I want to have peace early, be able to live and work in peace, and live a stable life, so people express Things will also be different.

Hope always yearns for something beautiful, so I want to express good hope through my works.

## 2.2 Analysis of form symbols

The combination of the spires of European Gothic architecture and the window lattice pattern and paper-cutting of Chinese architecture is also a new attempt, both of which have the meaning of entrusting the future and hope.

The Arc de Triomphe in France and Chinese bamboo as materials are also a new attempt. The meaning of the Arc de Triomphe has hope for victory and a safe return. Bamboo also has the meaning of peace and rising steadily.

### 2.3 Analysis of techniques

In terms of technique, the techniques used are splicing, painting, burning, painting and other techniques. The first work uses splicing, and there are nails to fix every place where it meets, so as to achieve a stable effect. After the modeling is completed, paint with acrylic paint, so that the color of the work is not single, and achieve the desired effect.

The second work uses drilling and interspersed. Each bamboo is burned with fire to create a texture. Through the punching, the bamboo can be crossed together in an orderly manner. The bamboo is fixed with iron wire, and it is not easy to disperse. Finally, it is painted to make The work is even brighter.

# **Visual Arts Experimentation**

Steps in the creative process Creators tried their own methods, work styles, shapes, and interest in the types of art they like. The easiest way to start a search is to draw a line. Write down your perceptions and influence how you felt at the time. After compiling in the notebook, the story line is established. And the content will vary according to the experience experienced by the creative experiment, and the style and concept will also change accordingly. After analyzing the Chinese elements, try the original materials such as wood strips and the materials with ethnic plots such as bamboo. In the process of trying to combine the appearance of Western buildings with the elements of traditional Chinese culture, the original color of the material was changed through the combination of cutting, splicing and other processes, and the use of painting and other processes. In looking for elements that can be added to my own work, there are many kinds of new knowledge that are helpful to my creation, and I will add it in the subsequent production. So the goal of this article is to create installation art related to Hope.

#### **Creation Process**

#### 1. Sketches/ Model

Combine the above information and start creating. First use photoshop and 3Dmax to make models, including do-it-yourself models. Because this can better show the effect in front of me, I use a combination of computer drawing and handpainting to draw the sketches I want.

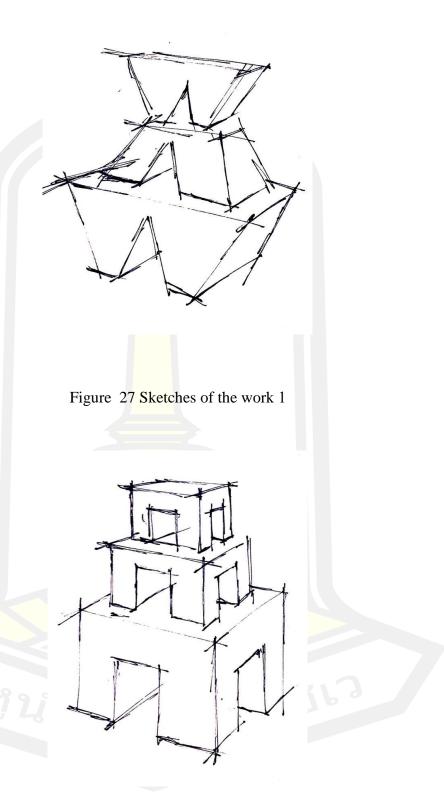


Figure 28 Sketches of the work 2

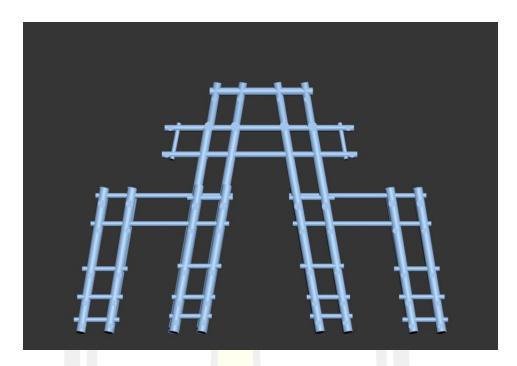


Figure 29 Sketches of the work 3 (1)

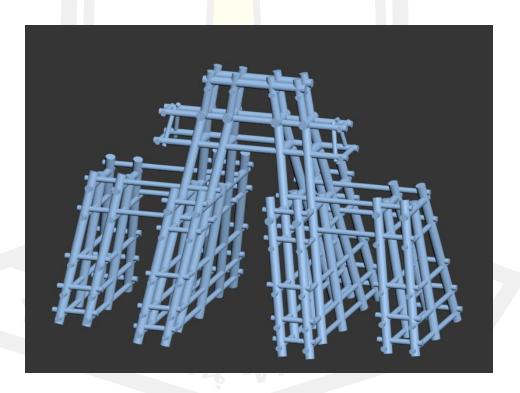


Figure 30 Sketches of the work 3 (2)

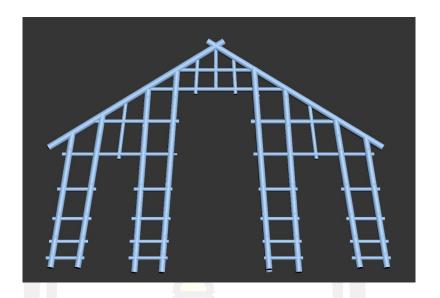


Figure 31 Sketches of the work 4 (1)



Figure 32 Sketches of the work 4 (2)

# 2. Material and Equipment

There are several kinds of materials and equipment: cutting machine, air pump, air gun, air gun nail, wood, acrylic paint, pencil, paint brush, tape measure, bamboo, etc.



Figure 33 Tools



Figure 34 Bamboo

# 3. Step of Creation

# 1. Step 1

Start cutting bamboo and build.



Figure 35Start making

# 2. Step 2

The prototype of the framework has been built.



Figure 36 Prototype

# 3. Step 3 The frame build is complete.



Figure 37 The frame is complete

# 4. Step 4

Write the word Fu on the cut wooden board



Figure 38 Writing

# 5. Step 5 The works are completed and exhibited.



Figure 39 Complete

# **Dissemination Process**

- 1. Writing documents in supplement to creation
- 2. Publication of Thesis articles in journals
- 3. Disseminating works in art exhibition

# CHAPTER IV RESULTS

This chapter intends to The Gate of Hope. The focus of this chapter is to illustrate the results. Thus, the results are shown in the following topics:

- 1. Results of Data Analysis
- 2. Results of Creation

## **Results of Data Analysis**

The author collects and organizes materials from traveling, journals, books, and websites through research on the types of ancient Chinese gates, it is concluded that there are various types of gates, and each gate represents different meanings. Then through my understanding of art, I use different materials to analyze and research. The information obtained can improve one's inspiration, make the inspiration consistent with the goal, and can better explain the author's relevant theoretical principles.

In the process of research, the author wants to better display Chinese traditional culture and hopes to integrate it into Western culture. The work Wish by Robert James Buchholz has the same theoretical direction as mine, but the expression is different. He uses LED lights, which are displayed in the shape of dandelions, and spreads hope to every household through the wind. Through research, I decided to make it with bamboo, which itself is a spiritual symbol in Chinese culture. A Japanese installation artist Tanabe Zhuyunsai, his works are all made of bamboo. Through the study of his works, he gave me a new understanding of the material of bamboo. Every piece of bamboo he made The work is innovation. Paper-cutting also occupies a very important part of Chinese traditional culture. At various festivals, paper-cutting will appear in every household. Through the study of the old paper-cut artist Gao Fenglian, she integrated all the details of life into the paper-cut, which perfectly interprets the combination of life and art, and endows the paper-cut with emotion and becomes lifelike.

Through the above research on other people's works, I have a deeper understanding of my topic and goals. I will better express my understanding of Chinese culture and add my feelings to Chinese culture in my works.

#### **Results of Creation**

Show the connection and progress of each work, analyze the problems in each work, and divide it into the following items:

#### 1. Thesis work 1

- 1.1 Idea/ Concept: Combining several doors with different meanings, there is the door of all living beings, the door of faith, and the door of heaven. In the study of Gothic architecture in previous works, the meaning of the spire of Gothic architecture: the sharper the top, the closer it is to heaven. Adding the characteristics of Gothic architecture and the combination of the pagoda, the work is divided into four layers. The work combines the ancient Chinese saying there is a connection in the underworld, and Chinese Buddhism calls the secular society red dust, so combining these aspects, the combination of thread and bamboo will be used to express.
- 1.2 Form and Art style: This work adopts the layers of the tower, the spire of the Gothic architecture, and the application of traditional Chinese culture, to integrate and innovate the three. Create a door with three different meanings to express people's hopes and beliefs.
- 1.3 The Results: Two buildings that can express hope and belief are framed, and Chinese Buddhist culture is added. Combined with previous works, this work has been innovated, and other meanings have been added to make it rich in meaning and can better express hope and belief.



Figure 40 Thesis work 1 (1)

Size: 250 x 150 x150cm

Technique: Bamboo, Yarn, Nails,

Spray paint.

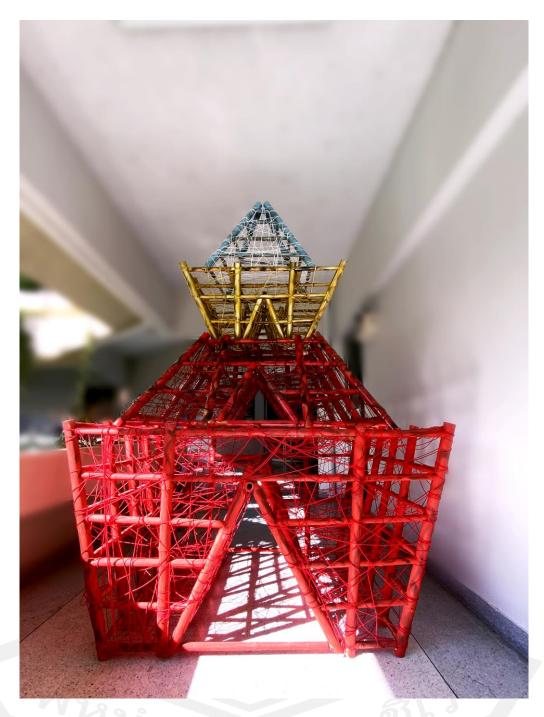


Figure 41 Thesis work 1 (2)

Size: 250 x 150 x 150 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Yarn, Nails,

Spray paint.

#### 2. Thesis work 2

- 2.1 Idea/ Concept: Continuing the idea of the first assignment, divide the work into three layers, from large to small, in descending order. The frame of the tower is combined with paper cutting to express hope and desire.
- 2.2 Form and Art style: This work is based on the extension of the previous work, combined with the frame of the tower, a certain improvement has been made. The paper-cut pattern and the golden color of Buddhism are added to show the holiness of hope and faith.
- 2.3 The Results: The material of the work continues to be made of bamboo, combining gold and paper cutting to create an innovation. The patterns in the paper cut represent hope and blessings. Gold is the most brilliant luster color, and it is the supreme solid color in nature. It is the color of the sun, and it represents warmth and happiness. Combining the two, I want to better show hope and desire.
- 2.4 Progress: The teacher's suggestion is to make a larger installation of art, which can better combine the relationship between the door, Chinese culture, and art. When making, consider the bamboo used as a whole, do not use the same size of bamboo, the effect is not very good. When completing the exhibition, we should consider the requirements for lighting, and different angles of light will show different feelings.



Figure 42 Thesis work 2 (1)

Size: 100 x 100 x 180 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Nails, Chinese paper cut,

Spray paint



Figure 43 Thesis work 2 (2)

Size: 100 x 100 x 180 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Nails, Chinese paper cut,

Spray paint



Figure 44 Thesis work 2 (3)

Size: 100 x 100 x 180 cm

Technique: Bamboo, Nails, Chinese paper cut,

Spray paint

#### 3. Thesis work 3

- 3.1 Idea/ Concept: It adopts the shape of a client Chinese archway and innovates it, adding elements such as paper-cut and bamboo to express hope and desire.
- 3.2 Form and Art style: This work is based on the improvement of the previous work, combined with the shape of the archway, adding paper-cut elements and Chinese red to better show Chinese culture, and adding gold to better highlight the holiness of hope and belief.
- 3.3 The Results: The material of the work is made of bamboo, and gold and red are added for decoration. Each grid is made of gold characters on a red background, which better expresses hope and belief. The meaning of each word or word on the grid is hope and desire, to better express the theme.
- 3.4 Progress: The teacher's suggestion is to better consider the influence of the light source on the work and whether the hope or wish can be realized. This can be divided into two approaches. Finally, it is the experience of the audience when they visit the work.



Figure 45 Thesis work 3 (1)

Title: The Gate of Hope 6

Size: 440 x 280 x 185 cm

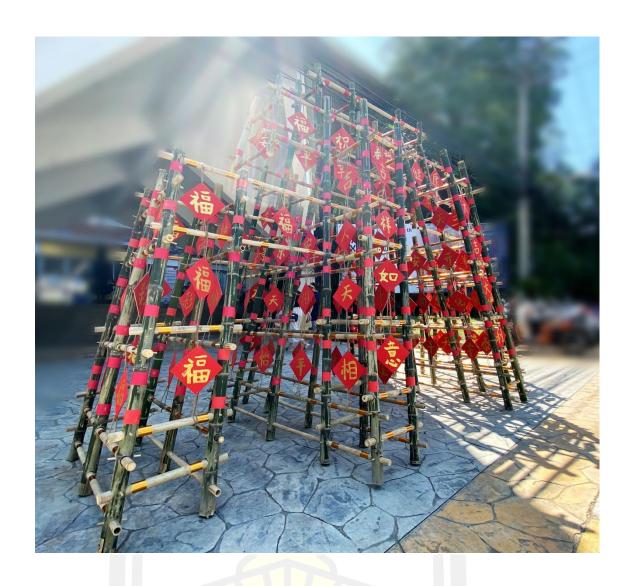


Figure 46 Thesis work 3 (2)

Size: 440 x 280 x 100 cm.

Technique: Bamboo, Wooden boards, Cardboard, Tape.

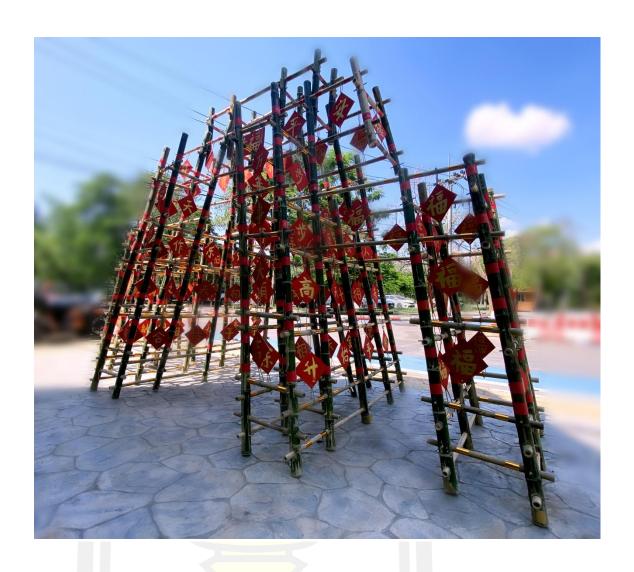


Figure 47 Thesis work 3 (3)

Size: 440 x 280 x 185 cm

#### 4. Thesis work 4

- 4.1 Idea/ Concept: The spire of Western Gothic architecture and the elements of ancient Chinese arches are used to integrate and innovate, and elements such as paper-cut and bamboo are added to express hope and desire.
- 4.2 Form and Art style: This work is based on the improvement of the previous work, combined with the shape of the archway, adding paper-cut elements and Chinese red to better show Chinese culture, and make people feel hope better when passing through the door, increasing the sense of experience.
- 4.3 The Results: The material of the work is made of bamboo, and gold and red are added for decoration. Each grid is made of gold characters on a red background, which better expresses hope and belief. The meaning of each word or word on the grid is hope and desire, so as to better express the theme.
- 4.4 Progress: Whether the hope or wish in the work can be realized or not can be divided into two different expressions.





Figure 48 Thesis work 4 (1)

Size: 525 x 310 x 130 cm

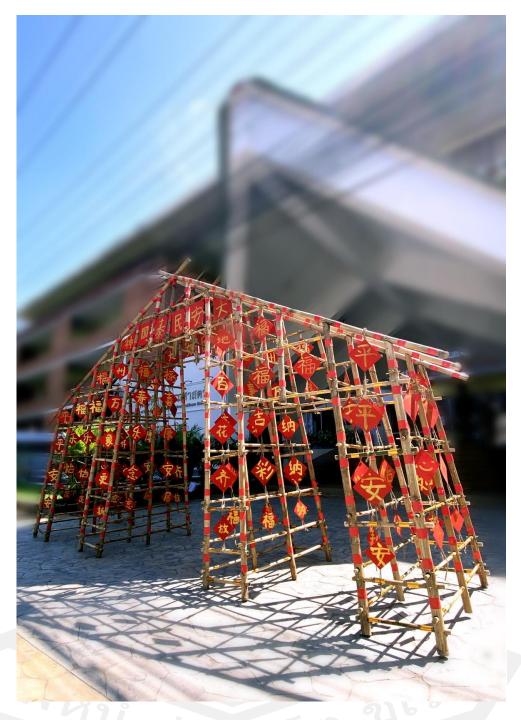
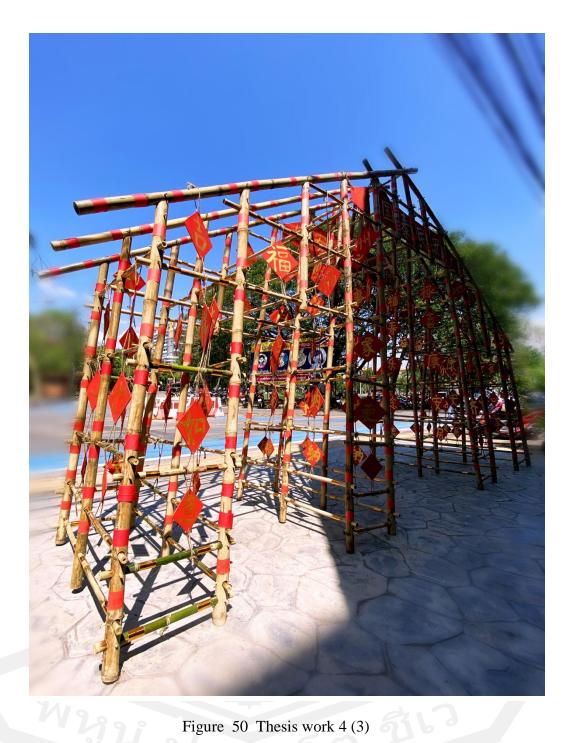


Figure 49 Thesis work 4 (2)

Size: 525 x 310 x 130 cm



Size: 525 x 310 x 130 cm

#### **CHAPTER V**

## CONCLUSION DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter examines the extent to which the study problems have been resolution by the work, study, and how the findings add to the existent literature. Conclusions about the creation purposes and the creation resolution are drawn based on the findings of the results. It will be presented according to the following topics:

- 1. Purpose of Creation
- 2. Conclusion
- 3. Discussion
- 4. Recommendation

## **Purpose of Creation**

- 1. To study and analyze people's expressions of hopes and wishes, which manifest differently in different groups of people. Through the creation of the installation art of Gate of Hope, to show a kind of beautiful yearning of people. Through information collection and in-depth research and analysis, I want to express the combination of different expressions of hope and desire in Chinese culture and Western religions. In the creative process, style, technology, materials, etc. involve many factors, so I did a lot of experiments at the beginning, and finally found suitable materials and styles to convey in a new way. In the visual arts, by studying data, analyzing data, distinguishing data to obtain information, and improving creative skills, the work can be carried out more smoothly and the production can be better.
- 2. To create the visual arts which were installation art that expressed via form a combination of different expressions of hope and desire in traditional Chinese culture and Western culture.was used from wood, bamboo, splicing, tenon, and tenon, spray painting, and coloring which conveyed the There are many kinds of traditional Chinese culture in China, but many traditional cultures have been gradually eliminated in today's

society, leaving only some classics. In the process of research and analysis, I found that I have a strong interest in paper-cutting. Paper-cutting expresses a lot of our emotions.

At different festivals, there will be different paper-cutting to express people's thoughts, so I want to use paper-cutting in In my works, and combined with Western culture, to better express hope and desire.

#### **Conclusion**

This visual arts creation thesis The Gate of Hope will be presented the conclusion according to the following topics:

### 1. Results of Data Analysis

To better convey and make people understand the concept of hope, the work collects and studies this topic in-depth, and makes certain improvements in style and technology. The process of analyzing data, drawing lessons, and strengthening production skills is critical. Improve your work by improving these aspects to achieve the best results. It is hoped that in traditional Chinese culture, it will be displayed through paper-cutting, poetry recitation, and lyricism by borrowing objects. At different festivals, people will pray to themselves and their families, hoping that life will develop in a better direction. There are many different stages in a person's life, and in going through different stages, they all hope that they will become better than before. So hope is very important at every stage of life for everyone, so communicate and show hope through creative works on this theme.

### 2. Results of Creation

In the production process of the theme of hope, from the selection of materials to the final production process, the choices are made after careful analysis. In the frame of making the door, Chinese culture and Western culture are combined, and it can make people feel involved. Bamboo has the meaning of peace and happiness in Chinese culture, and its connotation has formed the character, endowment, and spiritual symbol of the Chinese nation, so the use of bamboo to make the frame has a better

meaning. Elements such as paper cuts are added to the works to better show the The Gate of Hope.

#### **Discussion**

The result of creation was discovered which indicated

#### 1. Results of Data Analysis

The idea of the work is what I saw and heard during the trip, through seeing the richness of Chinese traditional culture and an understanding of Western culture. Chinese traditional culture has many different aspects and expressions. Through the collection and arrangement of information, hope is expressed through the form of doors and the combination of Chinese paper-cut elements. Paper-cutting is an expression technique that has continued from ancient times to the present and is constantly innovating. People can express their inner yearning for a better life through paper-cutting. In Western culture, Gothic architecture plays a very important role in medieval architecture. Because most of the Gothic buildings are churches, churches are places for people's piety and belief, and it is also an expression of people's hope. Therefore, I want to combine Chinese and Western cultures to create.

#### 2. Results of Creation

In the creation of the work, the material of the work is bamboo, which is a spiritual symbol in China. In terms of technical techniques, the interspersed and tenonand-mortise structures adopted better reflect Chinese culture. The works are displayed in installation art, and the size of the product is larger, which allows people to better enter it to feel the combination of door and hope. The fusion of the spires of Gothic architecture and traditional Chinese culture expresses a new exploration of people's hopes and wishes. In the process of research and production of these works, I have a deeper understanding of hope. Each work has its good and bad. got good results.

# 3. The new finding/ the new knowledge

In the process of researching the concept of hope, I learned a lot of new things. Robert James Buchholz is an American installation artist. His work "Wish" was displayed in Hong Kong, China. It conveys hope with the shape of a dandelion and its

characteristics of blowing in the wind, which makes me have a new kind of hope. awareness. Hope there is something that can be achieved and something that cannot be achieved. People have infinite reverie about what they hope for, and under certain conditions, it will affect the people around them. Other aspects are more from the innovation of the bamboo material by the fourth generation of Japanese artist Tanabe Zhuyunsai. The production technology adopts ancient techniques such as splicing, tenon, and mortise. Through the analysis of the artist's works, to create their new styles, in addition to improving the self-critical thinking ability and the ability to distinguish the work of the thesis, the ability to solve problems and the ability to think systematically can also be obtained during research and can be well used. Knowledge of visual arts so that better art can be created in the future.

#### 4. The effects of reaction on the social or technical field

Process of creation, works with rich artistic imagination are created through forms and techniques, and people can feel the meaning of hope through the works. The Gate of Hope is presented in the form of a door, and it combines Chinese and Western cultures to present it in a brand-new way. The Chinese elements added include paper-cuts and bamboos, as well as the spires of the Gothic architecture of Western elements. Through the extraction of these elements, they show their hopes, beliefs, aspirations and create better value for the society.

#### Recommendation

- 1. It should be studied how to present it in a new form through more interesting element directions. Tweak through pieces, more specifically for those interested in doing this style. Read a lot of books, such as the philosophy of relationships, visual arts, philosophy, sociology, etc. to collect artistic elements and improve thinking skills, and bring data analysis into creative work.
- 2. Various elements related to people should be studied. Dig deeper through interesting historical stories to develop and inspire people's creativity.

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