



TIME-IMAGE AND CHINESE GARDEN: A STUDY OF NARRATIVE IN SPATIAL FORM

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[Abstract]

Space is not mere container; it displays, narrates, conditions human experience, and generates narratives when it interacts and communicates with the viewer. On the other hand, narrative is a fundamental way in the organization of space and time; it integrates places, situations and feelings and makes them more intelligible. The dialectics between spatial form and narrative content makes individual spectatorship its pivotal question. This paper will use film theories to investigate the relationship between narrative space and its spectators with examples of Chinese gardens. It is argued that spatial narratives in these gardens give a direct representation of time, and make spaces more immersive for human experience.

Keywords: *time-image, Chinese garden, narrative, immersive space*