

## **Impact of the West: Taiwanese Modern Art and American Cultural Exchange in 1950-1960s**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Modern art in Taiwan which burgeoned during the Japanese colonial era and further developed after World War II has been heavily influenced by Western art. In such a historical context, Taiwanese modern art world on the one hand has been eager to gain recognition from the West, particularly Europe and North America; while on the other hand, has been apprehensive about being assimilated or fading into oblivion. The development of Taiwanese modern art has been the result of power relations between Western culture, local politics and institutions.

With reference to related archives, newspapers, magazines, diaries and oral histories, this study uses the method of discourse analysis to examine the impact of Western art and culture on Taiwanese modern art through the perspective of cultural politics.

**Keywords:** Taiwanese Modern Art, United States Foreign Aid, United States Information Service, São Paulo Biennial, Westernization