

Lighting



Ruowen Niu

NELP 1600
Linda Cotero
Nov.14 2016

'Lighting' is a photograph that shows some spherical lights lay on a translucent white skirt with the warm light that makes whole picture in orange tone. Ruowen Niu took this picture in her dorm, the 13th St Dorm of the New School in New York City, on a weekend night, 2016. This is a photo that took for fun during the Halloween. And the photo was took by the iPhone 7. It's a successful photo that could take audience into a magical scene.

When the audience see this picture, the view of mine seems like at the top of the person that makes them feel like they are looking down from the top of this girl. If audience stand far from the picture, the feeling of layer and color is strong. The reason is that three things in the film lay in order, have the distance from each other, like three different layers on the digital painting. The color of each layer is entirely different, too. The foreground is the light. Four brown lights in the same size connect on one line. The line comes from the left side of the frame and end at the upper hand corner. Counting from the left hand, the third one is the highest one. This makes it looks larger than others. Because of the position of the lights is the lower portion of the image, the whole image obeys the Rule of Thirds. This is the reason of why this image does not look narrow but comfortable. The thing under the light is a translucent white dress. It takes three-quarters of the whole picture, from the lower left portion of the frame to the

right side of the frame. The background is the leg of the girl and the white sheet. Because that all things in the different layer are looks entirely distinct from each other, the material, the size and the color, the whole picture is strongly layered and stereoscopic.

The size of this picture is 9.8''x9.8'', which is a middle size picture that smaller than the real. This makes audience could see the whole thing easily and do not have a shot but accept the information of the information easily.

Most of the things in this image do not have a definite shape, except the light. The four lights are almost a sphere. Because of the material, the skirt seems like is made up with a lot of triangle and square. The line of the light looks like two wavy lines twine each other. All these shapes do not have a narrow-angle, which makes the whole picture do not give a shot to spectators and convey a soft and tender feeling. Besides, because the shape of the light is irregular and the shriveled branch winds the lambs, the light form it looks like a grid. The shadow that makes by the branch mixes well with the overlap of the skirt, which makes two different layers have a balance and connection with each other but not too single to make people feel strange.

The color of the whole picture could give audiences a strong sense of magic. The warm light with the peach and apricot color make all the other things

in the photograph be shrouded in mystery. The light could not be able to cast straightly to the sheet through the translucent skirt, but with decreasing in brightness and color. In addition, the most of this photograph is white but change color to peach or apricot under the warm light, except the light itself. The light is burgundy and chestnut, which also are a warm color. Based on this different but same color scheme, the whole picture is balanced and harmonious but not equally. It does have some point that could be attractive. Under all this feeling, this photo just reminds audiences of the frame when Tinker Bell was flying, the same warm light and magical sense. Or a little girl holding the star in her small hand, the warm yellow light from the star shines her face, which with a pleasant smile. The feeling that conveyed by the color of the image truly takes audiences back to a tale that they heard before they went to bed when they were a little kid, who lay on their moms' legs. The mystery combines with the tender voice of moms and becomes an unclear frame that they could not distinguish what was there but could only remember the warm color light.

Not only the color and the shape express the sense of gentle and soft, magical and attractive, the material of this image also tells the same thing. The material of those four lights is wicker. This kind of stuff always makes audiences feel familial. I think the reason is that wicker always uses to make the basket or

something that be loved by the kind old woman in the countryside. This choice of the material makes the light from the lamp be curved as a lot of triangle and square, similar to the overlap of the skirt. These small and irregular spot strength the magic and tender feeling of the image. The organza makes up the white skirt. This kind of gauze is not that soft, but a kind of hard. Although the color of it is light beige and the skirt does not so thick, it still has a soft feeling. Also, this kind of gauze is better at the light transmittance than other kinds of gauzes. Based on the advantage, the light from the lamp left the light spots on both the middle ground and the background. If we change it to the silk chiffon, the image will only be softer but not layered and will also lose the sense of wholeness. The light that conveys from the foreground to the background do the job that not only separates and specify the different layers but also connects them with each other to be a whole work. The background is a cloth sheet with a decorative pattern. This makes the background do not be dull and drab at all. In additional, the white cloth sheet could reflect the warm light well, to make the consistency of colors.

In a nutshell, the color of the photograph expresses the feeling of soft and tender at first. Because the color is the first thing that people could analyze when they see the picture, a sense that conveyed by the color is strongest. After the color, the material, and the shape could energize the feeling of it by specific

observation. In my opinion, these two forming a whole is another thing that could not be juxtapose with all other elements. It could strongly influence the feeling of audience. The wood and the organza make up things without too much acute soften the feeling of the picture and blur it to a magical situation.

Form	Function
<p>Line:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sphere -No narrow-angle -Triangle upon triangle [Small and irregular] -Square upon square -Wavy lines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No defined shape makes it soft and tender -Gentle and easy to be touched -Express a magical feeling -Do not give a shot
<p>Color:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Beige -Burgundy chestnut -Peach apricot -White 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Warm and homely -Gentle -Magical -Take me back to the fairytale that I heard in the childhood. -Balance and harmonious -Remind me of Tinker Bell
<p>Composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Foreground: Light -Middle ground: Skirt -Background: Leg and Sheet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strongly layered -Stereoscopic -Looks comfortable

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The line comes from the left side of the frame and end at the upper hand corner -Obey the rule of Third 	
<p>Size/Scale: -9.8''x9.8''</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Middle size -Smaller than real -Easy to see the whole thing -Not shot -Easy to accept information
<p>Material: -Organza -Wicker -Cloth</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Homely, Familial -Not dull -Magical
<p>Context:</p>	

Biography

Day, Jesse "Line Color Form: The Language of Art and Design." New York: Allworth Press, 2013.