

Diversified Development of Vocal Music Teaching

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Abstract: In the process of global integration, China has been gradually integrated into the international environment. All the industries in China have entered international development, among which vocal music teaching is showing a trend of diversified development. Researches on the development of vocal music teaching should be strengthened because it is not only a problem with theoretical significance, but also one that should be solved in teaching practice. This work focuses on causes and characteristics of the diversified trend in vocal music teaching to analyze main connotation of the trend. It is hoped that a theoretical reference is provided for promoting the development of vocal music teaching.

1 INTRODUCTION

After China joined the WTO, international music exchange is increasingly frequent. Traditional methods of vocal music teaching have been gradually changed, showing a trend of mutual integration between traditional teaching and international teaching. The formation factors of current diversified trend are analyzed to better promote vocal music teaching in China. Meanwhile, characteristics of the diversified trend are explained in detail, thus summarizing the connotation of diversified development in vocal music teaching. The theoretical content obtained through concrete teaching practice has a positive importance in enhancing the overall level of vocal music teaching in China.

2 MAJOR CAUSES OF DIVERSIFIED TREND IN VOCAL MUSIC TEACHING

Exploring the underlying causes of diversified vocal music teaching should be like doctors' diagnosis. They obtain accurate etiology through looking, listening, questioning and feeling the pulse, and then adequately prescribe to enhance the effect of treatment. Therefore, the main factors for the diversified development trend of vocal music teaching should be found out to help enhance the effect of vocal music teaching. According to

teaching practice, the current development trend of vocal music teaching is mainly reflected in the following aspects.

2.1 Inevitable Demand of the times with the Development of Arts

Different times have different artistic aspirations which become the inevitable demands of the times in the developing process of arts. Especially in this century, diversification has been shown in many aspects of the society and our life, such as the diversified politics, trade and art. In the diversification of art, there are integration between vocal and instrumental music, music and dance, fine arts and modern computer graphics, as well as acrobatics, dance and music, and also the integration of magic, comedy, music and art. For example, *Magic Fairy Tales*, a magic drama, integrates magic, music, dance, acrobatics and fine arts together, bringing artistic enjoyment to the audiences. Mutual integration and diversification of different arts can sufficiently manifest the diversified trend, and also show art's strong development momentum and infinite charm.

2.2 Inevitable Demand of Quality Education

With the deepening of education reform, Chinese education has gradually converted from traditional exam-oriented education to quality education. The core element of quality education is to train

279

279

Hui L.

Diversified Development of Vocal Music Teaching.

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integrated talents meeting the needs of the times. Namely, the education should have obvious timeliness, so students can have practical ability to handle their job well after graduation. Involved with many aspects, timeliness needs the improvement in the overall quality of students. From this angle, quality education is to gradually transform a wide range of knowledge into practical ability, which is currently an important direction of quality education in colleges and universities. Only thus can students be able to better meet the needs of the new era after graduation.

2.3 Inevitable Result from the Development of Vocal Education

The diverse needs of the times and quality education determine the diversification of vocal music teaching. As the proverb says each time has its heroes. The development needs of the times and the timeliness of quality education put more attention on cultivation of students' overall quality. And in this background, vocal music teaching, an important way of training students' overall qualities, inevitably shows diversified trend of development. Therefore, vocal music teaching should emphasize the cultivation of compound music talents, which will undoubtedly lead to the diversified development of vocal education.

3 MAIN CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DIVERSIFIED DEVELOPMENT IN VOCAL MUSIC TEACHING

3.1 Directionality of Art Development

Diversification is the inevitable direction of Chinese art due to reasons such as the inevitability of diversified arts in China and timeliness of quality education. Mutual integration, penetration and influence between various arts have become a trend, so the collision of a variety of musical elements is inevitable. For example, the effective integration of European and American jazz and Chinese folk music, as well as the fusion between bel canto, folk singing and popular singing make vocal music more colorful. Besides, frontier or interdisciplinary artistic subjects have gradually appeared on the stage of history and become a trend. This feature of vocal music development has been recognized by the majority of music experts.

3.2 Expansibility of Vocal Arts

After several years of development, vocal art has greatly expanded its scope of teaching from traditional single teaching mode. Vocal music has been integrated with a variety of art forms such as instrumental music and even some non-artistic forms, which makes vocal music teaching more colorful. Guo Rong, for example, mixed electric violin with popular singing during the performance of *Flying Red Flag*, making this song very modern, popular and compatible with the aesthetic taste of the times. In 2014, *Little Apple*, a very popular song by Chopsticks Brothers, achieved good effects by mixing electronic dance music and western pop singing. In terms of vocal expansion, Feng Xiaoquan's works are undoubtedly typical examples. Feng is one of the famous contemporary suona performers and also one of the wordauthors of *Chinese folk*. As a composer, he has created a large number of classic works such as *Sugar-coated Haws* and *Farewell to My Concubine*. Folk instruments and modern pop singing are innovatively integrated in these works. Especially in *Farewell to My Concubine*, the integration of Beijing Opera and the brilliant performance of Tu Honggang make this work well known in China. The success of this work is very obviously based on the expansibility of vocal music.

3.3 Urgency of Vocal Music Teaching

The directionality of art's development and expansibility of vocal art determine the urgency of diversified vocal teaching. Traditional vocal music teaching is simplex and conservative, so full-range, systematic and in-depth reform should be conducted as soon as possible. Only by creating new content of vocal music teaching, can we adapt to the diversified development of vocal music teaching. From this point of view, the reform of vocal music teaching is relatively urgent in China. If we cannot meet the diverse requirements from the development of vocal music teaching as soon as possible, it is difficult to cultivate music generalist with high overall qualities.

4 CONNOTATION OF DIVERSIFIED DEVELOPMENT TREND IN VOCAL MUSIC TEACHING

The elements and main features of diversified vocal

music teaching have been determined, and the core purpose is to achieve the purpose of teaching through specific teaching methods. Thus, we need to analyze from the connotation of diversified development in vocal music teaching, thereby promoting the level of vocal music teaching.

4.1 Analysis on the Diversified Connotation of Vocal Art

Vocal music teaching should follow the trend of diversification in teaching process, and focus on the basic content of vocal music including phonation, breathing, vocal resonance, style show, ear training, sight-singing and recognition of music score. Besides, comprehensive teaching should be conducted from aspects of performance, writing lyric, music and command arts, so that vocal music teaching can develop into a whole new system. Then the content of vocal music teaching will be greatly enriched to manifest the diversified connotation of vocal art.

4.2 Analysis on the Diversified Connotation in the Field of Music

Vocal music, an important part of music art, can be divided into male voice and female voice in terms of gender; from the tone point of view, it can also be divided into treble and midrange and bass, and another distinction is adult voice and childish voice; according to the number of singers, there are solo, ensemble singing, chorus and vocal accompaniment; different singing methods include bel canto, popular and folk music; for the forms of music, there are art song and vocal divertimento, oratorio, opera and musical, as well as rock, jazz, folk and country blues; instrumental music includes strings, pipe music, percussion, plucked string music, western music, folk music and electronic music and network music. Performing forms of instrumental music include solo, unison, accompaniment and ensemble, and instrumental melodies can be divided into suite, nocturne, concerto, symphonic poem, ballade and rhapsody. Various components of music are mutually integrated and also closely integrated with the specific means of expression such as melody, rhythm, polyphony, musical form and tonality. Vocal and instrumental music are constantly integrated and intercrossed, so in singing or performance, they can be combined into a whole to make the performance better. And this effect requires the integration of different forms of music art, which reflects the diversified connotation of

music. Therefore, constant innovation and integration is needed in teaching practice to effectively enhance students' learning level of vocal art.

4.3 Diversified Connotation of Integration between Vocal Music and a Variety of Arts

This connotation is mainly reflected in the diverse integration and intercross between vocal music and other art forms, such as the integration between vocal music and fine arts, dance, drama and film. Many singers combine vocal music with fine art. Jay Chou's *Blue-white Porcelain*, for example, has fully demonstrated the integration of traditional blue-white art and vocal music. Besides, a mutually reinforcing relationship gradually forms between vocal music and opera, and there is also an effective integration between vocal music, film and television, such as the theme song, ending song and episode in a movie. Various arias and harmonies in the movie soundtrack can effectively integrate the vocal music with video pictures, bringing the audience a wonderful visual feast.

4.4 Diversified Connotation of Integration between Vocal Music and Non-art Forms

The integration between vocal music and other non-art forms includes a diverse intercross between vocal music and pedagogy, psychology, ethics, aesthetics, economy and science. For example, the integration between vocal and education forms the vocal pedagogy, and the intercross of vocal and psychology leads to vocal psychology. Vocal culture is the most important in the integration of vocal music and other non-artistic disciplines, because it is the in-depth refining of spiritual culture and cultural ideas, and includes cultural essence and soul of vocal music. In 1871, Taylor, a famous anthropologist, mentioned in *Primitive Culture* that culture and civilization is a complex integration of many elements including knowledge, belief, art and morality. In essence, the competition of art is the competition of culture. Therefore, the essence of vocal is cultural connotation. Also with the development of science and technology, the integration of modern high-tech and vocal music became increasingly popular and important. Electronic music and electronic music devices such as microphone, amplifier and computer synthesized sound and laser are perfectly integrated with vocal

music to create a beautiful visual feast. Then vocal music will have the typical characteristic of the times with the wings of science and technology.

Therefore, the connotation of diversified trend in vocal music teaching is undoubtedly all-inclusive, covering a variety of art-related and non-art content. In this context, teachers and students should change the traditional teaching and learning concepts, get rid of traditional single education and receive diverse education. Then comprehensive education can be formed to cultivate professional students with high overall quality. As the saying goes, familiar with three hundred Tang poems, you are able to chant some poems even though you cannot write them. So the professionalism of vocal music should be reflected in teaching to achieve the transformation from “professional” to “versatile” on this basis. “Professional” and “versatile” are complementary with each other: without comprehensive knowledge, one cannot innovate on his expertise; without profound professional knowledge, one cannot integrate them with other knowledge.

Vocal music teacher should receive education first. Traditional concepts and methods of vocal music teaching should be changed to cultivate diverse students with overall qualities, so teachers should have a wide range of qualities. Although strict teacher may cultivate a good student, modern education concept requires comprehensive qualities from teachers to cultivate versatile students. Vocal teachers should have open awareness and extensive knowledge structure, and get rid of specific forms of art and rigid concepts through close connection with social life, thus setting a good example for students. In vocal music teaching, open teaching methods, specific practice, teachers’ guidance are needed to let students break away from the traditional teaching modes in the learning process. Thus, students will have more outstanding innovation thinking and higher overall quality.

5 CONCLUSIONS

In short, diversified development trend of vocal music teaching the times has become the inevitable demand of artistic development and the times. This trend is also determined by the diversified aesthetic taste and enhanced aesthetic level of people. Therefore, modern vocal music teaching should follow this international trend to effectively enhance the level of vocal music teaching, and train good students with overall qualities for the society.

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