

# **STUDYING THE CHINESE RARE MUSICAL MINSTRUMENTS IN MUSIC MUSEUM AT LANZHOU CITY UNIVERSITY, LANZHOU, RPC CHINA**

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## **Abstract**

The purposes of this study were: 1) To study the Chinese rarely musical instrument classification and music museum operation. This title researcher, mixed the methods of quantitative research and qualitative research, Grounded theory method, Museology research, Ethnomusicology research, and Musicology research. The research findings were: 1) Chinese rarely Musical Instruments refer to all kinds of Musical Instruments with Chinese flavor formed in the development history of Chinese music culture. They are characterized by nationality, diversity, antiquity authority, etc. The most important classification method is the traditional Chinese musical instrument classification method of "blowing, playing, playing and beating" 2) The University Museum is an important carrier in strengthening the construction of campus culture and improving the quality of higher education. Music museums have been highly concerned by the public and universities. The number of music museums constructed in universities is gradually increasing, and the construction and operation of music museums are booming.

**Keywords:** Music Museum; Chinese rarely musical instrument; Classification of Musical Instruments

## **Introduction**

Before the 20th century, the construction of music museum has become one of the main ways to develop music culture in western countries. After continuous development and improvement, a complete system has been formed in the construction of music museum. The Instrument Committee of the International

Council of Museums (ICOM) has provided some theoretical support and experience for the construction of international music museums. Compared with the construction of music museums in Western European and American countries, there are relatively few music museums in China, and the construction objectives and contents are not uniform enough. More of them are imitating the construction of music museums in Western countries. However, in the 21st century, gratifying achievements have been made in the construction of music museums in China. The construction of music museums led by Chinese governments at all levels, enterprises and individuals as well as universities and research institutes all over China is developing very fast. At the same time, the design and operation of music museum have also been developed rapidly, and are widely used in music teaching in Chinese colleges and universities (Chen Ruiyang, 2020).

Importance Colleges and universities assume the important functions of personnel training, scientific research, cultural inheritance and service to the society. Meanwhile, as the main front of the construction of music museums, colleges and universities are mainly responsible for giving full play to their education and teaching functions, starting from the good teaching work of music museums, so as to form a systematic, scientific, rigorous and perfect museum teaching system. There is no doubt that the construction of music museum can make talent training, scientific research, cultural inheritance and social service form an organic integration, and further enhance the role of music colleges and universities in cultural development (Huang Hu, 2021).

## **Research Objectives**

1. To study the Chinese rarely musical instrument classification and music museum operation.

## **Literature Reviews**

The construction and operation of university music museum is very important, which determines the success of the construction of music museum. The overall layout and conception, the integration of modern science and technology, the organization of music elements, the division of music forms and other aspects will affect the effect of the construction of museum. More importantly, colleges and universities are talent training bases, whose core is to educate people. If the construction of music museums in colleges and universities cannot serve teaching

well, it will lose the basic significance and value of the construction of music museums in colleges and universities (Deng Qiyi, 2021). Some people put forward that college music museum is the "second classroom" of music education. It has an intuitive presentation mode of education and a free and flexible teaching mode. It enables students to absorb knowledge and use it independently in a subtle way. The role and value of rarely Chinese Musical Instruments in music education studied in this paper reflects the visual presentation mode of education and the free and flexible teaching mode. Students can fully understand and master the knowledge of Musical Instruments in independent learning (Liang Yu .2022).

Another well-known university in northwest China, Lanzhou City University, also has a music museum. Relying on universities to focus on academic research, Lanzhou City University attaches more importance to the construction of museums, and insists on the "museum" of music to explore in practice. Lanzhou City University Music Museum was founded in 2014, with a total investment of 7.5 million yuan and a building area of 420 square meters. It has completed the construction of the Music Museum and entered the operation stage. There are many rarely Chinese Musical Instruments in the museum (Hu Yan, 2017).

## **Research Methodology**

This researcher method is qualitative research, Grounded theory method, Museology research, Ethnomusicology research and Musicology research.

**Grounded theory method:** Whether it is the construction and operation of the museum or the construction and operation of the music museum, it is necessary to have sufficient grounded theoretical methods. The construction and operation of the museum should be investigated in different places, such as the setting of the site, the placement of the collection, the lighting and sound box, the innovative design, the source of the musical instrument, etc. Therefore, the research on rarely Chinese Musical Instruments in music museum must adopt the grounded theory method.

**International Council of Museums (ICOM):** The International Association of Museums is the international academic organization of museums, founded in 1946 in Paris, France. There are 83 national committees, 23 international committees and 8 affiliated associations. The main purpose is to determine, support and assist museum construction and research, organize

cooperation and mutual assistance among museum professionals from different countries, strengthen professional and disciplinary development, promote museum knowledge and expand its influence (Ma Jianhui, 2014). CIMCIM was founded in 1960. Is one of 31 international committees of the International Association of Museums to promote the use and conservation of high professional standards of museum Musical Instruments and related collections.

**Museology research:** Museology is a science that studies the nature, characteristics, social functions, realization methods, organization and management of museums and the law of development of museum undertakings. Museum is a museum that uses virtual reality technology, three-dimensional graphics and image technology, computer network technology, three-dimensional display system, interactive entertainment technology, and special visual effect technology to completely present the three-dimensional form of the actual physical museum on the network. Therefore, the research of music museum must be based on the relevant theories of museology.

**Ethnomusicology research:** Ethnomusicology is a theoretical subject under musicology to study the traditional music of various nationalities in the world and its development types. Field investigation is the basic way to obtain the source of research materials. Ethnomusicology is a branch of musicology, which emphasizes the study of music in its own cultural context, namely the anthropological norm of music study. (Wang Qinglei, 2015) The study of rarely Chinese Musical Instruments in music museum is related to the study of traditional Chinese music culture, which is the research category of ethnomusicology. Therefore, the study of rarely Chinese Musical Instruments must be based on the relevant theories of ethnomusicology.

**Musicology research:** It is a general term for all the theoretical disciplines of music. The general task of musicology is to clarify the essence and law of various phenomena related to music through them. The research topic and purpose of the researchers are all within the category of musicological research. The construction and operation of music museums, the study of rarely Chinese Musical Instruments, and the writing and teaching of research handbook all involve the research methods of musicology, which all belong to the category of musicological research.

**Research tools:** The research tools include expert interview forms on the operation of music museums in Chinese universities and the classification of Chinese rarely Musical Instruments, survey forms for the builders of music museums, teachers and students involved in teaching activities.

## Results

**To study the Chinese rarely musical instrument classification:** Chinese rarely Musical Instruments refer to all kinds of Musical Instruments with Chinese flavor formed in the development history of Chinese music culture. It is an important part of Chinese music. It forms Chinese traditional music together with Chinese folk songs, dance and dance music, opera music and rap music. They integrate and promote each other, leaving us with rich and unique traditional instruments. They are characterized by nationality, diversity, antiquity and authority, etc.

The classification of Musical Instruments is an important part of the theory of Musical Instruments. It can also be said that the classification theory of Musical Instruments is the most direct theory in the practice of the construction of Musical Instruments Museum. Many music museums in China have adopted the "musical instrument classification" proposed by German Hans Hornbostel and Sachs in 1914. Because of the special properties of traditional Chinese Musical Instruments, music museums in China often adopt a combination of various display methods in musical instrument exhibition and display. The most important classification method is the traditional Chinese musical instrument classification method of "blowing, pulling, plucking and beating.



**Figure.1:** VR, the third Hall of Digital Music Museum, Lanzhou City University  
**Source:** Researcher, May 2023.

There are many rarely Musical Instruments in China that have been handed down to the present day, which have exerted a profound influence on Chinese music culture and become the treasure of many music museums. The university music Museum also takes the collection of rarely Chinese Musical Instruments as its main collection. Music Museum of Lanzhou City University was collection Xun (埙), Fantan Pipa(反弹琵琶), Bian Zhong(编钟), Bian Qing (编磬), Konghou (箜篌), Bili (箎), Da Ruan (大阮), Xixia Leiqin (西夏雷琴), Maoyuan drum(毛员鼓), waist drum, etc.

**To study music museum operation:** University-museum is an important carrier to strengthen the construction of campus culture and improve the quality of higher education. Music museum has been highly concerned by the public and universities. The number of music museum construction in universities is gradually increasing, and the construction and operation of music museum are booming.

The music museum is a propaganda base highlighting music culture, and a hall of music culture communication, promotion and cultural exchange and mutual learning. Music museums should exist as comprehensive museums that collect, protect and display to the public the history and evidences of music culture from all over the world for the purpose of education, research and appreciation. At the same time, the construction and operation of music museums can improve the number and scale of Chinese music museums and accelerate the pace of modernization of Chinese music museums.

## New Knowledges

It can help students better understand and master the construction and operation of music museums in Chinese colleges and universities and rare Musical Instruments in China, providing an effective new attempt for music teaching reform in Chinese colleges and universities. The music museum is a propaganda base highlighting music culture, and a hall of music culture communication, promotion and cultural exchange and mutual learning.

## Conclusions

To study the Chinese rarely musical instrument classification, it focuses on two aspects: Chinese rarely musical instrument classification. Chinese rarely Musical Instruments play a very important role in the field of Chinese traditional

Musical Instruments. These rarely Musical Instruments have a very long history. Bian Zhong(编钟) have even become the symbol of Chinese rarely Musical Instruments, and also become the main collection and treasure of music museums all over China. According to the traditional Chinese musical instrument classification method, rarely Chinese Musical Instruments are divided into four categories: blowing, pulling, plucking and beating. They are integrated and promoted to leave rich and unique traditional Musical Instruments for China.

To study music museum operation, the focus is to sort out the history and current situation of Chinese music museum construction and development prospects. At present, with the support of the Chinese government and relevant departments, more and more universities are participating in the operation of university museums and music museums, and university museums have ushered in a new era of development. Therefore, Chinese universities should accurately grasp the mission of the construction and operation of music museums, make clear the objectives and tasks, and try to find the right position and play the role in the strategic deployment of building a socialist cultural power with Chinese characteristics. University music museums should make active use of policy support, keep up with the pace of The Times, and rely on science and technology and means to make college music museums operate efficiently. While completing the subject education and scientific research tasks of colleges and universities, they should carry out museum teaching for all students, fully mobilize students' enthusiasm to understand Chinese traditional culture and rarely Chinese Musical Instruments, and enhance their interest and motivation in learning music. To promote the operation of music museums and music teaching in colleges and universities.

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