

# THE ESSENCE OF EMOTIONS IN SINGING: TECHNIQUES AND ARTISTIC INTERPRETATION

**Jiang Jiaqi,<sup>1</sup> Manop Wisuttiapat<sup>2</sup>**

Faculty of Music, Bangkokthonburi University<sup>1-2</sup>  
China<sup>1</sup>, Thailand<sup>2</sup>

**Email:** graduatemusicbtu@gmail.com, ss13192475957@qq.com<sup>1-2</sup>

**Received:** December 3, 2024; **Revised:** December 11, 2024; **Accepted:**  
April 5, 2025

## Abstract

This article delves into the interplay of culture, belief, and religion in the emotional expression of singing, emphasizing their influence on vocal performance and interpretation. Singing, as a universal art form, often carries the cultural and spiritual imprints of its origins, with lyrics and melodies reflecting societal values, religious practices, and philosophical outlooks. **The study highlights** how understanding the cultural and religious context of a song enhances a singer's ability to convey its emotional depth authentically. By examining examples such as folk music rooted in traditional beliefs and hymns that embody spiritual devotion, the article illustrates how cultural and religious narratives shape vocal techniques and emotional delivery. It also explores the role of music as a bridge between diverse cultural identities, fostering empathy and shared experiences. This work affirms that integrating cultural and religious awareness into singing practices not only enriches performance but also deepens the connection between the singer, the audience, and the essence of the music. This article presented (1) emotions in singing, and (2) create emotions in singing.

**Keywords:** Emotions; Singing; Creating

## Introduction

Emotion is one of the three elements of attitudes. It is the experience of people's experience in objective outside things, and whether the subject needs to be satisfied. It is the basic spiritual expression in human life. Once the subject needs met, the human heart will have a positive experience, feel the charm of learning, and produce positive emotional reactions. On the contrary, people will have negative emotions. At the same time, they will not be interested in learning. They are not interested in learning, and even affect the people around them. From the perspective of educational psychology, the emotion of learners is the biggest factor affecting the learning effect in the learning process.

Music is an emotional art. On the one hand, music education can cultivate students' artistic literacy. On the other hand, music education can fully stimulate students' emotions and cultivate their sentiment. Since the 21st century, the comprehensive implementation of the concept of quality education has put the student's aesthetic education on the working day, and the music education cause has developed rapidly. Nowadays, emotional teaching is becoming increasingly irreplaceable in music education. Since the proposal of the new curriculum standard, it is required that teachers must take effective measures to pay more attention to students' emotional changes in life. Emotional experience. Then, the so-called emotion refers to experience that people have produced by whether objective things meet their needs. It has an important effect on people's intellectual activities, moral quality, and mental health. Roman Roland once said: "Music is the most emotional art." Music uses audio as a medium. Through artistic sound combinations, it directly acts on human auditory officers, enters the soul, and arouses emotional resonance (Chen, 2005). Therefore, in the process of music teaching in elementary school music teachers, effective ways should be taken to achieve emotional teaching, fully mobilize children's positive emotions, and enable children to devote themselves to the situation of music teaching.

In such an educational environment, in addition to imparting students' music knowledge and skills in elementary music education, teachers must also use students-based, attach importance to students' life growth, improve students' aesthetic cognition, focus on cultivating students' learning of art for art,

Performance, comprehensively implement the policy of comprehensive development (Li, 2009). Although in recent years, music education has been significantly improved, teachers' teaching equipment has been more diverse, and there are more and more opportunities for teachers to learn. There is still a big problem: First, the knowledge of the music class teaching is narrow and cannot meet the requirements of the curriculum standard. The music knowledge is not comprehensive enough, resulting in the students from obtaining knowledge independently and not being able to show themselves in the classroom. Learning knowledge; the third is the comprehensive implementation of quality education, which brings new challenges to music teaching. It is required that teachers interact with students in the process of music teaching, interact with students, emotional experience, emotional exchanges and improve students' comprehensive ability, and master the basic knowledge of music. And basic skills. These problems have all affected the healthy development of music emotional education in elementary school.

## **Emotions in Singing**

Musical works are often the products of the times, and what type of music is favoured by people in a certain era, this type will be born in large quantities in a certain period of time. With the change of time, the popularity of music has been changing, but music has the infectious force beyond time and space, may be decades ago, the song will still be the current era of people love, can be tested by the time of the old songs, only to be called 'classic'. In order to express the emotion of a song in the form of singing, it is necessary to understand the songwriter's creative background and creative intent. For example, the song 'Spring Story' is mainly to praise China's reform and opening up, singing the praises of the chief designer Deng Xiaoping, so the whole tone of the song has a strong national style, the first two lines by the male and female students to sing, the use of echo multiple echoes, to paint a picture of reform and opening up the 'spring story' of the mountains and the picture of the beautiful river. The first half of the song is sung by a female soloist as a narrative, and the second half of the song is an impassioned musical expression of the strong motivation of the Chinese people to create a better tomorrow, and to enter into the spring of the national economy with great pride and vigour. Therefore, when singing the song, we should firmly grasp the overall tone of the song is full of

hope, singing from the storytelling calm to full of energy upward, and then look forward to tomorrow's impassioned, in the understanding of the author's intention on the basis of the emotional significance of the song will be expressed in the full singing, conveying the story of the times behind the song and the special emotional significance of the song, and firmly grasp the classic songs. the classics of the classic songs (Yuan, 2012).

Music is often branded with the mark of the times, and the types of music popular in each period reflect the preferences of the people of that era. As history evolves, popular music styles are also changing. But music has a resonance that transcends time and space, and even old songs from decades ago may touch the heartstrings of modern people. Those songs that have survived the baptism of time and are still loved are called 'classic'. If you want to convey the emotional core of a song through your voice, you have to explore the composer's original intention and background.

## **The Connotation of Singing Emotion**

People's awareness of objective things in social life is always accompanied by a variety of different attitudes. Singing emotion is that the singer's inner emotion and the vivid emotion contained in the lyrics resonate, and the singer has to fully express the sentimentality of the lyrics content, while the vivid emotion contained in the lyrics can cause the singer's inner emotion to resonate. The singing voice expresses full emotion and abundant feelings, and makes the singer tend to coordinate the state of excitement.

Singing emotion connotation is a work to express the thought and feeling. Singers get a new track, should be in the lyrics repeatedly read aloud to understand the track of the era background, specific circumstances and ideological feelings. Lyrics is a poetic literary language, singers can carry out second degree creation, create beautiful music and literature image, in order to achieve the artistic effect of the lyrics condensed beauty. Lyrics also reflect the structural beauty of a nation's tone of voice, in the tone caused by bright and high, soothing and soft rhythmic changes, the formation of a rhythmic harmony, rhythmic distinct musicality. Lyrics are one of the forms of expressing people's feelings, and the emotional beauty of lyrics is the natural flow of true feelings.

Vocal art is a kind of art that is good at expressing and stimulating feelings. With a beautiful singing voice, clear expression of biting and spitting words, and exquisite and skillful singing skills, it is impossible to complete the task of creating vocal art. The ancients said: ‘music from the sound, the sound from the feelings’, the artistic charm of vocal music depends on the emotional performance of the singer, to achieve the sound of emotion, voice and emotion, really move people's hearts and minds, so that the listener is intoxicated by the enjoyment of the wonderful song is not easy. In the enjoyment of life, there is a common phenomenon that cannot be ignored, that is, the feelings in singing (Han, 2011).

This passage explores the importance of emotion in the art of singing and how deep emotions can be expressed through lyrics and voice. It states that singers need to find resonance through the emotional content of the lyrics and express it through the voice. Lyrics, as a poetic literary language, can be interpreted and creatively seconded by singers to create the beauty of musical literature. In addition, the art of vocal music emphasizes the importance of emotional expression and considers the emotional performance of the singer as the key to artistic appeal.

Taken as a whole, the text emphasizes the balance between emotion and technique in the art of singing, as well as how to convey a profound emotional experience through music and lyrics, so that the listener can enjoy and resonate with the beautiful singing.

## **Expression of Emotions in the Art of Singing**

As early as in the pre-Qin period of Confucian music aesthetics thought of the book has put forward “where the sound, the birth of the human heart also. Emotions move in the middle, so the shape in the sound: the sound into the text, called the sound also”. This sentence not only affirms that music is the art of expressing feelings, but also explains that music can express people's inner world and reveal people's spiritual state. The emotion of a song work refers to the singer's inner feelings expressed in the singing work, but also a state of mind, singing skills is the art of singing skills, and emotional expression is a bridge between the work and the listener and the link to evoke the listener's

resonance and inner emotions touch, but also the ultimate goal of the art of singing.

As a form of artistic expression that conveys emotions, expresses thoughts and expresses feelings, vocal singing has brought a certain impact on people's production and life, and is also a specific means of general learning and quality education of music at present. Vocal singing is an art of emotional expression, and its success lies mainly in the singer's understanding of the content of the work and emotional experience, combining the two to form another subjective feeling of correspondence, which most directly reflects the feeling of the main body (composer, lyricist) and the feeling of the object of the spatial state. Composers mobilize an extremely rich variety of musical expression techniques to pursue the musical mood. The combination of emotional judgement and musical analysis. Through vocal language and body language, the subject of feeling and the object of feeling are combined to appropriately convey the thoughts and feelings expressed in the song to the audience, acting as a bridge between the two, so that the audience can also experience this emotion, thus producing psychological resonance. Therefore, emotion is the soul pillar of singing, singers use the skills expressed in the voice of the emotion, the dominant position in singing. Deeply and vividly express the emotion of the song, which is the ultimate goal of singing performance (Xue, 2020).

It is emphasized that music not only expresses feelings, but also reveals the inner world and the state of mind. The emotion in a song refers to the singer's true feelings towards the work, which is not only an extension of singing skills, but also serves as a bridge between the work and the listener, stimulating the listener's empathy and emotional touch. Vocal singing as a kind of emotional expression art, through the understanding and experience of the work, the thoughts and feelings of the work will be conveyed to the audience to achieve emotional resonance. The success of the art of singing lies in the accurate expression of emotions, which is also the ultimate goal of singing.

## Create Emotions in Singing

### (1) Leading with love, lining love with love

The focus of this method is that vocal teaching must control its emotions in the process of teaching. For example, when teaching the "Ten Red Army" songs, because each melody in the song and music mostly exists in the form of short sentences, and the purpose is to see, but the eyes are the eyes. There will be a pause behind each sentence, which is very good to reflect the emotions of the song itself, giving a heavy and depressed emotional feeling, feeling crying like a complaint. Therefore, teachers can guide students to start based on emotions, and express a series of emotions such as nostalgia, expectations and blessings to the Red Army in the process of expressing this song.

### (2) Entry with the situation and entrust the situation with the situation

This method refers to the use of emotion through teaching processes such as demonstration, accompaniment, and language expression through demonstration, accompaniment, and language expression. For example, when the teacher sings the song "The Hometown of the Sea" From weak to strong. At the same time, let students understand the context and rhythm in the lyrics through the lyric recitation, feel the creator's experience in the simple and affectionate lyrics, and then experience the creators' emotions to the mother in the lyric context, and also expressed the hometown of their hometown. Love.

### (3) The combination of language sense, emotion, music, and somatoscope

In song singing, the reasonable use of language skills can help the expression of emotion, and it can reflect strong music and artisticness on the basis of rich emotional expression, and it is reasonable to unconsciously produce body language unconsciously. The song singing as a combination of sound and emotion, vocal teachers need to guide students to devote themselves through language expression. Only by moving themselves can they move others, and then complete the image of the creators with the image of music performance (Zhai, 2018).

Emotional expression not only refers to the simple "singing", but more importantly, through the performance of the sound, as much as possible to make the audience feel the emotions expressed in the song as much as possible, and show the inner experience of the singer. The emotional expression in vocal singing is mainly achieved through the aspects of vocal skills, clear words, and tone processing. If you want to achieve excellent emotional expression, the singer must have the following aspects:

1) Good sound control ability. The control of sound is one of the key factors that affect emotional expression. The singer needs to adjust the throat position and volume according to needs in the singing to achieve correct emotions.

2) The depth of understanding of the song. If you want to make the audience together, the singer must understand the emotions expressed by the song and should adjust the singing method based on emotion.

3) Input of emotion. The singer needs to pay more emotions to analyze European songs and sing, and truly feel the emotions in the song in the singing to better express it.

Music is used to satisfy auditory enjoyment. Listening is the best way to appreciate it. After leaving listening to music, the music is meaningless. Therefore, teachers should choose a good way and environment in order to enable children to strengthen their listening and feelings to strengthen their emotional experience. Just like adults appreciate piano songs, teachers can also play some excellent songs to let students listen, appreciate, and understand, so that children have a kind of intimacy with music emotionally.

## **Expression of Emotion by Fusion of Voice and Emotion**

The initial reading of the song should be done to understand the author's creative intention and creative background, use literary knowledge to grasp the overall tone of the song, and grasp the rhythmic strength of the song according to music theory. In the expression of the song, it is necessary to integrate the 'sound' of music with the 'feelings' of literature. The fusion of different types of songs will produce different combinations.



For example, when singing rock songs, to realize that rock songs are a large variety of music, containing a large number of syncopation and bass, generally using the electric guitar strong rough distortion effect to form a strong sense of rhythm, like rock singer Wang Feng teacher's music, from the beginning in the grasp of the other types of music can-not be substituted for the sound and feelings of the euphemistic and delicate music, which is the biggest uniqueness of the rock and roll music. Another example is folk music, which does not pay attention to whether the use of melody is clever or not, nor does it pay attention to whether the music theory is harmonious or not. Folk songwriters usually write all the disappointments of life on the surface of the lyrics of folk music, so the key point to dig out should be the philosophical philosophy of life that they want to recount in the depths of the songs. For folk music, the most important thing for singers is to think from the perspective of the author's destiny as a disappointed person, and to use the principle of vocal fusion to sing the simple melody gently, triggering strong emotional resonance in the listener, and the essence of folk music lies in the view of life from the perspective of a small reality. The reason why advocate the integration of sound and emotion, but also in order to make a large type of music works do not fall into the stereotype, just like the advantages of rock is in the sound, but rock is not only the sound, it is the same as the ballad through the feelings, just seems to sound more lyrical, the same ballad music is not only talk about feelings, it and rock as well as the sound also have a passionate sound, so the singing of valuable in the sound of the integration of the feelings of the lack of a precious sound to the sound of the feelings of the feelings of the voice, feelings of the voice (Liu, 2018).

The preliminary analysis of the song should include understanding the author's intention and background, using literary knowledge to grasp the tone of the song, and grasping the rhythmic strength according to musical music theory. When expressing a song, it is necessary to integrate the 'sound' of music with the 'emotion' of literature, and the combination of sound and emotion in different types of songs will produce different effects.

For example, rock songs usually have strong rhythms and rough electric guitar sounds, so the softer styles of other music genres cannot be used when singing. On the contrary, folk music pays more attention to the philosophy of life in the lyrics, and it needs to be sung from the author's point of view,

expressing profound emotions with simple melodies, thus triggering the audience's empathy. In short, the fusion of sound and emotion is the key, so that different types of music can truly show its uniqueness and emotional depth.

## **The Performance of Singing Emotion**

The performance of singing emotion is the primary task of the singer, which is realized through the singer's voice and expression, and the singer's one move, one action, one word and one accent are all for the purpose of showing the emotion of music. When the performance of excited and unrestrained emotions, the voice strength will be enhanced, high pitch, bright tone, time value growth, rhythm expansion, action performance amplitude increases. When the performance of sadness, resentment of emotion, the voice strength will be weakened, low pitch, dark tone, expression of action is slow.

The expression of singing emotion is the art of vocal performance. First of all, the singer's mind is required to cast. Singers should go deep into the mood of the lyrics, carefully and meticulously analyze the content of the lyrics, and make sure that they know the meaning of every word and phrase.

The expression of singing emotion is the soul of singing art. Singers should be meticulous in handling songs, pondering the deep meaning of the thoughts and feelings of the content of the lyrics, experiencing and expressing them with all their heart. To move others, you must first move yourself. If you want to sing a song well, you should go deep into the lyrics, experience them deeply, be touched by them, be infected by them, and preferably reach the realm of selflessness. If you want to become a singer, you should learn the experience of emotional expression as a course. Observation of life, good summary, often memory, the emotional material accumulated, singing emotional expression will be of great help (Liang, 2017).

## **Method of Emotional Expression**

### **Phrasing and Breathing Arrangement of Musical Phrases**

Music is composed of multiple phrases, and vocal music has not only musical phrases, but also poetic phrases. The musical phrases vary in length, like

countless unfolding love stories, rising and falling, sketching out perfect lines. There are always some songs that sound good and some that don't, and most of the time it's because the phrasing is not perfect, or the whole outline of the song is not perfect.

The main factors of phrasing include the drawing of musical lines, the duration of notes, the contrast between light and dark tones, the change of strength and weakness, and the change of tempo and speed, etc. Often, a beautiful song is defined as a smooth and lyrical melody in the phrasing. At the same time, the breathing in the phrase also plays a crucial role, there are long and short, some need to show a strong and some require a fine as a silk, according to the lyrics and the content of the song, well-designed point of breath. In short, breathing ensures that the phrasing is beautiful and coherent, and the handling of the phrasing is the key to the perfection of the song.

**Rhythmic Accuracy:** Different vocal works have different melodic and rhythmic characteristics. In singing, we should emphasize the rhythmic speed of the work, which is the main vein of the whole work. Usually, the sense of music is closely related to the grasp of speed and rhythm, as if the heartbeat and pulse are inextricably linked, quiet, calm and yet full of vitality. Each note of the work brings together the composer's passion, and the deepest emotions are expressed and revealed through the notes.

Therefore, respect for the author is an essential attitude for singers in their singing practice, and all notes, strong and weak marks, rests, and expression marks should be carefully highlighted. The rests in music notation are extremely special, quiet and silent, but more important than singing, 'no sound is better than sound at this time', highlighting the importance of the rests. If the rests are ambiguous, do not pay attention to the accuracy of the time value of the rests, the song will lose vitality. In singing, attention should be paid to the creation of the work in the score, and no special tempo changes should be made in the parts without tempo change notation.

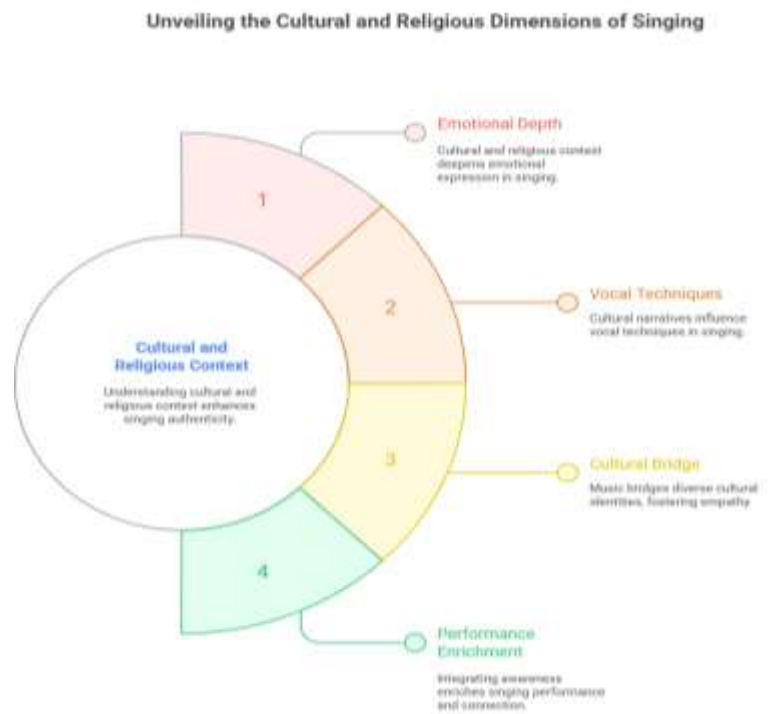
**Freedom:** According to the rhythmic timing, it is important to flow the music easily and naturally with the concept of length based on the musical characteristics, inner feelings, and past experiences. It is not feasible to distribute the notes rigidly and evenly, which is very important for fully

displaying the inner world of the performance and the sense of music. When singing vocal works, the free flow of feeling can fully demonstrate the musical imagination and add musical flavour, make the music more vital and feel more intimate. If all the rhythms are the same strength, the same weakness, the same duration, then the music will become very mechanical and rigid. As with rests, although freedom in singing is essential, it must not destroy the rhythm. To the extent that it is permissible it can be understood as a few notes appropriately borrowing the timings of the notes next to them, and generally not exceeding the measure, and within the phrase at the maximum, while the basic note timings are accurate. This freedom is more like a sense of mind, a rhythmic movement, and often cannot be measured in terms of definite timings (Du, 2015).

Music consists of multiple phrases, and vocal music involves not only musical phrases, but also poetic subdivisions. The integrity and flow of the phrasing is crucial to the beauty of the song. Key elements of phrasing include note timings, tone contrasts, changes in intensity and rhythmic tempo, etc. Also, proper breath changes contribute to the beauty and coherence of phrasing. Perfect phrasing is the key to the perfection of the song.

Rhythmic accuracy is equally important. Different works have their own rhythmic characteristics, and singers should respect the notes, strong and weak marks and rests in the works, and the importance of accurately expressing rests cannot be ignored. Freedom in music should flow naturally according to the characteristics of the music and personal feelings, but the accuracy of the basic rhythm should be maintained to avoid making the music mechanical. Appropriate freedom can demonstrate the flavour and vitality of the music.

Knowledges Remark



**Figure:** understanding the cultural and religious context of a song enhances a singer's ability to convey its emotional depth authentically.

Conclusions

The art of singing is deeply rooted in the expression of emotions, blending technical mastery with heartfelt interpretation. Music, as a timeless medium, reflects the emotional and cultural narratives of its era, allowing singers to bridge the gap between composer intent and audience experience. Successful singing requires understanding the composer's background, the emotional depth of the lyrics, and the specific stylistic nuances of each musical genre. Singers must integrate sound and emotion, using phrasing, breathing, rhythmic precision, and interpretive freedom to convey the song’s essence authentically. Through the fusion of emotion and technique, singers can create a profound connection with their audience, evoking empathy and resonance. Emotional expression in singing is not merely an act of performance but a

transformative experience where the singer becomes the vessel for conveying universal truths and feelings embedded in music. This ability to move and inspire underscores the essence of vocal art, emphasizing that the soul of singing lies in its emotional authenticity.

## References

- Chen, Y. (2005). **Emotional Expression in Vocal Art**, Music World, 2005(9), pp. 55-56.
- Du, Y. (2015). **On the expression of emotion in the art of singing** [Master's thesis]. Northeastern University.
- Han, L. (2011). **Exploration of Singing Teaching in Primary Schools** [Master's thesis]. Neimenggu Normal University.
- Li, B. (2009). **Talking about children's singing teaching and the stimulation of interest**, Science and Technology Information, 2009 (14), p. 233.
- Liang, S. (2017). **On the expression of emotion in singing**. Northern Music, 36(24), 60.
- Liu, Y. (2018). **Exploration of the application of vocal music teaching method in primary school music class**, Exam Weekly, 9 (2), 189.
- Xue, J. (2020). **The importance of emotional expression in singing**. Theatre House, 35 (18), p. 71.
- Yuan, X. (2012). **Exploration and research on children's singing teaching** [Master's thesis]. Shenyang Normal University.
- Zhai, Y. (2018). **Talking about the expression of emotion in singing**. Voice of Yellow River, 50 (3), p. 46.