

"Hometown is Beijing" The Elements of Learning Peking Opera with the Style of Beijing Culture in Modern Songs

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Abstract

Peking opera expresses the drama of traditional Chinese society and is included in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List by the United Nations. The integration of the elements of Peking Opera and opera makes the style of our vocal music works more distinctive nationality and style. "Xi Ge" is a new type of music developed in the late 1980s and early 1990s. It refers to songs close to a specific type of drama in terms of musical form or singing style. This article takes "Hometown is Beijing" as an example to analyze the use of Beijing opera elements combined with Beijing culture in modern songs. Peking opera is the crystallization of Chinese traditional culture. She is known as the quintessence of the country because she contains the essence of local opera in many parts of our country and is a concentrated expression of the art of Chinese opera. *Peking opera* is a drama performance that integrates singing, thinking, doing, and fighting. In the mid-nineteenth century, Peking opera, conceived in the folk and integrated the drama elements of the north and south of China, developed maturely in Beijing and was widely spread throughout China.

Keywords: Hometown is Beijing; The Elements of Learning Peking Opera; The Style of Beijing Culture; Modern Songs

Introduction

The national vocal music creation works in Peking opera's style was fully developed in the 1990s. This kind of music form was produced only after the transition from traditional Chinese opera music to the modern opera music period. The song "Hometown is Beijing" has simple lyrics and beautiful tunes. This is a national vocal composition with opera elements that are very Beijing accent (Yao, 2008:1).

Creative background

"Hometown is Beijing" was created in the early 1990s. The song absorbs the essence of opera and blends it perfectly into popular songs. In the early 1980s, popular music emerged and became more vigorous, while the traditional Chinese opera, as a representative of Chinese traditional culture, became increasingly neglected. The famous songwriter discovered this problem. After deliberation, he found the composer Yao Ming and wrote the first formal "drama"- "Hometown is Beijing" based on the description of his hometown of Beijing. The pioneering work of this opera expresses that they have a soft spot for Beijing and like "Beijing accent, Beijing rhyme."

¹Received: March 15, 2023; Revised: April 3, 2023; Accepted: April 4, 2023

Work analysis

1) Aesthetic analysis

a. novel language style

At the beginning of the song, "I have traveled everywhere, north and south, west and east" directly named the theme of the song, which is the love for Beijing. Among them, the first three words "traveled" at the beginning are full of Beijing accent.

故乡是北京

阎萧词
姚明曲
何新荪配伴奏

Largo $\text{♩} = 54$

走遍了南北西东,
也到过了许多古城,
静静的想一想, 我还是最爱我的北

Figure 1, "Hometown is Beijing" Music score

The song enters the second paragraph, "Don't talk about that, the bright moon of the Temple of Heaven, the wind of the North Sea... I feel sweet and crisp, and the Beijing accent is passionate." These famous sights in Beijing quote the narrative of Beijing rhyme, like telling a story. In the same way, the natural landscape and customs of Beijing are displayed in front of people (Han, 2013:1).

Soprano (S): 道不尽那千里长街卧彩虹。
Alto (A): 道不尽那名厨佳肴。
Soprano (S): 四合院，家常饼，
Alto (A): 只看那紫藤古槐的四合院，便觉得
单想那油条豆浆家常饼，便勾起
Soprano (S): 甜滋滋，脆生生，京腔京韵自多情，京腔京韵
细悠悠，蜜融融，甘美芬芳故乡情，甘美芬芳
Alto (A): 甜滋滋，脆生生，
细悠悠，蜜融融，
Soprano (S): 自多情。
Alto (A): 结束句
Tenor/Bass (T):
Bass (B):

Figure 2, "Hometown is Beijing" Music score

The third and second paragraphs are repeated paragraphs, using a more compact and flowing rhythm to show the majestic and magnificent landmarks of Beijing once again. But it gives a different feeling from the second paragraph, which is in sharp contrast.

"Hometown is Beijing" uses vivid musical language to depict Beijing's beauty and profound culture, allowing people to swim in the magnificence and prosperity of Beijing, and unforgettable love for their hometown.

b. unique melody characteristics

The structure of the whole work is divided into three parts: three paragraphs of total-point-total (A-B-A). In the beginning, the theme of the song was proposed, and the middle showed why I love Beijing, and finally returned to the theme of the song, echoing the previous paragraph.

The first four sentences of the first section, the A section. "I have traveled all over the north, south, west, and east and have been to many famous cities. Quietly think about it. I still love my Beijing the most." The Peking Opera Adagio music is used here, which has a strong singing ability.

Section B adopts the Beijing accent of Beijing accent, which not only has the singing accent of Beijing opera but also integrates the tones of the Beijing rhyme drum, which is full of charm and natural and easy.

The last paragraph, A is a repetition of changes. The melody of this music has mostly stayed the same, but the rhythm and speed have changed. Through the Peking Opera shaking board, the rhythm is very tight. Not only does the repetitive part stand out differently, but it also contrasts sharply with the B section (Huang, 2003:1).

c. rhythm and flavor

The main melody is the "Xipi" mode in Peking Opera. In this mode, jump-in intervals are often used to develop the melody, and the overall range is higher. The melody of "Xipi" is bright and gorgeous. When the rhythm is slow, it is often used to express lively and lyrical drama plots and cheerful character emotions. The rhythm of Peking Opera singing has its inherent form of expression. The first section of this work uses loose boards, and the third section uses shake boards. The rhythm of the accompaniment is also in sharp contrast. Rhythm comparison can better reflect the charm of this song (Xie, 2009:19).

The opera elements in the song

In the song "Hometown is Beijing," there are many ways of moistening the song, such as throwing the tune, relying on the sound, and true and false sounds. It also includes the plate structure, such as the scattered board and the rocking board, which perfectly shows the unique charm of this Peking opera style.

For example, in section A, the composer added a decorative sound to the end of each lyric so that the singer can show the peculiar rhythm of Peking opera while singing and highlight the style of the song in terms of voice, emotion, character, and other aspects (Zhao, 1997:2).

The charm of the song

"Hometown is Beijing" is a work in the style of Peking Opera. The work not only uses the elements of Peking opera but also has distinctive national vocal characteristics. It combines Peking opera singing into the work to create a national vocal work with a Beijing accent and Beijing rhyme. The expression of the charm of a work not only depends on the composer's melody creation and requires the singer to create the work twice. When analyzing

the song flavor of a work, it is necessary to analyze the song's creative background, emotion, language characteristics, and lyrics content.

The lyrics are simple and without losing the charm, fully expressing the love of an old Beijinger who has seen countless beautiful scenery in his hometown. The lyrics are the sincerest expression of emotions. The lyrics embody the writer's deep memories and pride in his hometown of Beijing. The lyrics are full of nostalgia and pride for my hometown, Beijing. From the leisurely time of old Beijing to the prosperity of the new era, although time has passed, the hometown of Beijing has not changed in the hearts of ci writers. It has become time, and what remains unchanged is the deep feeling of hometown. The lyrics of the whole work are full of the charm of old Beijing. After the singer's passionate interpretation, a Beijing style of Beijing accent and Beijing rhyme is displayed in front of the audience (Zhen, 1987:3).

Singing skill

It is mainly to express praise and praise for his hometown Beijing. When singing, attention should be paid to the difference between it and pure Peking Opera. The folk singing of this work is integrated into the singing style of Beijing Opera. The key to singing this piece is to grasp the style and flavor of Beijing Opera. In the voice, we should pay attention to the singing style of the Beijing Opera, breathing steadily and showing emotions naturally.

Pronounce your words correctly. For example, Zou in the first sentence of paragraph A is divided into Z -- OU according to the Chinese pinyin singing method. In Section B, the style of the song changes, drawing on the characteristics of Jingyun Dagu, which is half-spoken and half-sung. Say to say natural atmosphere, true feelings reveal; Sing the right way.

The last is the reproduction part of A, which is the climax of the whole song. Different from A in the first paragraph, it is different in rhythm. Strong breath as a support, a strong expression of the hometown of Beijing love. The song highlights the theme of deep love for his hometown Beijing (Song, 2015:55).

Deductive art

The tune of this work is completely designed by the Peking Opera and draws on the Xipi tune of the Peking Opera.

When singing this kind of song with opera elements, and the opera elements sung reflect the modern song type works, you must first sing and secondly sing "drama."

Chinese opera emphasizes both singing and acting. Peking opera pays attention to the concentration of eyes when performing, emphasizing the charm of the eyes.

First, the opera elements contained in the song

Secondly, the drama in this song is based on the cavity and vocalization of vocal music. For example, the use of a long drama in the song, the characteristic that the melody is still in progress after the lyrics are sung, expresses the inner emotions of the author and the audience, either joy or sorrow.

Section A uses loose boards for creation and reprocessing, and section C uses shake boards for singing. The emotions of the two sections are in sharp contrast, which further vents the emotions of the song. At this time, the singer needs to use stable singing skills, flexibly change the singing style, and make the voice mellow and loud, which appropriately expresses the deep love of the old Beijingers for their hometown of Beijing.

Conclusion

In the long river of Chinese culture and art, opera is one of the most important tributaries. Art forms with a mass basis are also an important source of gathering the tributary of opera art.

Chinese opera has undergone the evolution and development of many dynasties, from the initial stage of the drama through the transition from generation to generation, and finally manifested in the form of mature comedy.

Now that music has developed to this day, opera elements have been absorbed into national vocal music works, forming a widespread "drama and song."

"Hometown is Beijing" uses the singing melody in Peking opera and retains the characteristics of national vocal music. It is an excellent work that combines Peking opera's charm and national vocal music taste. The integration of opera and vocal works is a testimony to the development and innovation of vocal works in our country. Through composers' continuous innovation and efforts, the audience of vocal works using the Beijing accent and Beijing rhyme has become wider and wider, deeply loved and sung by the public.

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