

# **The Problem Solving on Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 in Fingering and Emotional Expression at Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School in Huinan City of Pudong District in Shanghai Province**

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## **Abstract**

At present, in the practice of piano teaching in colleges and universities, students' learning interest and enthusiasm are not high due to the uneven foundation of students, weak self-control ability of learning, unscientific practice methods, low efficiency, lack of goal planning and professional demands. The purposes of the study were (1) To study Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 from experts and (2) To solve the problems Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 in Fingering and Emotional Expression

The research methodology was conducted by qualitative research, which collected data by interviewing three piano teaching experts and studying from related literature.

The research results are as follows : (1) learning Chopin's piano etudes Op.10 No.12 from experts, improving the fingering skills of Chopin's piano etudes in piano teaching and the methods and training of musical emotional expression; (2) solving the fingering and emotional expression problems of Chopin's piano etudes Op.10 No.12. Through accurate fingering practice, fingering analysis, repertoire analysis and special exercises on key and difficult points, the problems encountered in performance are overcome. Cultivate students' music appreciation ability, music analysis ability and emotional awareness through music appreciation. (3) According to the expert audit, the total score is 0.66. The auditing level is at its highest level, but some improvements are needed to make it suitable for students in future studies

**Keywords:** Problem Solving; Chopin; Piano Etude; Fingering; Emotional Expression; Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School; Shanghai Province

## **Introduction**

People who learn piano have to practice a lot of etudes in the process of learning, from the initial Beyer, Czerny to the later Moshkowsky etudes, Chopin etudes and so on. Compared with other etudes, what is the particularity of Chopin's etudes? The first is Chopin's etudes, each focused on training a separate technique, and the differences between each etude are very clear. Chopin's etudes pay more attention to some subtle changes in piano techniques. Due to the particularity of Chopin's piano works, Chopin's etudes have higher requirements in terms of exquisite and dexterous skills (Yue, 2015).

At present, in the practice of piano teaching in colleges and universities, students' learning interest and enthusiasm are not high due to the uneven foundation of students, weak self-control ability of learning, unscientific practice methods, low efficiency, lack of goal planning and professional demands, etc. The corresponding problem of students' lack of musical expression is more prominent. Through many years of piano teaching practice, the present situation of piano teaching will be constantly improved (Ma, 2011).

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The piano is one of the instruments with the widest range, the strongest expression and the most difficult to master among all Chinese and foreign instruments. At the same time, the number and variety of piano works are unmatched by other instruments. In order to avoid entering into this misunderstanding, we must first update and create the method and content of piano teaching. Some people in order to take a shortcut to pursue the number of playing that the elementary level of students or students who have no piano foundation have not reached the flexible level of fingers. not to mention what musical expression is better to put the main energy on the practice of basic playing methods, skills training only plays some practice songs. Fingers are more flexible and then begin to develop other musical expression is not too late. Liu (2009) stated that once students form the habit of merely paying attention to playing with their fingers without paying attention to the love and understanding of the works, in fact, they will not have great development.

Piano learning is a complex activity that integrates professional skills and musical expression. Piano lessons are also a way for parents to improve their children's social and artistic literacy. It is the core and foundation of learning music related courses and the backbone course to cultivate students' basic ability in music education. The learning of piano lessons not only requires learners to master basic theoretical knowledge and basic playing skills, to play a large number of technical etudes from different periods and representative piano classics, but also to add players' own understanding in the performance process to express the composer's musical thoughts and musical emotions.

Among Chopin's numerous piano works, his piano solo works occupy a considerable proportion. The piano etudes he created are different from the previous etudes in style, with relatively simple content and mainly practice skills. He breathed new life into the piano etudes. "Etudes" are a type of music originally composed by composers for students to practice certain playing techniques and improve certain skills. Such works are usually written according to the development of a single musical motive (Wang, 2020).

In the field of piano playing skills, Chopin's etudes are recognized as one of the most authoritative and practical etudes. In many piano competitions around the world and in China, at least one Chopin etude is required, as well as a preliminary examination for admission to the Conservatory. Performance can directly reflect the pianist's piano level. Technology is the basic condition for the full performance of music, technology cannot meet the requirements, the performance of music will be seriously affected, it is impossible to play a smooth track. Chopin's 27 etudes cover almost every technical type of piano performance. Learning and mastering these pieces can not only effectively improve the performance level, but also expand the playing range of concert pieces. Therefore, Chopin etudes have become the repertoire of many pianists in concerts (Zhou, 2012).

The true meaning of music is to deeply express a piece of music and a kind of beauty through the flow of emotions. Of course, technology cannot be ignored, but technology is not the highest level; Even the highest technology is for music; Expressing the beauty of music is the ultimate goal (Zhang, 2017).

When teaching piano at Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School, we found that there were many problems in the class. First of all, teaching students are not interested in piano lessons, the classroom interaction could have been better, and the piano homework assigned by the teacher needs to be done better. Secondly, students need to make a lot of effort to understand the musical interpretation of the work when they play, and they cannot feel the charm and appeal of the music. Finally, many teachers only pay attention to the movements on the keys, while ignoring the emotional expression and self-innovation of students. This results in students' performances requiring more soul and personality.

There will be many problems in learning Chopin's etudes, which require a good learning plan. It is not a single play, but a combination of the background of the repertoire, piano playing skills and emotional expression to avoid ignoring the background of the work and musical expression. Therefore, the study of Xuanyi Piano School in Huinan Town, Pudong New Area of Shanghai, how to better learn to play Chopin etudes.

Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School is a professional piano teaching school. While learning piano playing skills, its piano students need to deeply explore the connotation and expression of music. Therefore, piano teachers must pay attention to the cultivation of musical expression when students just contact music, one-sided emphasis on the combination of performance skills and musical expression will backfire. Therefore, teachers should explore the expressiveness of students' music from different angles. Therefore, how to lay a solid foundation, master the comprehensive art of piano performance, and improve students' musical expression is an important task placed in front of each of our piano teachers.

## **Literature Reviews**

### **Piano Fingering Techniques**

The piano has the reputation of being the "king of musical instruments," and it has unique advantages. It has a beautiful tone, a wide range of sound, can fully show profound performance skills, can play various types of music, and can achieve the acoustics of a symphony orchestra. This is one of the reasons why the piano is becoming more and more popular. Usually, we measure a good or bad piano playing by the player's hands. Many focus only on the dazzling technique of running fingers over the keyboard. Piano playing is a performing art that combines all kinds of great skills, and playing a piano piece well with skills is possible. It is the basis for creating the perfect piece. However, one thing should be considered, which is why we must train these techniques by all means. Ultimately, it is to accurately and fully reflect the composer's intentions and to express the content of the music. Therefore, the expression of the musical idea is the ultimate goal of our piano playing. The technique is only a means of musical expression, which is the purpose of piano performance. Like other art forms, Piano music has its period and school of thought, and different composers from different periods and styles have their characteristics. However, excellent musical expression is the common goal (Liu, 2008).

In the field of piano education, many excellent piano teachers have used the practice method in this version for reference in their teaching, and have also achieved extraordinary teaching effects and abundant practical cases. Famous pianist Chen Sa stayed in London, and found Corto's Chopin Etude Performance Guide and its explanation video in the library of the College of Music, University of London. She believes that the book is a direct channel to

explore the playing style and aesthetic of the golden age of piano, and learning this book can help us better explore the rules and true meaning of the music world (Wang, 2020).

People think that the trick here is to make more sounds in a limited amount of time, but this is mainly to show off from the technical point of view, of course, the technical should include the above quick and accurate playing of notes, and the technical artistic expression including the composer's musical ideas, intentions, meaning. Skill is the use of one's body in highly skilled music on the basis of musical instrument playing, under the influence of the pursuit of timbre and aesthetic taste, the achievement of the instrument to explore and conquer creative skills can also be expressed in the form of music on the score. Skill is a means of service, and the advancement of skill is a result of the constant demand on the power of human nature. People's demand for timbre promotes the progress of Musical Instruments. People are familiar with the process of Musical Instruments. People's initiative makes music develop in a more comprehensive, deeper and more progressive direction on the road of people, and gets satisfaction in creation and practice. The more concentrated and direct the essential power of man is, the more it is reflected in the work of art, the stronger the value of independent appreciation of the expression method of this work of art. This is also what the piano can reflect. Although the complex machinery inside the piano is so heavy and far less than the electronic products, the tone is diverse, the function is advanced, and the application is wide, the touch and power of the piano and the reason why the smallest change in the law will cause the change in the tone -- which is why people love the piano in the face of such high-tech electronic products. The reason why the status of the piano does not retreat but increases and improves. The essential strength of human beings requires a good wood, which promotes the continuous improvement of tools, and the development of tools also provides the possibility for the generation of skills (Liu, 2008).

In piano practice, no matter what kind of music you practice, it is important to practice slowly. Whether it is etude or music, there is a slow practice process. Most piano players are familiar with the term "slow practice". But the question is, why should piano repertoire practice have a "slow practice" process? What does "slow practice" mean? How slow is this? These questions need to be answered. The word "slow practice" is our general term, meaning that the performer in the process of practicing and improving a song, adopting a slower rhythm speed than the song requires, which helps to play familiar pieces and fingerings.

Because the nature of music and etude is different (music is a musical work with a specific artistic content; Etude is the material of piano performance training; Art etudes are a combination of these two aspects), so the purpose of "slow practice" of music and etudes is different. But slow practice for beginners is very necessary to help beginners better grasp fingering, skills. The skill of piano performance is an indispensable part of piano performance. Only with skilled playing skills can we talk about the art of playing. The two most important aspects of piano performance are playing skills and artistic expression, which form a complementary relationship, complement each other and are inseparable. From one point of view, if the performer's performance process only focuses on playing skills, it is separated from artistic expression. Although there are cool playing techniques, but lost the value of the art itself. The performer is just completing his performance task, without the slightest awareness. Artistic expression, on the other hand, must depend on playing skill, because playing without skill is no artistic expression at all. Many piano players throughout history have had great piano skills. Because their expressive force is different, so the style is different. But there are also highly skilled people who cannot become pianists because they are not expressive enough.

Only skillful technique, although it can attract the audience, is just toying with. Only skilled skills and perfect artistic expression, both of the case, in order to obtain the best artistic effect (Zhou, 2012).

### **Piano Expression**

A high degree of integration of performance skills and emotional expression. The performance of a piece of music can be very effective if you grasp its connotation, use your playing skills appropriately, and integrate your emotions into the performance. Performance technique and emotion complement each other in piano performance, and they are indispensable. If there is a lack of good playing skills, there is no way to talk about the use of emotion, which is to play the piano indiscriminately, indiscriminate use of emotion; lack of clever use of emotion, playing skills will be a lack of lubricant, boring, and lose the value of use. Therefore, performance skills and the use of emotion must achieve organic integration. When playing, the performer should consciously adjust the strength and angle of the keys according to the changes in the music and blend his unique thoughts and emotions in various delicate, rough, soft, and impatient sounds to interpret the ideological content of the work and the emotions are given to work by the composer through a good sound. The performer should strictly follow the fingering and playing techniques on the pavement, play every note with heart and emotion, play with heart, feel with heart, unite the human and the piano, unite the mood, and let the music from the heart through the skills of the fingers and express correctly, play the most beautiful and best music (Yang, 2018).

When foreign piano masters teach our students, they generally think that Chinese students have nimble fingers and run fast, but the music is not expressive enough; the sound is hard and lacks musical beauty. The sound is hard and needs musical beauty. I think that to make our piano playing really beautiful and in line with the, I think that to make our piano playing really beautiful and in line with international standards, we must first all have solid training in basic skills and master the correct playing techniques. The piano playing technique is a means a piano player uses to achieve the purpose of musical expression. The more techniques you learn, the more comprehensive they are. The more comprehensive the technique is, the more skillful and fluent it is, and the better it can be used to express the style and content of the music. If the performer has not undergone If the player is not strictly trained in the technique and wants to express the music with both hands, he or she will inevitably be limited by the technique, for example, by the scale runs or by the fact that the hands cannot run. Suppose the player does not have strict technical training and wants to express the music with both hands. In that case, he or she will inevitably suffer from technical limitations, such as being unable to run with both hands or missing a few notes in the lower keys. When playing chords, the chords are not in unison. These technical problems are a problem for piano players. How can the performer express the music accurately and completely? If the performer wants to make the performance flesh and blood, he or she must work on the correct performance. The more comprehensive the technical level, the better the performance. The more comprehensive the technical level, the more expressive the art (Ma, 2011).

It is not easy for the player to express the content of the notes in the actual performance process, as the world-class piano virtuoso has proved with his personal experience that it is almost impossible to present the content of the music without the support of piano playing techniques, thus reflecting the importance of piano playing techniques for musical expression. Practice shows that if a performer wants to show the charm of the piano through his or her expressive abilities, it is only a paper exercise if he or she lacks the support of the

relevant playing techniques, especially when playing some relatively difficult pieces, so it is extremely important for the pianist to have the relevant technical training. Technical improvement is also the process of getting closer to the essence of the music and understanding the composer's ideas, which requires a long training period (Zhang, 2017).

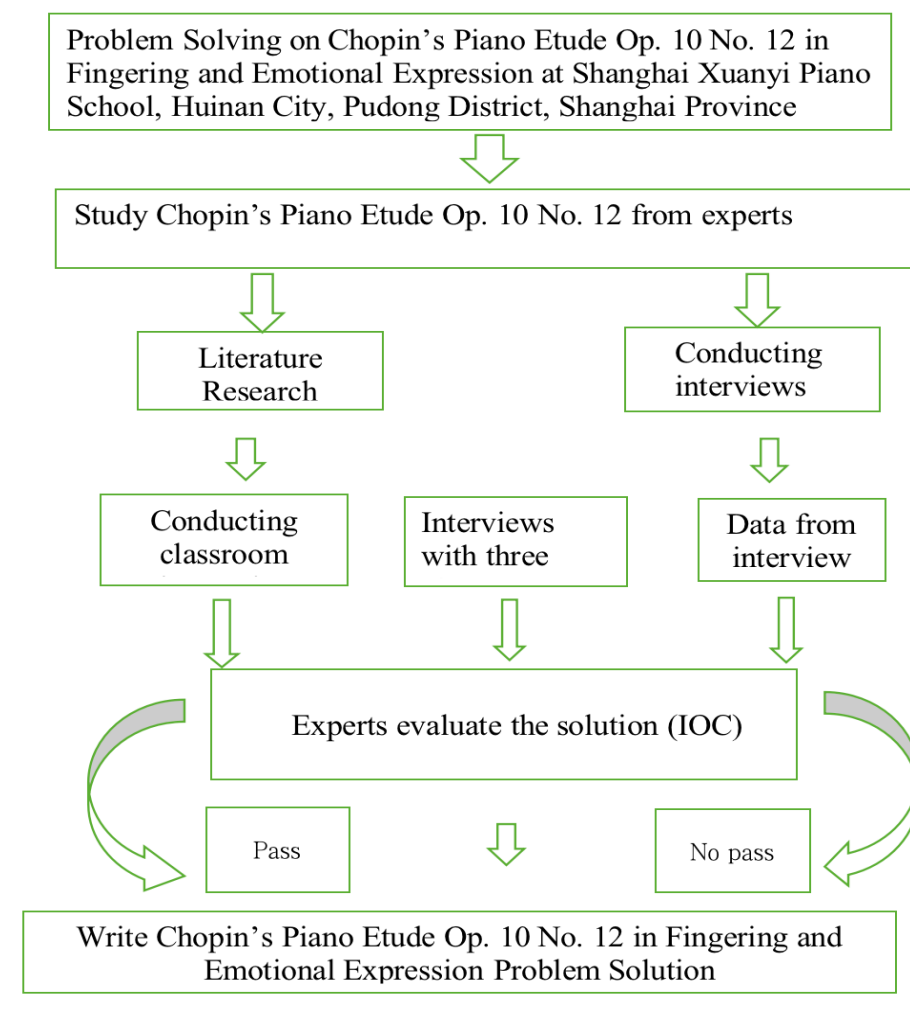
## Research Objectives

1. To study Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 from experts
2. To solve the problems Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 in Fingering and Emotional Expression

## Research Methodology

This study used qualitative research, which collected data by interviewing three piano teaching experts.

## Research Conceptual Framework



**Figure 1** Research Conceptual Framework

## Research Findings

1.Expression at Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School, Huinan City, Pudong District, Shanghai Province

Methods to improve fingering skills in Chopin etude piano teaching, including hand shape, fingering, playing power and speed. Systematic exercises and performance training can help students develop flexible finger skills and stable wrist movements to better express their emotions. Through playing skills training and tone training, students should pay attention to the detailed expression of music, master the methods of playing speed, intensity and rhythm, and improve the skills of expressing emotions in piano performance

If we want to play Chopin's piano etudes well, we should not only improve ourselves in the technical aspects of fingers and practice notes mechanically, but also make more efforts in the emotional expression, harmony, polyphony and processing of some details of music, understand the creation background of each Chopin etude, and study and experience the details of Chopin's etude. Try to tap into the composer's innermost emotions in order to better interpret the work

2. Strengthen the music literacy system of music literacy learning, including music theory, solfeggio, ear training knowledge, has a deep theoretical foundation, in order to strengthen the performer's emotional experience and performance style. Performers can use speed, rhythm, acoustics, volume, chords, harmony, virtuosity, musicality and expressiveness to bring emotion into the piano performance, adding emotion and depth to the music. Cultivate emotional empathy, practice emotional expression, imaginative expression, emotion-oriented teaching methods Music performance is not a purely technical art, improving musical expression can be understood from the two aspects of technical skills and musical literacy, the cultivation of musical performance psychology. It is very important to have strong willpower, to stimulate the enthusiasm of the performer through the work, and to improve the musical expression, and to integrate it into the performance through performance skills and expression means.

3. We provide students of Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School with systematic training on piano skills, including fingering rules, special practice methods, mastery of rhythm, flexible fingers and other basic skills, which can greatly improve learning efficiency, not only limited to Chopin etudes. Focus on exercises according to the difficulties in each track. Pay attention to the frequency of use of the left hand and right hand in the track. Focus on special exercises to strengthen weak fingers so as to avoid problems such as unclear glissolis and stiff and inflexible fingers in the process of playing. It is also very helpful to play pieces of different difficulty, which can meet the learning requirements of playing this, so that students can make greater progress in playing.

Musical expression of piano performers through the performer's performance of the works to interpret emotions and play creativity, the expression of music must first move themselves, and then move others, no creative music has no vitality, piano music expression is engaged in piano performance is a compulsory course, encourage students to improvise freely on the piano, without following a fixed score. This will stimulate students' musical imagination and allow them to create music based on their emotions and ideas to truly express their emotions. The rich imagination in piano playing.

To sum up, the systematic training and learning of piano can effectively improve the finger strength and skills of making and selling, so that students can flexibly and skillfully play difficult passages in the process of playing, better repertoire skills, more authentic expression of repertoire emotions, more in-depth understanding and empathy of emotional experience, and better performance of repertoire. This helps to cultivate students' more comprehensive performance ability and enhance students' comprehensive ability in music learning and music creation.

## Discussion

Problem Solving on Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 in Fingering and Emotional Expression at Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School, Huinan City, Pudong District, Shanghai Province. Including piano fingering skills, the role of musical emotion expression in piano performance, improvement methods, etc., discuss the piano course teaching suggestions. The text is divided into five chapters. The first chapter introduces the research methods, namely interview transcription and observation methods. The second chapter introduces the importance of Chopin's etude fingering technique and musical emotion in piano performance. The third chapter introduces the data collection and analysis. The fourth chapter introduces the results of interviews and observations. Chapter 5 is a synthesis of the results. Using interviews and observations, Problem Solving on Chopin's Piano Etude Op. 10 No. 12 in Fingering and Emotional Expression at Shanghai Xuanyi Piano School, Huinan City, Pudong District, Shanghai Province to improve the purpose of playing skills

Because there is no absolute freedom in the whole performance process, each movement of the one concerned will cause more or less tension in different parts of the muscles. When playing skills reach a certain range of requirements, muscle tension will be significantly enhanced. This is a very normal phenomenon, and because of the existence of this phenomenon, the practicality and simplicity of the performance is particularly important to relieve the tension and pressure of the performance. After all, only with a calm mind can one achieve a calm effect and freely express one's works and emotions (Zhou, 2012).

The melody characteristics of Chopin's piano etudes are mainly reflected in four aspects: melody variation and development; A combination of melodic vocal and instrumental music; The composition of intonation tones in a melody; And beautiful melodic technique. What Chopin is best at is to add different tonal harmonies to the same melody, or to make gorgeous melodic modifications, that is, melodic variations, so as to enrich the music. Generally speaking, since the creation purpose of etudes is to repeatedly practice a basic motive in order to achieve the particularity of technical training, each etude has a relatively single tone and a relatively fixed rhythm, which is not easy to carry out complex decoration and variations. However, Chopin, in his unique creation mode, not only repeated some basic melodies and motives, but more importantly, Chopin constantly added some new elements and patterns to the music he created, so the works he created generally have a strong sense of freshness (Cheng, 2014).

In order to express the feeling of music, we should use our hands and brains, when we play the notes, when the tip of the hand touches the keys, the connotation of the music is passed through the brain to the fingertips, and the original intention of the composer is expressed like telling a story. Further, it means that the performer has a deep understanding; Pour their heartfelt emotions into the music performance; Move yourself; Express the connotation of music incisively and vividly; The hearers were moved with emotion; The players and the



audience can reach the resonance of the artistic conception of creating music; Reconstruct a high level of musical expression. As a professional teacher, in addition to allowing students to appreciate and understand the connotation and feelings of music, it is more important to learn how to carefully organize the internal things of music and express them accurately through their own performance, only in this way can the audience be moved, which is the ultimate goal of piano performance. Still others believe that the feeling of music is inexpressible and can only be felt if the emotions are strongly expressed, and that all imitation of music is unnatural and unreal. Indeed, if we abandon the true meaning of music, play the piano mechanically, not according to the needs of music performance but simply show off skills, then such music must be soulless, the purpose and significance of Chapter 2 study, mechanical performance of course cannot move the audience. Therefore, we should guide students to have the ability to analyze and express musical emotions at any time (Liu, 2009).

The above research shows that performance skills are highly integrated with emotional expression. The performance of a piece of music, if you grasp its connotation, use your own playing skills, put your emotions into the performance, it will be very effective. In piano playing, technique and emotion go hand in hand. If you lack good playing skills and do not use emotions, you play the piano at random and use emotions at random; Without the clever use of emotion, playing skills will lack lubricant, boring, and lose their use value. Therefore, acting skills and emotional use must be organically combined. When performing, the performer should consciously adjust the strength and Angle of the keys according to the changes of the music, integrate his own unique thoughts and emotions into a variety of delicate, rough, soft and impatient sounds, interpret the ideological content of the work, and deify the emotion of the work through a good sound. The performer should strictly follow the fingering and playing skills on the sidewalk, play every note with his heart, play with his heart, feel with his heart, unite people with the piano, unite the mood, let the music come from the heart, and correctly express through the finger skills, and play the most beautiful and best music.

Overall, the research on finger-technique and emotional expression in piano performance shows that technique and musical emotional expression are important components of piano performance, which need to be mastered through a combination of theoretical learning and practical performance. Teachers' guidance and demonstration affect students' musical interpretation ability. Different musical styles and repertoire characteristics require different techniques and approaches. Personalized musical expression can enhance the performance's expressiveness and artistic value.

## **Recommendation**

### **1. Practical Recommendations**

When preparing the basic technique for any musical work, one should first cover detailed fragments representing the numerous technical aspects of the work and analyze the final architecture accordingly. Studying different parts will prevent "holes" later on when the work is done. In order to prevent technical training from becoming a mere finger exercise, the teacher always needs to remind the student why this preparation is necessary and how it manifests itself, which actually requires a long practice journey; Students should resist the temptation to skip steps, nor should they try to play notes quickly immediately after learning them

Piano performance is a kind of dynamic interpretation, different periods, different stages of the players may have different aesthetic views. These aesthetic views are big or small changes with their different national attributes, changes in the living environment, and the continuous growth of different experiences in personality, forming the habit of music appreciation and appreciation: listening to music more, appreciating different types and styles of music works, cultivating music appreciation ability, and drawing inspiration and insights from them.

Students should carefully listen to, experience and analyze different types of music works. Through playing recordings or live performances, students can be guided to carefully listen to the emotional elements in music, such as melody, harmony, rhythm, intensity and timbre, etc., to help students understand the emotional connotation of music works

## **2. Recommendation for future research**

In addition to the use of traditional practice methods, some training equipment can also be used to learn to use, which can increase proficiency, increase the flexibility of the fingers to avoid injury, and use the time to practice in fragments. To improve the understanding and expression of the music, you can use electric piano, flat digital piano, intelligent piano, digital piano and the original song timbre greatly to restore the timbre, can hone skills, improve the emotional expression of the playing repertoire, more infectious

In the current social stage, the Internet is developed era, learning piano can also rely on the network platform, a large number of piano learners posted on their personal accounts to play the video and the problems encountered in the performance, everyone has a lot of study and discussion on the network to understand and learn more aspects, get more guidance and suggestions. In the present stage of social development of the teaching staff and teaching quality is not perfect, we can adopt a unified teacher training, unified scientific teaching methods. Improve the teaching power of the teacher team, not only to test scores as the goal, but also to improve students' music appreciation, music aesthetics, and feel the power of music. Improve students' comprehensive ability, learn and develop more abundant and advanced teaching methods and educational resources at home and abroad, and pay attention to the comprehensive development of music learning. In teaching, the professional ability of teachers needs to be continuously improved. They should always pay attention to the forefront of professional development, keep pace with The Times in teaching ideas, and strive for excellence in teaching standards. In teaching, teachers should not only teach students correct and diversified playing methods, but also train students to have the ability to independently deal with music and express music, and also study piano teaching method, which also has higher requirements for students' musical performance. But also through a variety of ways and means to improve the performance of music, fully tap the potential of each student, so that their performance really from the heart, with a strong appeal, so that our piano performance level to a new level.

Therefore, to improve the finger-finger-emotion expression of piano performance in Shanghai Xuanyi Piano Company, we need to comprehensively use technology, network, reform and other means, and constantly improve the music education system and training mode, in order to achieve better results.

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