Creative Music Work: Buglight and the Moon

Panya Roongruang and Chutasiri Yodwised

Bangkokthonburi University, Thailand Corresponding Author, E-mail: panya.roo@btu.ac.th

Abstract

The song "BugLight and the Moon" was composed by inspiration that occurred when the song writer saw a big amount of the BugLight blinked on the Crabapple Tree that grown along the river banks during the wanning moon night, they seemed to compete with the twinkled stars on the sky. In the dark night, the stars twinkled brightly on the sky, but at the full moon night the stars disappeared because their light couldn't shine against the moon. The backlight was worst, they won't modest themselves. The song BugLight. and the Mon was a popular song comprised of three movements in progressive form, undulating melodic contour in Bb major scale, waltz tempo.

Keywords: BugLight and the Moon; Popular song; Waltz

Introduction

Inspiration of the song "BugLight and the Moon" had occurred when the song writer saw a big amount of the BugLight blinked on the Crabapple Tree that grown along the river banks during the wanning moon night, they seemed to compete with the twinkle stars on the sky. At the dark night, the stars twinkle brightly on the sky, but at the full moon night the stars disappeared because their light couldn't shine against the moon, they won't modest themselves. This situation is as like as an idea that appeared on Thai proverbs, "Small piece of wood could not move a big log" or "Spit on to the sky, saliva get on the face". These proverbs use for warning one's self for not to fight with the authority (Roongruang, 2018).

Supporting Music Knowledge

The knowledge supported for writing pop song divided in to two types: One was explicit knowledge that had learned from literature and key informant; two was implicit knowledge that was occurred in the writer himself.

Explicit knowledge

One the "Twelve brief suggestions for writing pop song":

- 1. There is no rule of where to start writing the song, but inspiration that make you to write the song.
- 2. Writing the song text or lyric that is the thing that leads you to complete the woe work and get successful.
- 3. Write down the lyric or melody that flash out in your head by record it your cellphone or write down on any rough paper, don't let it go away because you cannot bring it back once again (BBC Maestro, 2024).

^{*}Received: April 29 2024; Revised: May 10 2024; Accepted: May 11 2024

- 4. Writing the song from your direct experience of any feeling you have got from it, don't forget to put those emotion into it.
- 5. Use all emotion and inspiration that you impressed on it, don't hold on just one that you like but selecting from any that ever good or bad experiences.
- 6. Enjoy yourself, some song that you think it's good enjoy it, keep that emotion and put that feeling into a new song.
- 7. Consult with other song writers even you are able to continue writing or even you stuck with having no idea, the suggestion of other people will be useful for you. Try asking the rappers, they have variety ideas.
- 8. Write a simple song, then construct it up and develop it into a complete work. Some hit songs began with a few notes, a few chords and then adding any musical lines later.
- 9. Take rest when you feel tired, wait until some good idea come back then continue your writing once again. Don't be hurry, you still having plenty of time.
- 10. Don't repeat critic on your work over and over, it's destroyed your confident. Finished your work first then rethink on it and critic it carefully, you can adjust it later.
- 11. Get help from your good friends, let he/she tell you the truth not propaganda. Good friend is a friend who are sincerely telling the truth, give you confidential on work that can help you to finish a good job.
- 12 Don't afraid of failure, succeeding or failure are common, don't give up, keep trying and think positively go against every challenging and you will be succeeded (Ditto Music, 2024).

Two: Write a Song in Ten Steps: Following are all of those suggestions

A Create the raw material for your lyric

- 1. Begin with your song's title, write some questions about your song's title, put up around six words of the title, selecting power full words or phrase. This is a thinking frame for writing your song. Then, writ some questions about the title such it's meaning, feeling, why and what will be happen for next.
- 2. Choosing the song's structure; such as verse chorus verse chorus transition chorus. The chorus must be an attractive melody and easy to remember.
- 3. Set up a question specifically on the chorus part, such as 'what so you want to tell?" and write a brief answer. Write down the emotion of the melody, bright, dark, mellow, sharp, cold or warm etc.
 - 4. Find a melody of the lyric that has written, you may find a few phases
 - B Get to work on your melody and chords (Frederic, 2024).
- 5. Write a melody for existed lyric, tries saying a few phrases from existed lyrics, then try again, by reading with emotional expression and this is a beginning of the choral part, do it several time until you satisfied.
- 6. Write a proper chord into a melody that you have written, starting with an easy chord, play it, adjust it until you think it's good while playing it along with the lyric that you are sinning.
 - C Developing on each verse
- 7. Writ the first verse with inspired words then writing the second one with different idiom, don't go too fast the listener needs time to get the idea from the verse and then develop the next verses by following the previous steps.
 - D Connecting each verse and the choral part

- 8. Write a connection melody between the first verse and chorus, you may modulate the melody, making it lower or higher register or only adjust the last phrase to math with the choral part. Normally the chorus will be in a higher pitch for emotion concentration.
- 9. Writing the second verse and the bridge by following the previous steps and adjust them to match with each other .

E Share your song with listeners

10. Practice singing you song by singing by yourself with easy musical accompaniment, sing it for your friend, then record for using as a demo (Reynoilds, 2024).

Implicit knowledge

Implicit knowledge is the knowledge within one's mind, it is accumulated experiences that hard to explain such as thinking skill, performance skill. The implicit knowledges in composing music of the writer are as follow.

- 1. Finding the inspiration: Inspiration is the most important for all artistic creation, it is an an emotion driver to inspire to write the song.
 - 2. Lay out of the content of the song; set up the purpose of what you want to tell as like as

speakers set the content of their speech. This is to prevent the meaningless lyrics.

- 3. Set up the song structure; You may write the song in binary form of ternary form such
- as A-A', A-B, A-B-A-C even progressive form of A-B-C-D, etc.
- 4. Begins writing the song text: Song text is normally in lyric not in essay form, in a non-restricted poem. One thing that you must aware of if you write the song text in Thai language because Thai language is a tonal language, it has intonation bases on a specific sound of the high, medium, low, rising and falling tone alphabets. The melody must fir in the intonation of the word, otherwise has wrong meaning.
- 5. Writing the melody that matches with the lyric. The melody and the word portray the emotion of the song, angry, love, sweet, dark, mellow what ever you create it. Don't forget to make the hook part that will be the highlight of the song that should be modulate into higher pitch and stronger emotion. It should be in chorus.
- 6. Pick the instruments and ensemble to make orchestration for the song. The instrument must suited to feeing and emotion of the songs.

Creative work

Song text

Son text is written in lyrical form for Thai poem called "*klawn*" with non-restricted rule. It is an eight words phrase; two phrases make a verse and two verses make a stanza.

BugLight and the Moon

Movement 1

Thai lyric: เดือนแรม ดาวราย พรายแสงแจ่ม

Reading: Doen raem dao rai prai saeng jaem
Meaning: Waning moon, stars shine brightly,

Thai lyric: วับวับแวม เรียงราย พร่างพรายฟ้า

Reading: Wab wab waem riang rai prang prai fa
Meaning: blinking twinkles stars are around the sky

Thai lyric: ต้นลำพู สองข้าง ฝั่งคงคา

Reading: *Ton lampoon sawng khang fang khongkha*Meaning: Lampoo threes grow over two river banks

Thai lyric: ระยิบตา แสงหิ่งห้อย พร่างพร้อยไป

Reading: Ra yib ta saeng hinghoi prang proi pai

Meaning: Brilliants to the eyes, the BugLight's blinking

Movement 2

Thai lyric: ครั้นเดือนเด่น ดาวก็ดับ อับแสงสลัว

Reading: Kran doen den dao kaw dab ub saeng salua

Meaning: When the moon shines, the stars are dark with diming light

Thai lyric: เดือนพร่ามั่ว ดาวสว่าง กระจ่างใส

Reading: Doen pra mua, dao swang, kra jang sai
Meaning: The stars dim light, the moon shines brightly

Thai lyric: ดาวแสนดวง ไม่เท่าเดือน เพื่อนฟ้าได้

Reading: Dao saen duang, mai tao doen, poen fa dai

Meaning: Hundred thousand stars, not equal to the moon, friend of sky

Thai lyric: สาอะไร กับหิ่งห้อย แสงน้อยนิด

Reading: Sa a-rai, kab hinghoi, saeng noi nid
Meaning: Its nothing, tiny BugLight, a little light

Movement 3

Thai lyric: ทำยะโส โอหัง พลังแสง

Reading: Tham ya-so, O-hung, pa-lung saeng
Meaning: Arrogant haughty acts of their power light

Thai lyric: อวดกำแหง แข่งเดือน ฟั่นเฟือนจิต

Reading: Aud kamhaeng, khaeng doen, fun fuan jit

Meaning: Flourish mutiny to compete with the moon, that's crazy mind.

Thai lyric: หึ่งห้อยน้อย ตัวเล็ก กระจิดริด

Reading: Hinghoi noi, tua lek, krajidrid

Meaning: Poor BugLight, small guy, tiny creature

Thai lyric: ควรหรือคิด อวดกำแหง แข่งแสงเดือน

Reading: Kuan rue kid, aud kamhaeng, khaeng saeng doen
Meaning: Not ought to think, flourished competes with the moon

Melody (Score)

หิ่งห้อยกับแสงเดือน



Copyright © 2024 Panya Roongruang























Music analysis

The song "BugLight and the Moon" is written in three parts progressive form in a scale of Bb Major. The melody is in conjunctive undulating melodic contour, the vocal part ranges from low Bb to high Eb and in Waltz tempo.

The song text is in a non-restricted Thai poem called *klawn paed* (literally eight words stanza) format. The song has 50 measures in 3/4-time signature.

References

- Roongruang, P. (2018). *Creative Research in Thai Music and Thai Dance*. An Academic Symposium Document, Music Educator Society (Thailand).
- Reynoilds, J. (2024). *The ultimate guide to writing a pop song*. https://bettersongs.com/how-to-write-a-pop-song/
- BBC Maestro. (2024). *How to write a pop song*. https://www.bbcmaestro.com/blog/how-to-write-a-pop-song
- Ditto Music. (2024). *How to write a Songs*. https://dittomusic.com/en/blog/how-to-write-a-song-10-tips-on-how-to-boost-your-creative-side-when-writing-songs/
- Frederic, R. (2024). Write a Song in Ten Steps. https://mysongcoach.com/write-a-song-in-ten-steps/