

The Effective Utilization of Emotional Elements in Musical Artistic Performance

Yuan Zhaolong

Jilin Arts University, Changchun, Jilin, China

Abstract: Musical artistic performance is a popular form of entertainment in people's daily lives, and a performance rich in emotion is undoubtedly successful and perfect. This article discusses the importance of emotional elements in musical artistic performance, analyzes the reasons why some musical artistic performances lack emotional elements, and offers suggestions on how to more appropriately incorporate emotional elements into musical performance art.

Keywords: Musical Art; Musical Performance; Emotional Elements

1. Introduction:

As stated in "The Book of Music," "Music is born from sound, and its origin lies in the human heart's response to things." This phrase reveals the creative source of musical art, which is based on emotions that arise within a person's heart in response to something or an event, and are then expressed through sound. Musical art differs from fine arts, as painters can sketch and render the artistic conceptions required by their works with a brush, whereas the presentation of musical art requires the joint interpretation of both the creator of the musical work and the performer. As we all know, the creation of musical art works is the source of musical art, while the performance of musical art is the ultimate presentation that truly brings the works to life. The level of interpretation of a work by a musical artist is not only about superb technique but also about the addition of emotional factors, allowing the audience to empathize and resonate, which is a responsibility to the creators of musical art.

2. The Importance of Emotional Elements in Musical Artistic Performance

Musical artistic performance is an important part of human spiritual civilization, and it is a performance form that highly relies on

emotional input. Through pleasant sounds, it conveys various deep-seated emotions of the human heart, such as beautiful love, loyal friendship, and warm family affection, making the musical art works themselves more moving. The essence of musical art is a way of expressing emotions, and this method has also extended the social, cultural, educational, and functional values of music. The functional value of musical art lies in providing emotional value to people, creating melodies that resonate with people through a few notes. In some live musical performances, performers or performers also convey the emotions they want to express through their facial expressions and body language. In short, a successful musical work or performance can certainly arouse emotional resonance among the audience or listeners. The creation of a musical work is certainly not a mass-produced, formulaic stacking of notes, nor is it the creator arbitrarily piecing together or even patching their so-called inspiration into the score based on subjective wishes, but rather combining the necessary musical elements in an orderly logical manner.

Musical works must have emotional progression, which also requires creators and performers to fully add emotional elements to the creation and performance of the work. Both musical art and speech arts such as oratory require the integration of emotions into performance and creation. The emotional output of oratory relies on the excellence of the text itself and the performance state of the orator during the speech; the emotional output of musical art relies on the excellence of the created work, including the composition of the music itself and the integration of lyrics and composition in vocal works, as well as the performer's own performance state, including control over the stage, emotional expression, and revelation. Excellent musical art performances and rich emotional elements are inseparable; emotional elements are a

necessary element of musical art performance, and musical performances without emotional elements lose the functional value attribute of musical art itself. Musical art performances also give emotional elements a channel and means of expression and expression. The most primitive expression of emotion in humans is in facial expressions and body language. Later, written language appeared, and forms of literary art performance such as poetry and oratory undoubtedly opened up a way for humans to express and sublimate emotions. Music is another way to express and sublimate emotions beyond language. The art of musical performance gives linguistic rhythms to language, just as paint gives color to the simple sketches outlined with pencils, making it easier for human emotions to resonate.

3. Reasons Affecting Emotional Elements in Musical Artistic Performance

3.1 Performers Themselves Do Not Value The Interpretation of Emotional Elements

Some performers only focus on the proficiency and fluency of their performance and do not value the use of emotional elements. For performers, it is certainly understood that a musical art performance that incorporates emotional factors is perfect, but to put this into action requires strict and meticulous interpretation requirements for the performance. In today's society, which is always seeking speed, being able to calmly infuse more emotion into musical performance is a commendable thing.

3.2 Performers Lack Sufficient Understanding of the Background of Musical Art Creation

The creation of musical art works is certainly based on certain backgrounds and conditions. Whether it is the creator or the performer, not being able to accurately interpret or even misinterpreting the background elements of music can often lead to the loss of the work's essence and soul. For example, a musical art performance that reflects a certain period of history, perhaps the performer is not a firsthand witness to that history, but the performer must have a profound understanding of the background of the work to match each part, each musical passage's rise and fall.

3.3 Performers Lack The Ability to Reinvent Musical Works

The relationship between musical art performance and the musical art works themselves is one of mutual achievement, a two-way effort. In the field of musical art, there are often some excellent musical performances that make the audience feel that the performers and creators are naturally and perfectly matched. Such evaluations first stem from the creator's own creative foundation of the work, and also from the performer's deep understanding of the musical art work. If performers lack their own interpretation of the created work, they will not be able to reinvent the musical work, of course, this reinvention must be within a reasonable scope, not to alter or misinterpret the work's emotional expression itself.

4. Effective Ways to Utilize Emotional Elements in Musical Artistic Performance

4.1 Deeply Understand Musical Art Works

The essence of performance is to stimulate the most real but artistic emotional resonance in the audience and listeners. Even if it is a mythical art work, we may never experience it in our lifetime, but what these mythical art works interpret is nothing more than the basic human emotions and desires. The foundation of musical art performance lies in the performer's ability to empathize, and empathy first requires the performer to truly understand the art work. Of course, different performers will certainly have different expressions and interpretations of the art work, which is what creates the individuality in musical performance art. The individuality here lies in the performer's own performance style and the different performance intensity for the same art work. However, the interpretation of the same art work by these performers must be common, which is that the expression of the art work's theme must be the same and must not deviate from the emotions or story framework that the creator wants to express. Understanding musical art works compared to proficiently performing or performing musical art works has more stringent requirements. Proficient performance lies in the body's muscles becoming familiar with the non-conditioned reflexes after playing, while understanding musical art works requires

performers to use their hearts and minds to delve deeply into the emotions contained in the musical works. Performers who understand musical art works often need to understand the creators, to study the stories behind the musical art works.

4.2 Learn to Appropriately Use Body Language to Express Emotions

Here, body language includes the performer's own facial expressions and demeanor. Of course, the use of body language is limited to presenting the stage or audiovisual performance form to the audience. For a more forceful expression of a certain emotion, it involves involving more muscles in the expression of emotions is a performance technique for expressing feelings through the addition of more body language. Of course, the incorporation of body language is based on an understanding of the musical art piece. Some musical art works may convey emotions that are as subtle as the gentle nourishment of rain, which requires performers to moderate their body language appropriately. For most musical art performances, the addition of moderate body language can not only enhance the expression of emotions but also enrich the form of the performance, bringing visual enjoyment to the audience while they experience auditory pleasure, and even more, it can create a sense of interactive participation for the audience.

Speaking of the sense of interactive participation with the audience, it requires the musical art performer to have strong stage control and flexible adaptability. Due to the differences in the style of the musical art works themselves, the live musical art performers face different audience groups, stage lighting effects, and stage sizes, among other factors. Many musical art performers are well-prepared in rehearsals and dress rehearsals before the performance, but the audience's reactions during the actual performance are often different from those during rehearsals. Average performers may choose to mechanically perform the content as rehearsed, and such performances often do not meet the audience's expectations. Excellent performers usually have a strong ability to observe the audience's reactions; they can keenly capture the audience's live responses and flexibly handle various unexpected

situations, allowing the live performance to achieve an effect beyond expectations.

The use of body language in musical arts, like all things in the world, follows the law of opposites. Not all musical art performances need to be as expressive as a rock concert scene, and not all emotions expressed in musical performances are unrestrained and fervent. In fact, performers' emotional investment in the performance of musical art works cannot completely rely on body language; overly complex body language often gives the audience a feeling that the performance is overly exaggerated and artificial. Musical art performances require performers to balance and control both rational and emotional psychological factors; the right amount of emotional input is a respect for the creators of the musical art works themselves. The overuse of body language can easily lead to the suspicion that the theme of the musical art work has been altered, and it may even provoke a backlash from the audience. Therefore, although the infusion of emotional elements into musical art performances is important, it must not entirely rely on body language; it must be used appropriately and reasonably.

4.3 Learn to Make Secondary Creations on the Intonation, Rhythm, Etc. of Musical Artworks

Musical art performance is a form of secondary creation by performers. This kind of secondary creation not only brings visual experiences to the audience in addition to auditory ones but also requires performers to create based on the musical work itself. According to the performer's own characteristics and their understanding of music art, they need to adjust the intonation, rhythm, etc., of the musical work. For vocal performers, they can also interpret the musical work by adjusting their breathing. Through this unique rise and fall in tone, the emotions of the work can be expressed more fully.

In daily life, the speed and tone of people's speech often represent their attitudes and moods at that moment. The same principle applies to musical art works. Music creators can only convey the emotional elements of a work through sheet music, while performers have more channels of expression. If a performer merely sings every note in the sheet

music accurately or plays every movement precisely, it would be a waste of the musical creation. Such a performance is bound to be forgotten easily. During the performance, it is essential to flexibly use the contrast between long and short notes and the technique of slowing down at the end. Lengthening or shortening notes can often express the emotions of a movement on a deeper level, and the reasonable use of the slow-down technique at the end can further elevate the emotions. Some performances also involve secondary creations in terms of volume and playing intensity, making the emotions expressed in the musical work more layered. These techniques for handling musical works all stem from the performer's in-depth thinking about the work itself and the skillful integration of emotional elements into the musical performance.[5]

5. Conclusion

Like other art forms, musical performance faces challenges and changes brought about by the Internet, social media, and other aspects. Only development and innovation can meet these challenges. With the increasing use of various stage equipment, the stage effects of musical art performances have become more advanced and aesthetic. Musical directors are also using stage effects more often to create the emotions and artistic conception that the musical works aim to convey. This adds emotional elements to the performance from a perspective outside of the performer. However, the protagonist of a musical performance is always the performer, not electronic devices or stage backgrounds. Although advanced stage effects can enhance the performance, they may

also overshadow the performer's brilliance, posing higher demands on the performer's skills. The diversification of stages and the popularization of interactive performances are inevitable trends in the future development of musical art. For performers themselves, mastering more sophisticated performance techniques and incorporating more performance skills are key to forming their unique performance styles. Future musical performances will surely be even more splendid, but what remains unchanged is that the essence of music art is to evoke emotional resonance among listeners. While incorporating more modern technological innovations, musical performers should not let their works deviate from emotional elements.

References

- [1] Liu Jionghao. The Presentation of Musical Art Value in Contemporary Opera Performances [J]. Playwright, 2023, (06): 136-138.
- [2] Niu Jiayue. Exploration and Analysis of the Application of Emotional Elements in Musical Art Performances [J]. Chanhua, 2024, (13): 77-79.
- [3] Wang Xuemei. Discussion on the Lyrical and Expressive Nature of Music Art [J]. China Nationalities Museum of Ethnology, 2022, (09): 165-168.
- [4] Chen Jing. Analysis of Individuality and Universality in Musical Performance Art [J]. Drama Home, 2021, (30): 63-64.
- [5] Liu Qingli. Exploration of the Path for Integrating Traditional Music Culture into Secondary Vocational Music Education [J]. Canhua, 2025, (09): 171 - 173.