Reflection on Introducing Original Ecological Music into Vocal Music Education in Colleges and Universities

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Abstract—Since the beginning of the 21st Century, China's economy has ushered in a new period in which there is full of development opportunities, our comprehensive national power is increasingly strong, and people have been striding forward to a well-off life. In this historical context, an increasingly number of people attach importance to the ecological environment and cultural environment. As the original ecology music has been passed on from mouth to mouth for thousands of years, it gradually comes into people's vision with its unique artistic charm, and the inheritance and development of this ethnic folk art treasure has increasingly become the focus of the music theorists. In recent years, some colleges and universities have tried to introduce original ecological music into vocal music teaching, which has gotten good effects in talent cultivation and inheritance of original ecological music, and has high promotion value. Based on the discussion of the spiritual value and inheritance of original ecological music, the author expounds the significance of introducing original ecological music into vocal music education in colleges and universities, and finally explains the opinion of the author on the specific measures of introducing original ecology singing method into vocal music education in colleges and universities.

Keywords—Original ecological music; Vocal music education in colleges and universities; Inheritance; Measures

I. INTRODUCTION

At present, as a hot word, “Original Ecology” can be seen on all kinds of media terminals. It has the meaning on two aspects, one is the “original ecology” of ecological environment, the other is the original ecology of cultural environment, and it devotes to the protection of the two environments. Our rich and colorful traditional folk arts have been appearing in various public media and we-media at an unprecedented frequency, and warn the people to the protection, inheritance and development of these ethnic treasures, where the original ecological music is one of the most representative ethnic folk arts. It contains the contents of original ecological songs and singing methods, etc. [1] Practice has proved that the introduction of original ecological songs into vocal music education in colleges and universities is not only conducive to the cultivation of music talents, but more conducive to the inheritance of ethnic folk culture, and find an effective way for the prosperity and development of folk music [2].

II. SPIRITUAL AND CULTURAL VALUE AND INHERITANCE OF THE ORIGINAL ECOLOGY MUSIC

The most primitive and original relationship and connection between different things under natural conditions (without human intervention) is called original ecology. The original ecological music is the most simple and direct way that people use to express the most real feelings and thoughts in life during or after labour work. For a long time, the original ecological music the most ancient and original way to express the mood of self-entertainment. The protection, inheritance and development of the original ecological music are carried out in a natural state without any decorations.

As the main carrier for people to express their feelings and thoughts, the original ecological music is continuing and developing in the interaction and growth of human spirit and substance by means of mouth to mouth. It is the living fossil of ethnic traditional culture, and is the integrator of unique spiritual and cultural value. Generally speaking, the regions where original ecological music is prevalent are the regions where modern civilization has not "conquered" yet, and also the regions with backward economy and weak culture, therefore, the inheritance of the original ecological music is still at the stage of teaching mouth to mouth. With the fully spread of the policies of “Urban-Rural Integration” and “New Countryside”, these regions will be conquered soon in any way by the modern civilization. At that time, the pop music, new century music and other music styles will bring unprecedented impact to the original ecological music, so what is going to happen on it? Can it be inherited and developed in its original state? What kind of methods can we take to inherit and develop it? All of these questions are necessary for us to think over deeply.

In recent years, with the help of various media, the mystery of original ecological music is gradually unveiled, and more and more people were shocked by its unique beauty. So, musicians, anthropologists and common people have jointed the team to protect and inherit the original ecological music. Urged by the strong senses of responsibility and crisis, they are
working tirelessly to collect and research, and have achieved fruitful results. In particular, the achievements made by anthropologists in the research on the cultural value of the original ecological music deserve to be written in great detail, and they have made great contributions to the protection and inheritance of the original ecological music. However, in a long time, these invaluable research achievements have not been focused and utilized by the vocal music education in colleges and universities; although some colleges or universities introduced the original ecological music into their vocal music teaching, they didn’t well combine the original ecological singing method with the vocalization skill of folk, bel canto and popular singing, the cultivated students seem lack of the flavor when they sing the original ecological music; on the other hand, the number of original ecological singers with excellent folk skills is gradually decreasing, and the young singers are not skilled, so, original ecological music, the integrator of the traditional cultural resources, has not been fully exploited or utilized. This folk music flower inherited mouth to mouth for thousands of years is in difficulty, if there is no rescue and protection to it in time, it will in the risk of extinction.

Most of the original ecological music is concentrated in the minority regions, which are located remotely with more backward social and economic conditions, and some ethnic minorities do not have written words but only language, these factors have become the stumbling block for introduction of the original ecological music into vocal music education in colleges and universities. Currently, no matter from the natural ecological environment nor from the cultural ecological environment, people’s requirement for “Return to the original nature” is more and more high, and on the stage of Singing Contest for the Young held in recent years, the original ecological signing has performed gorgeously, bringing people a feeling of fresh, and have received widespread praise and good reputation. Singing Contest for the Young is no doubt an extremely good news to the original ecology: through the stage performance, it shows the simpleness and reality of original ecology and its rich expressive power to more people, more and more people also have been shocked and moved by it and started to love the original ecological songs and singing methods, which undoubtedly have played a role of “making contributions to the future generations” on the inheritance and development of original ecological music.

After decades of effort by generations, music major in China’s colleges and universities has developed rapidly. Under the influence of music system in western countries, music specialty in China is gradually standardized and unified, but the lack of ethnic folk music materials has always been an unspeakable pain in our music education in colleges and universities. This is also an important reason for the protection, inheritance and development of our ethnic folk music at present. Throughout the music education in China's colleges and universities, we always feel that there is a lack of power and enthusiasm to impress, move and mobilize people, thus, it is necessary to inject the natural, glaring and fresh blood of original ecology, the college and universities music education needs the original ecological music. We are glad to see that some colleges and universities, especially the local minority universities, have recognized this little by little, and have tried to introduce the original ecological music into their vocal music education. Some middle and primary schools in minority regions also have participated in, they introduce the original ecological music and invite the inheritors of original ecological music into the campus and class, let the students immerse themselves in the glamour of original ecological music. While the improvement of students’ music accomplishment, they have undertaken the important task of protecting, inheriting and developing original ecological music. And the same time, they also show us that the road to protect and inherit original ecological music becomes wider and wider.

III. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INTRODUCING ORIGINAL ECOLOGY MUSIC INTO VOCAL MUSIC EDUCATION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

A. It is one of important way to improve the comprehensive quality of modern college students

In the different development stages, the original ecological music works formed in various regions and nationalities in China are unique, and it is the concentrated reflection of the history and culture of the region and the nation in a specific period. By Introducing these original ecological music works into vocal music teaching in colleges and universities, the college students will not only be edified by the ethnic and regional historical culture, but also can promote the improvement of their music skills, rich their music knowledge and further cultivate and enhance their music aesthetic consciousness, aesthetic tastes and comprehensive qualities, which is resulting in the inspiration and cultivation of students' creative thinking, and creating favorable conditions for showing the beauty of the original ecological songs through the second creation. Therefore, the introduction of original ecological music into colleges and universities vocal music education can not only promote the development of ethnic folk music culture, but also provide abundant materials for the cultivation of patriotism of contemporary college students [3], and the greatest importance is to effectively strengthen their sense of national pride and national belonging, so as to let the China’s national spirit get more hopeful to be carried forward.

B. It is the important gripper to promote the vocal music education in colleges and universities, especially in local colleges and universities.

At present, the teaching mode of vocal music in colleges and universities in China, especially in local colleges and universities, is relatively simple. In terms of content, have “a servile attitude to foreign things”, taking bel canto singing as the main method, and less focus on the ethnic culture including original ecological music. We have to be clear that if we leave the immersion and infection by the original ecological ethic art and original ecological culture, the vocal music education in colleges and universities will be lack of foundation, and the education and teaching quality is hard to improve. In this sense, it is very important and necessary to introduce the original ecological music into vocal music education in colleges and universities. China is a great cultural country with long history, the vocal music works left by our ancestors are numerous and all of them are boutiques. After the efforts of generations, the original ecological music system has been completed and
mature. Therefore, the introduction of original ecological music into colleges and universities vocal music education can not only break the simple mode of current vocal music teaching in colleges and universities, improve the education and teaching quality of modern music, but also will play a role to greatly promote the future development and improvement of China’s vocal music class in colleges and universities.

C. It is an important method for the inheritance and development of folk culture

Music culture is rooted in a certain natural and cultural environment, so it is also a reflection of ethnic folk characteristics. Chinese music works in the traditional sense embody the culture of all Chinese nationalities, and at the same time express the cultural traditions, folk traditions and folk customs of a certain historical period from the perspective of art. In different periods of history, many excellent music works have been produced and inherited, where many representative works have been included in China's intangible cultural heritage lists at all levels, which shows that China attaches great importance to the original ecological music from generation to generation. Therefore, introducing original ecological music into colleges and universities’ vocal music education, and presenting it by means of class teaching, have open a path for the students to understand the long history and brilliant cultural art of each nationality in our country, and let them to absorb the rich music cultural nutrition left by the ancestors as much as possible, so that to laid a solid foundation of the inheritance and development of China’s traditional culture.

IV. THE DETAILED MEASURES OF INTRODUCING ORIGINAL ECOLOGY SINGING METHODS INTO VOCAL MUSIC EDUCATION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

A. Making full use of modern teaching equipment

At present, the modern equipment and facilities in colleges and universities are becoming more and more systematic and completed, and specialized vocal music multimedia teaching equipment (such as flipped classroom, interactive teaching system, scene simulation teaching system, etc.) has also begun to use in colleges and universities’ vocal music classes. In the past, it was a teacher who taught to a student only, but the modern teaching equipment makes it possible for "one-to-many" and "face-to-face" (breaking the spatial boundaries) teaching mode, which to the large extent has alleviated the teaching intensity of original ecological singing method in colleges and universities and made up for the deficiency of teachers. Teachers can upload teaching resources anytime and anywhere, and students can choose their own convenient time and place to learn the knowledge related to original ecological singing method and practice the original ecological vocalization skills.

B. Making full use of folk resources

At present, most of the teachers who are engaged in vocal music education in colleges and universities are majoring-in and they are mostly educated by western vocal music system, so they are not very familiar with the original ecological singing method. Therefore, we can invite some folk original ecological singers come as visiting teacher, and let them teach the students to sing hand by hand. I believe that their singing with experienced life vicissitudes and yearly precipitation will give students the feeling of authentic, and also will tamp the foundation for the students to fully present the “flavor and sense” of the original works in the second creation of the original ecological music [4].

C. Strengthening the construction of vocal music teaching team in colleges and universities

First of all, to selectively absorb western teaching methods and teaching ideas to promote the further improvement of our country’s ethnic vocal music system; colleges and universities should actively carry out folk vocal music training and folk music art exchange; carry out some competitions and exchange activities in the theme of original ecological singing method; often communicate with the folk artists, learning from them; visit the ethnic regions to feel the authentic original ecological singing method on site. At last, as the original ecological singing methods in our country is more, a teacher’s energy is limited, and no one can fully and skillfully master all the singing methods, therefore, the form of collective lesson preparation can be carried out by them to learn from each other to achieve common progress.

V. CONCLUSION

The original ecological music is the crystallization of the labor and wisdom of the ancestors, carrying the joys and sorrows, love and hate of the people of all nationalities for thousands of years, is a witness of the long history of the Chinese Nation, we have no reason to refuse to inherit and carry forward it. The inheritance of original ecological music is the premise and foundation for the development of vocal music in China, and vocal music classes in colleges and universities should be one of the main positions for the protection and development of original ecological music. Introducing original ecological music into colleges and universities’ vocal music education is the need of modern vocal music education, is an effective way to carry out patriotic education and historical education for students, and an effective mean to improve the comprehensive quality of contemporary college students. There are still some problems in theory and practice of the introduction of the original ecological music into the vocal music education in colleges and universities, hoping the theorists and front-line vocal music educators in colleges and universities should take actions to form a set of scientific and reasonable theories to promote the development of vocal music education in colleges and universities as well as the protection, inheritance and development of the original ecological music.

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