

New Exploration on Teaching of Ethnic Instrumental Ensemble

Yutong Zou

Sichuan College of Culture and Arts, Mianyang, Sichuan, China

365573441@qq.com

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Abstract: National plucked string music course has artistic emotions. In teaching, it is necessary to express artistic emotions on the basis of playing skills. Only in this way can it better highlight the artistic performance characteristics of plucked string ensemble. In view of this, this paper expounds the concept, forms and teaching methods of national plucked string ensemble, hoping to help improve the teaching quality of national plucked string ensemble.

1. Introduction

The study of national plucked string music is a systematic and complex process. Before teaching, teachers need to make an overall teaching plan for national plucked music, and then implement it step by step according to the teaching plan. In teaching, teachers should achieve the balance of musical instrument playing technology, skill teaching and emotional sublimation teaching, so as to ensure that students can fully master the playing skills of national plucked instruments, and lay a solid foundation for students to achieve higher performance in national plucked instrument ensemble.

2. The Concept of National Instrumental Ensemble

National plucked string is not a product of modern music, but a kind of culture formed by historical precipitation, so it has a strong classical charm, especially some of the instruments have been used since the Zhou Dynasty in China. After a long history of brewing, the use of these instruments and the bearing of music have formed unique style of plucked string ensemble characteristics in China. However, because of the deep influence of China's history and culture, plucked string ensemble is difficult to integrate into the modern life system, can't be understood and recognized by contemporary people, seriously affecting the development of national plucked string ensemble. National plucked instruments usually include pipa, guzheng and Yangqin. When playing, use fingers, bamboo hammers, etc. to move the strings to form melody music. The music composed of these instruments is called National plucked music. The music composed of these instruments is called national plucked music. According to the types and playing methods of musical instruments, it can be divided into three categories. The first is pipa, including zhongruan, daruan and Liuqin, which is usually played with the fingers driven by the wrists and the paddles. The second are mainly seven-string instruments, such as harp, guqin, etc. which need to be laid flat on a horizontal carrier to complete the performance. Because it is the most primitive way of playing in China from ancient times to the present, this kind of playing is called "music out of string" by myth. The third type is a kind of performance mode assimilated in the development of plucked music. The main instrument used is dulcimer, which is a form of music performance in line with modern music and plays an important role in the development of plucked music.

3. The Performance Form of Ethnic Instrumental Ensemble

On the whole, national plucked string has its own characteristics. By appreciating plucked string music, it can be seen that plucked music has a main melody charm. This kind of main melody music is not composed of several simple melodies, but composed of different and multiple melody points.

These melody points are strong and weak, strong and short, big and small. It is these different points that constitute rising and falling in cadence in plucked music, and make overall melody of plucked music. Therefore, in the performance of plucked music, the composition of music “points” is the main form of music expression. In addition, due to the different types of musical instruments used in national plucked music, different musical instruments also have different characteristics. For example, pipa’s timbre is clear; zither’s musical characteristics is loud; ruan’s musical characteristics is low-key and deep. It is these unique musical instruments that shape a unique form of musical expression. Moreover, the performance forms of plucked string ensemble are rich and diverse, mainly caused by the attributes of plucked instruments. Most of the musical instruments belong to string instruments that are composed of multiple strings. Some instruments have no strings, but they have panels. These instruments shape rich forms of performance. Under the use of these instruments, national plucked string music has the characteristics of harmony and double voice.

4. Discussion on Teaching Methods of Plucking and Ensemble

4.1 Combine Teaching and Practice of Ethnic Harpstring Ensemble to Improve Students' Learning Initiative

Through the understanding of the teaching situation of national plucked string ensemble, it is found that in the actual teaching process, many teachers pay more attention to the practice of national plucked music, focus on the practice methods and effect of national plucked music, so as to obtain higher quality of national plucked music. However, the study of national plucked string ensemble is a whole learning process, which needs the rendering and edification of art. Simply relying on skill practice will not only make the study of national plucked string ensemble become a mechanical learning process, but also make it difficult for students to understand the emotions given by music. Therefore, the music played is mechanical without emotions and artistic expression. Even if having excellent playing skills, players are hard to reflect the true musical value of national plucked string music. Therefore, for the teaching of national plucked string ensemble, it is necessary to establish correct teaching concepts, pay attention to the study of the theoretical knowledge of national plucked music, and the cultivation and edification of musical sentiment. Before practicing techniques and crafts, teachers should tell the students the background of music, music stories, and make them experience the emotions of the characters attached to music, and on this basis, learn the knowledge and techniques of national plucked string ensemble, so as to give emotions to music performance and show the expressive force of music better. In addition, while telling music, many students are brought into the music situation, which can strengthen the students’ awareness of active learning, and has a positive significance to enhance the students’ interest in learning the national plucked string ensemble.

4.2 Improve Teachers’ Professional Skills to Provide Professional Guidance to Students

In any teaching, teachers are important organizers of teaching activities, closely related to the quality of teaching and learning. For the study of national plucked string ensemble, because it involves musical instruments, musical emotions, playing skills and other teaching content, it is more dependent on teachers. Under the influence of this kind of national plucked string ensemble learning needs, teachers need to have professional national plucked string teaching level, not only to master the playing methods of various national plucked string instruments, but also to be able to deeply understand the works of art, grasp the connotation of the works and correctly express through musical instruments. But many teachers only have professional teaching methods of playing musical instruments, and lack insight into works of art, so it is difficult to correctly express works of art, let alone to improve and sublimate works of art. Therefore, it is necessary to improve the professional level of teachers, especially the ability to show emotions of artistic works. Only in this way can teachers give better professional guidance to students and provide favorable conditions for improving students’ national plucked music level.

4.3 Appropriately Adjust the Process of National Plucking and Reprise to Ensure the Learning Quality

The teaching contents of national plucked string ensemble are massive, covering rich instrument learning and theoretical knowledge, which are basic of plucked string ensemble course, requiring a systematic learning process. In addition, each student has his own particularity, and there are differences in students' level of musical attainments. Some students have difficulty in mastering the basic knowledge of musical instruments and playing methods, but some students can play high-level musical melody very quickly. Therefore, in the process of teaching, teachers should pay attention to the reasonable control of teaching progress, and take into account the students with poor music comprehension ability, give them enough time to learn the basic knowledge. Of course, for the students with higher level of plucked music, teachers can carry out in-depth teaching to meet the learning needs of different students. Moreover, in the initial stage of the study of plucked music, teachers should reasonably choose the music works, choose the tracks with low difficulty and more performance skills training for practice. After students master the basic training methods, teachers can carry out the emotional sublimation training of artistic works, so as to continuously improve the students' plucked music performance level through the step-by-step training method.

4.4 Adopt Reasonable Teaching Methods and Achieve Targeted Teaching

Generally speaking, the teaching of plucked string ensemble mainly adopts the same teaching method of "one size fits all" to complete the teaching for all students, but in fact, many students have great differences in the ability of understanding music and using musical instruments. Adopting a unified teaching method to complete the teaching is difficult to improve the teaching quality. In addition, many teachers' teaching methods are single. In the process of teaching, they mainly complete the teaching by explaining and practicing the teaching knowledge points, and then the rest time is for students to practice and they give guidance to students on playing techniques. In this way of teaching, students can only learn a single way of playing, difficult to learn to cooperate with other students to complete the performance. In view of this, teachers should face up to this teaching malpractice, recognize the differences of students' playing level of plucked string ensemble, and then carry out targeted guidance for different students, so as to meet the different needs of students for plucked music skills learning. Moreover, teachers should enrich teaching methods, use group teaching, cooperative teaching and other methods according to the characteristics of music works teaching, music equipment use characteristics, so as to ensure that students fully master the plucked music playing skills.

4.5 Actively Participate in Performance Activities to Enrich Experience

The teaching of national plucked string ensemble needs to be carried out in practice. Through students' practice, they can find out their shortcomings and make up, so as to improve students' music level. But in the teaching of national plucked string ensemble, in addition to the excellent national plucked string students can participate in music activities as representatives, many students have no chance to participate in music activities, so they can't accumulate national plucked string playing experience, nor can they test the knowledge they have learned, and even many students will have a bad psychology of fear of performing in public. In view of this, teachers should organize some performance activities for students in their spare time. They can cooperate with other schools and training institutions to organize performance activities and provide more favorable conditions for students. In addition, teachers should let students sublimate their art and form their own performance style on the basis of accumulated experience, so as to continuously improve students' performance level of national plucked music.

5. Conclusion

The national plucked string ensemble course has complex and difficult teaching content, including not only the learning of playing various musical instruments and playing skills, but also

the sublimation of artistic works. The learning of these contents should be based on the characteristics of the national plucked string course and the learning needs of students. Students should accumulate experience after their skill level has got to a certain extent to improve the performance level and achieve the artistic effect of innovative performance of national plucked string music.

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