



Research article

Analysis of German art song style and singing

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ABSTRACT

The music and cultural phenomenon of the 19th century around one hundred years in the history of Western development is called the Romanticism period, due to the genre of art song and Romantic musicians' aesthetic pursuit (focus on emotion, promote individuality, and aspire to freedom) is very suitable, so the 19th century by the favor of many musicians. Art songs have a high literary quality, this paper mainly discusses the style and singing of German art songs, aiming to provide help for vocal learners.

Keywords: German art song; Style, Singing

Art song is a musical genre that combines poetry and music to fulfill the task of artistic expression. In the history of Western music, it often represents the aesthetic requirements of the higher intellectual class. Throughout history, the emergence of art song is inextricably linked to the rise of the emerging class, and Germany has become the most important birthplace of art song. What we call art song today generally refers to the song forms developed by Romantic music in the 19th century. Art songs are songs written as chamber music concerts to distinguish them from folk songs and popular songs, which are traditionally music composed for poetry with lyrics of a

strong literary nature, and unlike most folk songs and popular songs, the accompaniment of an art song is formulated by the composer rather than rewritten by a performer improvising. Art songs are characterized by three things. The first is the unity of music and poetry; art songs are a form of music that is highly compatible with poetry, reproducing the spirit, thoughts, emotions and mood embodied in the poem through the cooperation of musical lines, rhythms and frames. The second is dramatic expressiveness; in the creation of art songs, drama is always present, showing the emotional ups and downs of the characters in specific environments, the mixture of sadness and joy, reflecting the rich emotional world of human beings and complexity. The third is the diversity of song structure; the German-Austrian school represented by Schubert inherited the classical structure form of Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart, etc., and commonly used two-part, three-part, traditional sectional songs and variations of sectional songs, based on the traditional song style to pass through the score through the developmental structure.

First, the emergence and development of German art song

Germany in the 17th century when the economy and politics are in a relatively lagging stage of development, as long as thirty years of war so that the German people do not live, plunged into a deep disaster, in this period, the oratorio in the music of Germany occupies a dominant position, the position of the opera is not significant, not only in this period of time is Germany did not get rid of the shackles of religion, the German music is also subjected to the confinement of the religious, but in the This period produced music that was closely related to the life of the citizens, that is, the art song.

German art song could be regarded as a new genre of music, and its melody was very healthy and clear. At the beginning of the 19th century, a new style emerged in European literature and art, that is, “Romanticism”, which was mainly represented by the Austrian composer Schubert and the German composer Weber, Schubert was famous for composing lyrical songs and symphonies as well as chamber music, and Weber was a great opera composer of the Romantic period. After 1830, a large

number of Romantic composers emerged, such as Schumann and Brahms.

The music style of the Romantic period was characterized by the following features: firstly, the materials of the music works in this period were taken from folklore, mainly reflecting the characteristics of some ethnic groups; secondly, the composers portrayed some characters from their imagination in their works. The composers associated their works with their real lives and used fantastical themes to express their inner desires, and some of them also looked for creative materials from myths and legends.

Romantic period of artistic creation pays great attention to emotion, lyricism is the most important feature of this period, although the composer's creations are almost always with a strong personal color, but there is also a certain social, composers in the works of the harmonic accompaniment and tone, are highlighted in the folk elements, the German art song in this period into the prosperity of the period.

Second, the style of German art song

Although the background of the era in which each composer lived was different, their ability to understand art was also different, and the creative style of each composer was also slightly different, but we can find a lot of common features in them. The overall style of German art songs is summarized in the following three points: first, strong ethnicity. The nationalism mentioned here does not only mean that the composers' works absorbed the folk music elements, but also the strong German national character exists. The works of the composers in this period mainly favored lyricism, portraying people's inner world, spiritual world, describing the beauty of nature and other styles, exuding a lonely realm, without the conflict of strong drama, expressing the strong and calm spirit of this nation. The romanticism of the bourgeoisie was also expressed in this period. Later, as the bourgeoisie grew stronger and stronger, and because of their great wealth, they belonged to the position of rulers at that time and lived a rich and prosperous life. They disliked the pomposity of court music, the popular music of the urban citizens, and the idyllic pastoral songs of the

shepherds, and according to their own appreciation and needs, and their own unique romanticism, the composers of that time created works that preached the concepts of freedom, equality, and fraternity. The perfect combination of music and poetry, the form of German art song is the perfect combination of poetry and music, so poetry plays an important role in German art song. The poetry created by German poets fully expresses the inner world of the poets, which is sensed by the poets with their own hearts. The task of the composers is not only to expose the emotions of the poems, but also to show the connotation expressed by the poems in the form of music, so that the poems can fly to a wider field through music as a carrier. The composers of this period have some common characteristics in choosing poems, that is, they mostly depict the beautiful scenery of nature, and render the inner world through the beauty of nature, so the melody of the works are relatively bright and light.

Third, The singing technique of German art songs

Art songs are the product of composers' feelings and express their beautiful wishes, which requires singers to understand the work in depth in order to better interpret the work.

1. Accurate German Speech

Vocal music is built on the basis of language, want to sing a good German art song, the first thing to correct the German speech problem, the lyrics can help the singer to better sing the work, the rhythm of the German language is very strong, it is usually in the first syllable, all vowels and consonants should be pronounced can not be omitted, especially the pronunciation of the consonants, you must bite the clean. In short, the singer is to convey the feelings to the audience through the lyrics, accurate German pronunciation is the most basic cultivation of the singer.

2. Tone changes

When a singer sings, he should be able to change his tone according to different situations and roles, because different tones also represent different emotions and

different types of roles, for example, Schubert's "The Devil King" has four different characters. In singing the image of the "Demon King", the tone should be full of mysterious colors; in singing the "narrator", the tone should be relatively calm and soft, depicting the objective attitude of a story narrator; in singing the role of the "son", the child's naivety should be expressed, but also contains his inner fear and helplessness; in singing the role of the "son", the child's naivety should be expressed, but also contains his inner fear and helplessness. When singing the role of "son", you should express the child's innocence, but also contains his inner fear and helplessness; when singing "father", the voice should be lower, the tone should be more intimate, to express the father's love and care for the child. Only when you learn to change your voice color can you present your work as a vivid picture.

3. Singing speed

Singing speed is also very important for singers. When we sing German art songs, we should not only pay attention to the speed markings made by the composer on the score, but also carefully analyze the harmony and pattern of the work as well as the direction of the melody, and analyze the work as a whole. For example, Schubert's "Trout" song depicts a young girl's love for trout, and the fisherman's worry and deep sympathy after catching trout, the speed of this work is from cheerful to worry to sympathy process, there are three different mood contrast changes, the singer should make different adjustments in singing. Singers need to sing and accompaniment body into one, echo each other, pay attention to the singing and accompaniment with, only then can express the true meaning of the German art song.

German art song is a milestone in the development of human art history, but also a very important music genre in the art of vocal music, want to perfectly express the musical image shaped by the composer, it must be the perfect combination of sound, emotion and technology to unite the three, so that the singers have only a high level of vocal singing skills is not enough, it is necessary to carry out a profound analysis of the artistic style and connotation of the works of the German art song, only a deep analysis of the works to better express the meaning of the works. Only by deeply

analyzing and understanding the works can they better express the meaning of the works, pay attention to the combination of music and poetry, present the connotation expressed in the poetry, reflect the national characteristics of the art song, pay attention to the high degree of cooperation with the piano accompaniment, and also need to accurately pronounce the German language, which is also an important part of singing German art works, which requires vocal learners to accumulate more and more knowledge in the usual vocal study, which requires vocal learners to accumulate more and more knowledge in the usual vocal study. This requires vocal learners to accumulate more in their usual vocal studies, listen to more singers, but also to improve the artistic cultivation of the singers, and to study the German art songs thoroughly in order to better master the German art songs. The charm of the German art song will be perfectly expressed.

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