

Humanistic Quality, Musicality, and Performance Skills in Piano Performance

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Abstract

This paper carries out an analysis on the importance and training mode of humanistic quality, musicality, and performance skills in piano performance for the hope of providing certain reference to piano performers and relevant teaching researchers.

Key words: Piano performance; Humanistic quality; Musicality; Performance skills

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INTRODUCTION

Currently, in traditional piano teaching, the instructors often teach some basic performance skills, such as practice method of finger flexibility, and technology difficulties in performance, but only few contents involve humanistic quality and musicality, which results in low quality and efficiency of piano teaching. Therefore, in the learning course of piano course, it is required to enhance the training and learning with respect to humanistic quality, musicality, and performance skills so as to improve the performers' comprehensive level and expand overall artistic effect and infection of piano performance.

1. IMPORTANCE AND TRAINING MODE OF HUMANISTIC QUALITY IN PIANO PERFORMANCE

1.1 Analysis on Importance of Humanistic Quality in Piano Performance

The humanistic quality includes many aspects, such as performers' conducting philosophy, temperament and culture, ideological quality, way of thinking, aesthetic taste, attitude towards life, values, life experience, and knowledge level. Therefore, in the piano performance, through improving performers' humanistic quality, it is able to effectively enhance performers' enthusiasm and innovation on value orientation, aesthetic concept, way of thinking, and spiritual temperament, and also improve the performers' comprehension. Besides, through the analysis of different social background, lifestyle, and traditional culture, it is able to form a kind of positive charm, which is of important significance for cultivating performers' charm of piano performance and performance level.

1.2 Effective Modes Used to Cultivate Humanistic Quality in Piano Performance

Because the content of humanistic quality included in piano performance involves many aspects, it is required to highlight diversified training modes upon cultivating performers' humanistic quality. In the process of cultivating performers' cultural deposits and humanistic feelings, it is required to apply musical logics, musical thinking and concepts, scientific thinking and philosophical thinking, and adopt systematic training mode to cultivate performers' different quality, and form performers with different artistic temperament, style, and school; the training of this kind of comprehensive ability is not accomplished in an action, but a progressive

process. In order to cultivate performers' humanistic quality, it is required to take actions from following the aspects.

1.2.1 To Enhance the Training of Cultural Knowledge

In the performance process, the piano performers shall reasonably apply individuality culture, thus it is required to enhance cultivating the performers' cultural knowledge to let them gradually form their personal cultural knowledge and closely relate cultural knowledge and personal performance skills. Besides, the attention, imagination, thinking, memory, and observation shall be reasonably applied so as to improve the performers' individual charm.

1.2.2 To Enhance the Cultivation of Literary Quality

In the teaching process, it is required to let the performers contact domestic and foreign excellent literary works as much as possible; through wide reading, it is able to cultivate performers' cultural quality and temperament, and improve the performers' ability to understand the works, and then better show the artistic temperature that the works want to express.

1.2.3 To Enhance the Training of Performers' Ideology and Morality

In the process of cultivating performers' ideology and morality, the cultivation shall be made from the perspective of view of life, value, and world so as to improve the performers' ideology, morality, and moral sentiments.

2. IMPORTANCE AND TRAINING MODE OF MUSICALITY IN PIANO PERFORMANCE

2.1 Analysis on Importance of Musicality in Piano Performance

The musicality refers to people's artistic intuition; based on reasoning ability and perceptual ability, it can help performers to instantly understand the essence of things without logical reasoning. Under general condition, the musicality is a kind of natural "talent" or "born ability", and a kind of subconscious instinctive behavior. Meanwhile, the musicality can be obtained through training and learning; it is a kind of intuition gradually produced due to people's learning and knowledge accumulation, including people's memory, thinking, and observation, etc..

2.2 Training Mode of Musicality in Piano Performance

The musicality in piano performance is mainly divided into three layers, that is, primary treatment layer, intermediate treatment layer, and senior treatment layer. As for above three layers, the training mode of musicality is shown as below.

2.2.1 Training Mode of Musicality With Primary Treatment Layer

In the initial stage of piano performance, the performers generally perform some easy periods or phrases; however, in the performance process, the performers shall show the passion, happiness and other emotion contained in the works. Therefore, in the training process, the performers shall listen to and experience the music with whole heart, accurately master all musical notes and performance of bar, strictly carry out performance according to techniques and fingering on music score upon silently singing so as to effectively show the emotion of works. The training of musicality at primary treatment layer is the basis of piano performance, thus the performers shall fully know importance of this stage to lay a firm foundation for training of intermediate and senior-layer musicality.

2.2.2 Training Mode of Musicality at Intermediate Treatment Layer

The training of musicality at this layer is a deepening stage on the basis of primary treatment. After the performers master basic performance skills, they shall deeply know the connotation of works, such as the line and trend of melody. Therefore, the performers shall learn to master the intensity and depth of performance to realize their integration with music and combination between human and piano; in this way, it is able to effectively enhance performers' musical mobility.

2.2.3 Training Mode of Musicality at Senior Treatment Layer

The musicality of senior layer is the sublimation of primary and intermediate-layer treatment of musicality. After the performers master some skills of piano performance, they shall deliberate the original purpose of music and regard it as a performance art; in other words, in the performance process, they shall not only regard the piano performance as a kind of skill, but also fully and comprehensively comprehend and understand the music so as to experience the work author's general plotting and internal intention from a deep level and express the content they have understood in the performance. Through enhancing above three aspects of training, it is able to obviously improve performers' musicality, make the performed music become more charming and attract more audience.

3. IMPORTANCE AND TRAINING MODE OF PERFORMANCE SKILLS IN PIANO PERFORMANCE

3.1 Analysis on Importance of Performance Skills in Piano Performance

The research on piano performance skills has had almost 400-year history; the current piano performance skills and methods have been perfected, and the piano performance

skill is merely a common noun. The specific performance skills include legato, octave, diphonia, chord, arpeggio, musical scale, and various kinds of staccato touch keys, as well as strength of various skills. In order to complete the performance of one work, the performers must master the necessary performance skills. Same as the musicality, the performance skills can't be achieved in one day, but shall be cultivated through massive, long-term, and thinking practice. In the piano teaching process, there are various kinds of piano etude which can provide the means for performers to master performance skills.

3.2 Training Mode of Performance Skills in Piano Performance

The training mode of performance skills in piano performance mainly includes following aspects:

a) The training of piano performance skills shall be made step by step; meanwhile, we can't carry out separate practice of same material, but shall suitably retain the feeling of freshness of practicing works. Therefore, in the practice process, it is required to try to practice different period as much as possible and then practice the whole work; meanwhile, in the practice process, the learners shall take various kinds of trials. The repeated practice for same movement or one period shall be avoided, for it will be hard to realize the purpose of practice. Certainly, in case of any doubt, the learners shall seek advice from teachers and then carry out repeated practice until they can truly master it.

b) Reasonable arrangement of training time. The training of piano skills is a long-term systematic process; if the performers are not concentrated, the practice effect will be damaged. Therefore, in the training process, the training time shall be reasonably arranged, such as adopting the combination of distributed practice and concentrated practice. The so-called distributed practice refers to the situation that the practice is divided into different stages; after completion of practice of last stage, it is able to take a rest and then carry out the practice of next stage; the concentrated practice refers to the practice

in while the performers continuously complete a whole work until they can skillfully master it, just as the pianist John Hoffmann said that "after half hour of practice, we need to have a 5-minute rest, just like painters' short rest upon painting; while they open their eyes again, they can obtain brand-new impression and color".

CONCLUSION

The piano performance is a kind of artistic form full of charm and challenges; although the piano learners can be found everywhere, only few can truly become excellent performers; there are many reasons, such as technical deficiency, not-in-place musicality, or low humanistic quality. In a word, the humanistic quality, musicality, and performance skills are the important content of piano performance, thus the piano performers shall fully know the importance of humanistic quality, musicality, and performance skills, and then adopt effective training mode to improve their piano performance ability and further interpret the intention the works intend to express.

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