

A Brief Analysis of the Creative Characteristics and Skills of Guzheng Melody

Wei Zhang

Yangtze University, Hubei Jingzhou, 434100, China

Abstract: Guzheng, as one of the traditional musical instruments, occupies a significant position in the history of China's instrumental music. Yuzhou Song Evening successfully unfolded the scene depicted in the music to the audience, embodying the general public's longing for the last life, and at the same time making the traditional instrument of zither recognized by more people. This article carries on the thorough research with the Guzheng melody "Fishing Boat Singing Evening" creation characteristic and the skill characteristic.

Keywords: Guzheng music; Creative characteristics; Technical characteristics

1. The Creative Background of Guzheng Melody Yuzhou Singing Late

1.1 Creation background

Yuzhou Singing Evening is a famous solo piece of Guzheng, which occupies a significant position in the repertoire of Guzheng and has a place in the musical garden. Someone once said that no one who can play the zither can not play the Fisherman's Evening Song. It has been adapted into folk music ensemble, Guzheng Erhu Ensemble, Violin Solo, etc., and has exerted great influence on the masses, just as the piano solo "Pathétique", Violin Concerto "Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai", Erhu Solo "Two Springs Reflecting the Moon", Pipa Solo "Ambush on Ten Sides" and so on. It has been recognized as one of the famous Chinese Guzheng tunes, and has been selected as the excellent teaching track of Guzheng.

There are many theories about the origin of Fisherman's Evening Song. First, in 1912, Mr. Jin Zhuonan was adapted from Shandong Zheng Song "Running Water Hitting Stone" and "Three Rings of Sun"; second, in 1937, Mr. Lou Shuhua was adapted from the famous Shandong music "Returning"; third, in 1928, Mr. Cheng Wujia learned the song in Beijing and arranged it into a score according to the records. These three claims are still controversial, and each has its basis. Over the years, the evolution of the repertoire has led to the emergence of the above three versions. But what is widely circulated is that Lou Shuhua, based on the Shandong music "Returning to Home" from 1938 to 1939, compiled and created according to the characteristics of the 13-string zither. The music, with the title of the first four words of the sentence "Fishing Boat Sings Late, Resounding Poor Li's Shore" in the Tang Dynasty poet Wang Bo's "Preface to Teng Wang Pavilion", depicts the moving scene of a fisherman returning home in the sunset and the waves of blue. However, there are many new changes in the structure of the sentences and paragraphs, which make the music concise and rigorous and fully show the joy of fishermen celebrating the harvest.

1.2 Analysis of artistic conception of music

The tune of Fisherman's Evening Song is beautiful, like the running stone in the blue sky, like the running water in a mountain stream. Therefore, the music has a distinct style of Chinese landscape painting, after a song, like a painter's hand of splash-ink landscape from the music spray out. Then there is the Adagio, which is slow and lingering, just like someone in the song of the singer, who is graceful and lyrical, and who paints a picture of the setting sun, calm in the sky, and a vast expanse of water, while the Allegro part is swift and orderly, just like the undulating waves, like a broken boat, depicting a dynamic picture of a fisherman in a raincoat catching fish. After the climax of the final piece of music, it is even more special, implicit and gentle ending, which brings people into a profound artistic conception. There is also a glow of sunset shining on a vast expanse of blue water, linking the heavens and the waters. The old fisherman has returned home with a full load of water, and his weather-beaten face is so bright red, red, red... We seem

to be able to see these and even more details from the wonderful sound of music.

2. Analysis on the Creative Characteristics of Guzheng Melody “Fisherman Singing Evening”

2.1 Structural characteristics of the Evening Fishing Boat Singing

The whole work can be divided into three parts. The three parts are related to each other, which together deduces a harmonious and cheerful picture artistic conception.

The first part is the whole piece of “Qi”, “Cheng” two paragraphs, the music began with 4/4 beat Adagio, which is described by the music of the sunset, boundless expanse of Bibo picture is completely consistent, fully reflects the characteristics of the zither, Adagio played a melodious rhythm and rich singing melody, quiet tone, smooth, leisurely, comfortable. During the performance, the left hand gently rubbed the strings to produce a beautiful sound effect, depicting a lake and mountains, sunset, sail slowly moving, fishermen singing gently, enough to swing the mind. The Slow Tempo passage, “The Beginning” (1-6 bars), depicts a boat floating in the middle stream. The “hinges” rise in pitch from bar 7 to bar 12, and this part of the rotation has wide variations in line undulations (octaves, quads, sexts) and rhythm.

Through the six-bar couplet, the music enters the “Zhuan Bu” (bars 13 to 26), the speed is slightly accelerated, the mood gradually changes to a cheerful and active transition, the emergence of Qing Jiao tone, so that the tune transferred to the subordinate tune, which belongs to the transition section of the music.

The return of tonality (from 27 to 40 bars) echoes the beginning of the passage and ends the first paragraph in a tranquil and distant mood. The second section of the piece consists of two contrasting passages, ascending and descending, and begins with the appearance of a constantly changing characteristic rhythm pattern. This section has been repeated many times, with the gradual acceleration of speed, so that its structure expanded, music with the development of emotion, the strength has been strengthened. And highlighted the use of a variety of Guzheng unique to the smooth playing, successfully portrayed the waves, singing scenes of jubilation and surging fishermen in the boat excited mood.

Part II: This part on the basis of the first part of the screen to achieve the transition, that is, this part of the main use of 2/4 beat. Starting from the 41st bar to the 106th bar, the music begins to slow down and then to the middle bar, finally to the end of the allegro. In this part, the music maintains its original tone. On the basis of the backbone notes, the speed of the music is accelerated. Especially, the scraping on the strings at a very high speed gives the first part a new musical feature. At the same time, the use of various kinds of string pressing and sliding methods peculiar to the zither makes the rhythm change more frequently, the speed gradually changes from fast to rapid, the music is pushed to a climax, and the singing of the fishermen rises to the top, the bustling scene of the fishermen’s singing and the race of the boat to return enables the whole piece of music to reach the peak of jubilation, thus reflecting the peace of society and the peaceful scene of people’s living and work. This piece of music, the melody of ups and downs, like the spring breeze blowing, willow flying, the melody first ascend then descend, speed up, and then combine into a circle, to be repeated many times, show fishermen leisurely, boat drift, fishing boat full of joy scene.

Part III: Epilogue (from bar 107 to the end), whose melody is the first line of the first transition. The slow, long tone, characterized by a four-degree downward moulding, conveys a tranquil atmosphere after the fishing boat has gone. The end of the piece slows down, and the mode of entering leads to a cessation, like a night over the river. The noisy river is replaced by tranquility, until finally it fades away.

2.2 Artistic features of the Evening Fishing Boat Singing

Music is both fresh and beautiful, naturally implicit lyric poetry features, and elegant free and easy, simple style of ink painting. Works from the emotional can be divided into three parts: euphemistic and beautiful Adagio paragraph, from slow to fast into the mold type paragraph, the melodious ending.

The ancient song “Fishing Boat Singing Evening” has very rich cultural connotations and is closely related to ancient poetry, painting and calligraphy. But the ancient poetry and lyrics and so on all are pursue one kind of free and free style, does not have the fixed frame. Therefore, the syntactic structure of the music is not square, and the division of all structures does not follow the bar line.

3. Analysis of the Performing Skills of Guzheng Melody Yuzhou Singing Evening

Yuzhou Yue Evening, which breaks through the characteristics of traditional Zheng music, is a relatively new repertoire. It is a Zheng music created through the development and re-creation of ancient music.

3.1 Right-handed splitting and left-handed rhyme

In the process of playing, the left hand rhyme makes the effect of music more reflect the life scene depicted in the music. In the process of playing, the left and right hands cooperate with each other to make the whole music more attractive. Right-handed splitting is an important playing technique in the process of playing the music need to pay attention to its main points, control the timbre, only in this way can better interpret the mood of the work.

3.2 Playing characteristics of flower finger

The performance of “Fisherman’s Evening Singing” highlights the characteristics of flower finger playing, which mainly refers to the use of playing skills to decorate and polish the melody. The use of flower finger in playing makes it play a connecting role between other playing skills and playing methods. In the second half of Yuzhou Song Evening, this kind of playing technique and playing method is used extensively. The rhythm makes the whole music more free and active by controlling the internal rhythm and the strength of the melody.

The fast pace of modern life makes people anxious and vulgar. Playing or appreciating “Fisherman Singing Evening”, we should take the simple and natural fisherman’s life to enrich our spiritual world and add an oasis to our spiritual desert. This paper makes an in-depth study of the creative features and techniques of Yuzhou Singing Evening, which is helpful to master the creation of Yuzhou Singing Evening, so as to make the performers perform better, and embody the basic skills of the performers as well as edify the performers’ body and mind, and play the role of influencing people’s heart.

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