

# Professor Chen Bixian, a Pianist, Received an Interview with Xue Wenzhen, Vice President of Taiwan Art University

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**Abstract:** As one of Professor Chen's students, I once told me that she was born to bear hardships. Bach's music should feel more suffering than the present life. Only by understanding the pain can I understand his music. The professor has grown up in adversity since childhood, but she has overcome all kinds of difficulties and has pursued the love of music tenaciously. I hope this interview with the professor at Taiwan Art University will make more people realize this religious musician.

Keywords: Chen Bixian; Piano Interview Record

### 1. Professor Chen Bi introduced

At the age of 9, The German pianist Chen Bixian became the first gifted child in Taiwan to study music abroad in 1960. She has won many international awards and has many students everywhere. After retirement, she returned to the original intention of being a pianist and became active on the piano stage again. We, as ordinary people, want to know what genius has So she invited her to share life stories and experiences from her brain, hands to her heart. She said modestly: Please forgive that she speaks like a child, because she could not receive formal Chinese education after the age of 9, but her ideas and characteristics still communicate deeply with you and me through the language. The following is an interview with Honorary Professor Chen Bixian by Vice President Xue Wenzhen.

Novel Coronavirus makes the world redefine the concept of social distance, many people have the concept of isolation, when the distance between people away, their distance is more and more, and this experience is the artist's daily life<sup>[1]</sup>.

## 2. Face the Loneliness And Find Miracles

Q: It's definitely very different to experience loneliness when you're young. Chen: the hardest and hardest time is when I am alone. If I die now, I am also alone. Of course, I have been used to loneliness. When I flew in 1960 with my cousin, I already felt afraid and lonely, and I didn't understand German and could not communicate with others. Q: I used to teach in college at the same time, in addition to my beloved playing work. It is actually very hard work. You are different from you at that time, because what happened in the middle? Chen: understand our life is not so long, should do to do, actually I did a lot of things, in the house I found these tunes I have played, I learned quickly, about modern music has played a lot, then get spectrum, others are prepared long teacher guidance, parents support, and my father want me to go abroad, my mother objected, she thought I go to take a Phd. More important. When I play every piece, I can enter a perfect artistic Form, and I feel happy to participate in this work, because I am not perfect, I am empty. A work is well designed, is perfect, because it is a respect for it, so happy. Playing the piano is like taking medicine, sad to play, I did not practice the piano so no way to sleep. I found that many young people do not know what they think, so teachers should help young people learn to loneliness to create miracles. The musical art created through the piano, an instrument, is also a medium to touch the heart and talk to yourself and become a better person [2-3].

#### 3. So-Called Genius

If art is the sunshine, air and water of life, so that your heart will not wither, then how to receive the three elements of life and feel the world that you and I may miss through the artist's keen senses? As for ordinary people, we really want to know what kind of mentality and behavior of genius is.

Q: What do you think about a genius. Chen: I have met with many children with sensitivity and physical love. To give

what you have or not, is a kind of 100 more than 100 percent investment and pay, no boundaries, no matter in which field, you may have experienced this realm. I don't have that good talent myself, But because my parents so could not easily sent me to Germany, I have to try so hard to live up to them, Because I's here in Germany, It shows that I can bear hardships, Students who often learn music have the idea that I can't read it, why I want me to read it, And my hands are just too small, The teacher said that women would not succeed at all, It "t you no well, To be related, So my first experience abroad was not afraid of any difficulties, Must learn it well, Love the music, whether you like it or not, Don't like it, also want to destroy yourself to love, Love it to learn to show it, Empty yourself to accept it, True good things will eventually settle out. Always put myself to the bottom line and keep working hard without feeling unsafe<sup>[4]</sup>.

If art is the sunshine, air and water of life, so that your heart will not wither, then where to absorb the nutrients when facing a difficult environment, continuous setbacks, and almost dry up?

They all want to prove that I am not a gifted child. Chen: I hope to constantly destroy myself and rebuild myself with infinite love, find comfort in music, and persist in a difficult environment. I often face doubts and negation from authoritative teachers. I was a teenager, but my willpower told me that I could not be defeated. Art here is not only the content created, but also the medium of dialogue for life.

If art is the sunshine, air and water of life, then what do the art artists who create art see?

Play on stage like facing death. Chen: Playing on stage is like facing death, because I can't think it will be all put in such a short time. It seems that the whole vitality has the past, the present and the future, before it is what I practiced well, now it is what I hear to respond, and the future is what I play now to give an explanation to the future of things. I want to use more than one hundred percent efforts and preparation, with an open heart on the stage, looking forward to, but not control, through the piano media touch heart, step by step across, little bit by bit, let the unknown happened, let the unexpected future naturally bring surprise, whole body, whole heart is only focused on the present now, it seems to make death is worth looking forward to

If art is the sunshine, air and water of life, does the audience represent nothing else for the pianist in the performance art scene? Chen Bi first invited us to sit with her in front of the piano on the stage, to say what the composer wanted to say together, and to feel her current audience together<sup>[5]</sup>.

The player received the "gas". Chen: players on the stage can feel and the aura of the audience to exchange, play the piano is a kind of speech, you want to talk to them to have echo, not play their ready, I want to perform the composer, some pianist is performing his own method, he didn't really want to the composer to write this sentence want to express what, because I will pay attention to the content of the composer, not myself I want to express the content. The composer speaks through the musician, and the musician feels the emotional feedback of the live audience, and guides the audience into the world of the composer with a timely response. The back and forth dialogue between the three formed the resonance of the playing scene. The audience is also artists, willing to accept and feel what this is my invention, and the professional performers not only want to be happy, but also to move the audience. In the playing scene, this unspeakable "gas" communication, can be like herbs healing modern busy and boring heart, before and after the two pieces of music, in Cologne, Germany, as a museum of Romanesque church special environment recording, I especially want to share with you the light of Jesus and the statue of Mary, echo the music content, inspire me to play of wonderful music.

If art is the sunshine, air and water of life, do some people become unique strange flowers and different herbs, and some people become gardeners who create miracles? From the feeling and analysis of music, to the uniqueness of people in music, Travel and Germany pianist Chen Bi first looks at AI artificial intelligence from the perspective of musicians.

Beautiful and unexpected VS artificial intelligence.Q: Many people think that musicians must be smart. What do you think? Chen: I don't think so. Because I don't know that I just want to learn, very smart people are not willing to bear hardships to learn, but the music inside needs you to have the experience of suffering hardships can play well.Q: Do you think AI can replace musicians? Chen: It's impossible. Because all our beauty from the imperfect, the imperfect will be beautiful, the machine to pop-up can be immediately known, because the accuracy is too high, but the beauty is never inaccurate. I don't really listen to the recording of my own performance myself, because it is already the situation of the past, the mood of the past, but in the present, there must be different feelings and interpretation, pop up different feelings, different every time. The

same keys, on the other hand, different people press the voice is different, perhaps ordinary people are difficult to distinguish, but in the world of musicians and artificial intelligence scholars, everyone created a voice is unique, unfinished may be missing, and therefore leave open imagination space, do one hundred% is a good work, but a great work is a good accident, and the accident may come from the depths of the original you, unique you.

Pianist Chen Bixian looks forward to her second life after teaching and retirement, and focuses on being herself, with lovely partners, beautiful playing venues, and the blessings of the audience. What also attracted her was to be able to be with nature at home and simply enjoy the sun, air and water.

# 4. Do what You want, do not Cross the Rules

Q: You must be constantly practicing the piano, and until now you are still a shining pianist. Chen: Yes, I was free only after I retired. My friend said that I was relatively young, because I had time to concentrate on practicing the piano. I have always wanted to play it until now.Q: As an audience, we will have a feeling that age is good for you, and now you actually bring something more music. Chen: More just understand music, now experience also more, don't need to do don't do.Q: Clean and refreshing, this kind of music is actually very moving, and does not need a great skill. Chen: Young people are willing to show their physical ability, but sometimes it has nothing to do with music. I can't compare it with young people.Q: What do you think is the most important thing about teaching and learning? Chen: Encouragement is the most important thing. Students should perform to the teacher in class, not what the teacher says. If I want to encourage young people, or want to go abroad, try to integrate into the culture, I see the quality of the students is also to see whether they are willing to learn, have no curiosity to learn a foreign language. Second, to be brave, do not be afraid, the dream is the most important thing, to believe that you can do it, do not give up. To understand what you want. When I teach the piano, I ask students to practice their skills, to have the freedom to express their thoughts. The truth of my life is understood from the experience of playing the piano, I am often defeated, I feel useless, but with this experience to know that in such circumstances can not give up, brave, to be not afraid of failure.

#### 5. Conclusion

This series of interviews with Professor Chen's, we try to find that the players can resonate with ordinary people, even if gifted, we are seeking to know themselves, believe in themselves, and appreciate themselves. No matter what industry, life seems to be in this direction, no matter when we reach exactly, no moment, just hope age for our heart, more clean, more relaxed, so professor Chen as a player early found that market value is not the purpose of life, but than one hundred percent more efforts, the result of the result of life unpredictable, but the purpose can be more and more clear, efforts can be more and more focused, she suggested uncomfortable can take Bach out, we often need to settle down to enjoy the moment, just enjoy!

A person who can enjoy the loneliness, life is blooming wonderful, because he understands that only inward to explore inside my depth, is the most joyful moment. People were originally a person, but also a person left, Professor Chen can discover his talent and immersed in the world of music, the beauty of music into life, is a happy person in the world, this is the best spiritual food brought by art aesthetics to human beings.

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