

# **Constructing Chongqing Traditional Songs Teaching Guidebook for Vocal Music Students in Chengdu University, Chengdu, Sichuan**

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## **Abstracts**

Chongqing Traditional songs are an important part of Sichuan Traditional songs. It is a unique kind of song in China. This kind of song is different from art songs and composition songs. It has the basic characteristics of "oral communication", "collective composition" and "local characteristics". The objectives of research were: 1) To study Chongqing Traditional songs in Chengdu for vocal music students. 2) To construct teaching guidebook for Chongqing Traditional songs for vocal music students in Chengdu university. 3) To experiment the Chongqing Traditional songs Teaching guidebook to the vocal music students experimental group. 4) To find out the efficiency of the Chongqing Traditional song guidebook. This research is a comprehensive study, used a mixed method, qualitative and quantitative approach. The population was 10 first year vocal music students in Chengdu University. The study instruments included: Interview forms; Chongqing traditional song teaching guidebook; Performance tests; and IOC forms. Descriptive analysis was used to analyze the interview information from the three key informants and statistical analysis was used to analyze the scores of the performance tests: percentages (%) the formative and summative tests.

The results of this study are: (1) Vocal teaching Chongqing traditional songs should make students understand breath, dialect, tone, melody and emotion and follow scientific vocal methods. (2) The guidebook for teaching Chongqing traditional songs consisted of Chapter1 Introduction, Chapter2 How to use the Chongqing traditional songs Teaching Guidebook, Chapter3 Basic Vocal Exercises, Chapter4 Advanced Vocal Exercises, Chapter5 Method of Teaching and songs, Chapter6 Music notation of songs, Chapter7 Lesson plan; (3) The guidebook of Chongqing traditional songs were conducted for the experimental group of students; (4) the efficiency of the guidebook of traditional songs Chongqing was 85/95, which was higher than the hypothesis 80/80, and it can be said that the Chongqing guidebook for traditional songs is effective and can be used for teaching.

**Keywords:** Chongqing Traditional Songs; Vocal Music Teaching Guidebook; Chengdu University

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## Introduction

Chongqing Traditional songs are an important part of Sichuan Traditional songs. It is a unique kind of song in China. This kind of song is different from art songs and composition songs. It has the basic characteristics of "oral communication", "collective composition" and "local characteristics".

Oral communication means that Traditional songs are transmitted by word of mouth. It is an oral art. Impromptu lyrics creation, impromptu lyrics adaptation, and impromptu melody adaptation are the specific manifestations of oral transmission.

The Chongqing Traditional songs studied in this paper belong to a part of Chinese Traditional songs. Chongqing Traditional songs are mainly spread in Sichuan Province, China. Due to the influence of geographical environment, they are very different from Traditional songs in other parts of China in terms of musical form and musical style. This difference has existed since the birth of Chongqing Traditional songs. The unique style of Chongqing Traditional songs constitutes the diversity of Chinese Traditional songs, and this unique musical style depends on the following factors.

First, the unique geographical environment. Sichuan is referred to as "Chuan" or "Shu" for short, and the provincial capital is Chengdu. Located inland in Southwest China, on the upper reaches of the Yangtze River, it is known as the "Land of Abundance". The landform differ greatly from east to west, and the terrain is complex and diverse. It is located in the transition zone between the first level of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and the third level of the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River Plain in the three major terrain ladders of mainland China. It consists of hills, plains, basins and plateaus. Sichuan Province belongs to three major climates, namely the humid subtropical climate in the Sichuan Basin, the subtropical semi-humid climate in the mountainous areas of southwest Sichuan, and the alpine and plateau alpine climate in northwest Sichuan. The complex environment makes the characteristics of Traditional songs in Sichuan Province also show diversity (Qin, 2017).

Second, a long history. Human civilization began to appear in Sichuan 25,000 years ago, and a highly developed ancient Shu civilization represented by Baodun Culture, Sanxingdui Site, Luojiaba Site, and Jinsha Site was formed in the late Neolithic Age. The ancient Shu civilization, Huaxia civilization, and Liangzhu civilization are called the three ancient civilizations in China. The long history has preserved a large number of Traditional songs, which can be used as a tool for studying history, or as a means of modern oral history for historical research and music history research. For example, Qin Zhenchuan mentioned in his thesis that "the history of the Sichuan region is also undergoing changes. At the beginning, in the remnants of Huguang's filling of Sichuan, after the wave of immigrants, immigrants and indigenous people from all over the world were going through a stage of conflict and adjustment. Late Qing Dynasty the course of opening Chongqing as a port during the Anti-Japanese War and Chongqing as an accompanying capital during the Anti-Japanese War brought major cultural changes to the local area, and also provided a source of historical facts for the study of the distribution and spatial differences of Traditional songs. The terrain of Sichuan is complex and diverse, with plains, mountains, The diverse terrains such as hills and river valleys provide sufficient natural conditions for the formation of the differences in the Traditional songs of the Han people in Sichuan. The Han people in Sichuan have rich and colorful Traditional song art, and it is necessary to sort out and analyze their evolution and development from the perspective of historical geography" (Lei, 2021).

Third, special cultural customs. Sichuan Province is a multi-ethnic gathering place. The main ethnic group is the Han nationality, and there are also ethnic minorities such as: Yi, Tibetan, Qiang, Miao, Tujia, Lisu, Naxi, Buyi, Bai, Zhuang, Dai and so on. The fusion between ethnic groups communicates through music, for example, the Han people in Sichuan Province make love by singing Traditional songs. Tibetan Traditional songs in Sichuan are mainly concentrated in Ganzi and Aba, and Aba is also the core area for displaying Tibetan culture. Influenced by the plateau terrain and unique Tibetan cultural customs in this area, the Mountain songs created have very unique and strong Tibetan characteristics (Lei, 2021).

## **Literature review**

Traditional songs in Chongqing, China, have a long history and their development has carried the profound history, culture and musical and artistic qualities of the Chongqing area. In the history of traditional Chinese music development, Chongqing traditional songs occupy a very important position. In the origin and development of Chongqing traditional songs, scholars have different studies and analyses.

Some scholars believe that the traditional songs of Chongqing originated in the Tang Dynasty and have a profound historical origin, and their style has rich national characteristics. Some other scholars believe that the development of Chongqing traditional songs originated in the Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties, with strong local characteristics.

In modern times, the Chongqing municipal government has organized some folk music groups, such as the Bayu Folk Music Group, which have gained more recognition and support from people. Meanwhile, in contemporary society, Chongqing traditional songs have received more attention and support in the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage. People also attach great importance to the transmission and development of Chongqing traditional songs, including the importance and promotion of education.

The traditional songs of Chongqing, China, have been cherished and inherited by the people because of their diversified and high artistic value, and are a part of the deep-rooted traditional Chinese culture. Chongqing traditional songs are the representatives of the folk song culture of Bayu region and have unique musical characteristics and cultural connotations. The discussion on the history of the development of Chongqing traditional songs can be developed from the following four aspects.

As for the origin of traditional songs in Chongqing, many scholars believe that their origin was in the Ming and Qing dynasties. Because in that era, the terrain of the Bayu region was dangerous and the new boat had an important transportation function, the cultural phenomenon of singing and harmonizing was quite common in various local operas and folk cultures. At the same time, records of "singing color" can be found in historical documents and archaeological excavations (Lei, 2021).

In addition, there are studies that point out that the birth and development of Chongqing traditional songs are inextricably linked to the cultural and historical environment of the Bayu people. The traditional songs of Chongqing, established in Baoshan and Shuhui, are also different from the folk songs of the surrounding areas in terms of music and lyrics, which have been passed down to this day. The development history of traditional songs in Chongqing can be roughly divided into three stages: the civil society stage, the new democratic revolutionary period and the new period. During the civil society period, folk music groups in Bayu began to take shape, thus creating a small climax of traditional songs in Chongqing. During the period of the New Democratic Revolution, the folk music groups in the Bayu area received attention

from the government, and the "Chongqing Folk Music Troupe" emerged. In the new era, along with the development of China's reform and opening up, the market economy gradually took shape, and traditional songs and contemporary popular music and arts intermingled and regained vitality and vigor.

## **Research Objectives**

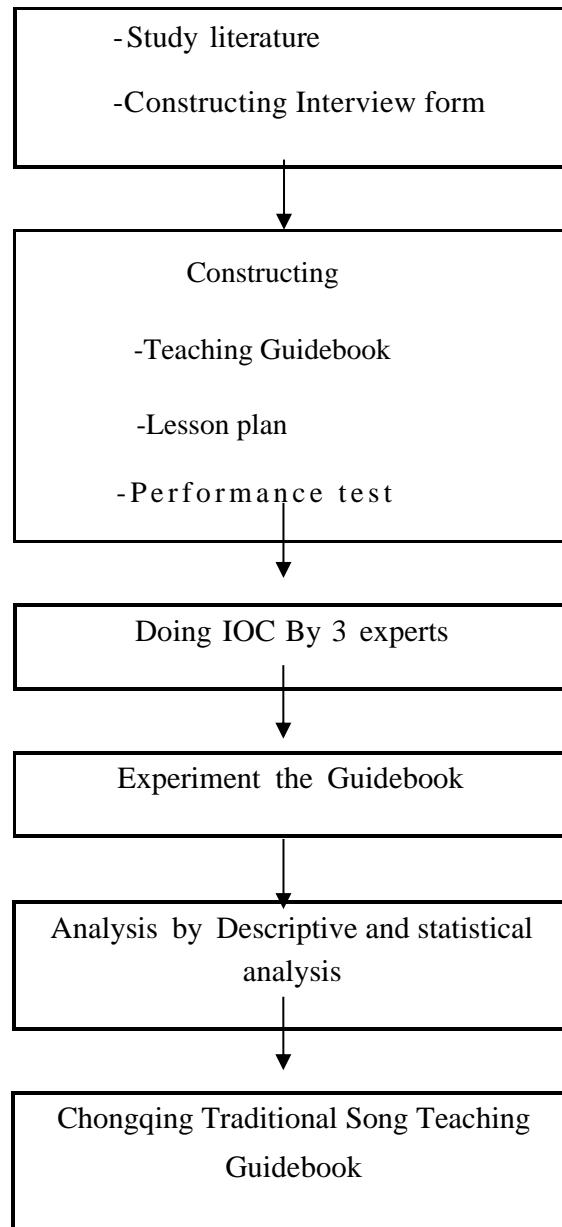
1. To study Chongqing Traditional songs in Chengdu for vocal music students.
2. To construct teaching guidebook for Chongqing Traditional songs for vocal music students in Chengdu university.
3. To experiment the Chongqing Traditional songs Teaching guidebook to the vocal music students experimental group.
4. To find out the efficiency of the Chongqing Traditional song guidebook.

## **Research Methodology**

This research is the mix method research. The population in experimental research was 20 first year vocal music students from the Department of Music of Chengdu University. The sample was 10 students selected by purposive sampling, First to tenth place for first-year vocal students at Chengdu University. aged 19-20 years old.

The qualitative research conducted by interview 3 key informants which are 1) Ma Chuang: Teacher of vocal music in the School of Music of Southwest University, in Chongqing, National Grade 3 actor of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, expert in singing Traditional songs in Chongqing. 2) Ma Jun: Associate professor of vocal music in the Conservatory of Music of Southwest University, in Chongqing, national Grade II actor, the first prize in the ethnic group of the 12th CCTV Youth TV Singing Competition (Chongqing Region). 3) Zhang Shimei, soprano, is the director of the vocal department of the Conservatory of Music of Southwest University, in Chongqing, and is an expert in singing Traditional songs in Chongqing.

## Conceptual Framework



**Figure 1** Conceptual Framework

## Research Findings

### 1. Chongqing Traditional songs in Chengdu for vocal music students

The significance of learning traditional Chongqing songs is to help learners better understand and sing traditional Chongqing songs. Chongqing traditional songs can help learners better understand and master vocal techniques, improve Sichuan dialect and singing ability, and deepen their understanding of song emotion, melody, and intonation. Through interviews with three key informants, it was determined that Chongqing traditional songs have unique melodies and dialects. The practice of Chongqing traditional songs helps train students' breath, dialect, tone, melody and emotion. Students can better understand and grasp the relationship between different songs and thus more accurately use their singing skills to sing. By mastering the dialect, they can better grasp the emotion of the songs. Traditional Chongqing songs have unique melodies, and singing these songs helps develop vocal skills. Learning traditional Chongqing songs can be a fun and engaging way to learn and practice vocal music. It can help students develop their singing skills, especially in the areas of breath and emotion. Singing in different languages and musical styles can also improve students' articulation and language skills.

All three experts clearly answered the importance of Chongqing traditional songs in vocal training. They agreed that Chongqing traditional songs have unique melodies and rhythms, and using Chongqing traditional songs as vocal teaching repertoire can help students better understand and master singing techniques, improve their singing ability, and deepen their understanding of dialect, breathing, pitch, rhythm and emotion. Chongqing traditional songs have distinct melodies and rhythms, which help train students to understand the music. Students can better understand and grasp the relationship between different songs and thus sing them more accurately. By mastering the rhythm of Chongqing traditional songs, students can better grasp the beat and sense of rhythm. Chongqing traditional songs usually use pentatonic scales, and listening and singing these melodies helps develop pitch stability and intonation. Learning traditional Chongqing songs can be a fun and engaging way to learn vocal music. It can help students develop their singing skills, especially in the areas of pitch and emotion. Singing in the dialect can also improve students' articulation and language skills. Before learning the melodies of traditional Chongqing songs, some basic vocal exercises need to be practiced. This helps students to open their throats and move the muscles of the various parts needed for singing, and also helps them to better understand and master the melodies of the songs, and can help them to develop musical memory and emotional expression. It can help them quickly master the melody and rhythm of traditional Chongqing songs. Practice from different dimensions, such as breathing exercises, pitch exercises, rhythm exercises, melodic variations, etc. The diversity and richness of the melodies of Chongqing traditional songs provide rich material for vocal singing, a skill that requires constant practice and improvement. Different teaching methods can be used to help students understand and practice traditional Chongqing songs. Songs should be chosen according to the students' singing level and age, and should increase in difficulty gradually from simple to complex. The melodies should be easy to learn, with appropriate ranges and clear rhythms. Through long practice, students' singing level will surely improve.

## **2. Constructing Chongqing traditional songs Teaching Guidebook:**

Chongqing Traditional Songs Teaching guidebook consisted of: (1) Introduction, (2) How to use the Chongqing Traditional Songs Teaching guidebook, (3) Basic Vocal Exercises, (4) Advanced Vocal Exercises, (5) Method of Teaching and songs, (6) Music notation of songs, (7) Lesson plan.

Constructing Chongqing Traditional Songs Teaching guidebook for vocal music students in Chengdu University. Vocal learning is a skill that requires constant practice and improvement in different dimensions such as language, rhythm, breath, melody, and emotion. Different teaching methods can be used to help students understand and practice the melodies of traditional Chongqing songs. The diversity and richness of the melodies of Chongqing traditional songs provide a rich source of material for vocal learning. Singing using Sichuan dialect can help students better understand and grasp the connotations of the songs and can better help them express the emotions of the songs. Traditional songs from Chongqing should be chosen according to the vocal level and age of the students, and the difficulty should increase gradually from simple to complex. The melody should be easy to learn, with an appropriate range and clear rhythm.

## **3. Teaching Chongqing Traditional Songs Guidebook to Students Experimental group**

This guidebook is divided into 7 chapters. The chapter1 is an introduction, the chapter2 is the introduces how to use this exercise book, the chapter3 is details the exercises for basic vocal training songs, and the chapter4 is introduces the exercises for advanced vocal training songs. Chapter5 introduces nine traditional songs of Chongqing, "The Sun Comes Out in Joy", "The Trumpet of the Chuan River Boatman", "Picking Flowers", "Laurel Blossoms in August", "The Yellow Sheep Stretcher", "Picking Grapes", "Gardenia Er Shun Wall Planting", "I Follow the Red Army to the Revolution", and "Hanging Clothes", all of which are introduced and practiced in detail. Chapter6 is the song score, and Chapter7 is the lesson plan.

## **4. Experimenting with lesson plans from the Chongqing Traditional Song Teaching Guide Book in the student experimental group:**

The first formative test was scheduled after the Fourth week of instruction. percentage = 85.6%.

The second formative test was scheduled after the Eighth week of instruction: percentage =88.8%.

The third formative test was scheduled after the Twelfth week of instruction: Percentage = 90.4%

The summative test was scheduled after the sixteenth week of instruction. It showed percentage of 95.2%

The comparison of the formative and summative scores of 88.7% and 95.2%, respectively, shows that the students' scores are gradually improving, indicating that they have made great progress by using this lesson plan.

Quality validation of Chongqing traditional song guidebook usually includes analysis and evaluation of the guide book content, including difficulty, knowledge and skills covered, and types and forms of exercises. The researchers constructed a Chongqing traditional song guidebook and validated it by three experts. The evaluation showed that the content and quality of the guide book met educational standards and teaching requirements, and helped learners improve their vocal singing ability. By using the guide book to optimize teaching methods and content, the quality of vocal singing can be improved, and the effectiveness and quality of student

learning can be enhanced. Vocal learning is the training of vocal skills through visual and auditory senses, including language, melody, intonation, emotion, and the ability to accurately grasp pitch and rhythm. The importance of learning Chongqing traditional songs is that it helps vocal learners in their basic training, it helps vocal learners to better understand music, improve their performance ability and musical expression, and improve their singing level. The Guide Book of Chongqing Traditional Songs is a practice material specially developed for vocal music students at Chengdu University to train their singing ability. It contains a series of basic vocal exercises, advanced vocal exercises and songs. It is an important tool to help vocal learners improve their dialect ability, breath ability, ability to control melody, ability to sing intonation and improve singing emotion, musicality and self-confidence.

## Discussion

It is the responsibility of all of us to preserve and pass on our traditional national cultural heritage. Chongqing. Folk songs are an excellent intangible cultural heritage protection in China, and its development is closely related to people's life. Chongqing folk songs include two important elements: the expression of intangible cultural heritage. The folk song is a kind of folk literature, including folk myths, legends, stories and folk songs. The folk songs of Chongqing include two important elements: the expression of intangible cultural heritage, which is a kind of folk literature, including myths, legends, stories and folk songs. The propagation and development of traditional culture cannot be separated from the public places where culture is held. The folk songs of Chongqing folk culture are a valuable resource in our traditional culture. Folk songs are a perfect combination of art into life. Some local folk songs in Chongqing have a special rhythm and It is a cultural art form of ancient civilization, expressing. The traditional local folk songs are gradually dying out, and the economy is constantly changing. However, these traditional local folk song cultures are gradually dying out, and as the economy continues to develop, these cultures are gradually moving away from people's lives. It is important to study the development of folk song culture, which is our cultural heritage (Sun, 2017).

Chongqing's ethnic minorities are mainly concentrated in the southeastern part of Chongqing, and Chongqing is distributed. This is one of the main features of Chongqing's ethnic distribution. The borders of these ethnic minority areas with Xiang and Qian regions make cross-regional cultural. cultural exchanges between these minority areas and Xiang and Guizhou regions, thus enabling a larger cultural circle of minority groups to be formed. Minority cultures provide the foundation for the birth of minority folk songs. The minority culture provides the basic conditions for the birth of minority folk songs. Chongqing is relatively rich in minority folk songs, for example, there is a large number of folk songs and aesthetic culture in southeast Chongqing. There are a large number of folk songs and aesthetic culture in southeast Chongqing, for example, "The Sun Comes Out Joyfully" has a high reputation at home and abroad. For example, "The Sun Comes Out and the Sun Shines" has a high reputation at home and abroad. Chongqing's minority folk songs are not only the art of the field, but also a unique. The few famous folk songs of Chongqing are not only the art of the field, but also a unique regional culture or watershed culture (Lv & Sui, 2022).

Sichuan folk songs are an important teaching material for vocal music in colleges and universities. Not only can they play a role in music performance training, but also It has the value of aesthetic education and cultural education. In the teaching practice In the teaching practice,

teachers should not only guide students to interpret and analyze the basic musical in their teaching practice, teachers should not only guide students to interpret and analyze the basic musical forms of Sichuan folk songs, but also to awaken their awareness of the intangible cultural heritage. The teacher should not only guide the students to interpret and analyze the basic musical forms of Sichuan folk songs, but also to awaken their awareness of the intangible cultural heritage, including Sichuan folk songs. The teacher should not only guide the students to interpret and analyze the basic musical forms of Sichuan folk songs, but also to awaken their awareness of their own heritage, responsibility and cultural confidence (Hou, 2021).

The construction of the curriculum of the Traditional Song guidebook of Chongqing has had a positive impact on the teaching of vocal music students at Chengdu University. It has promoted the development of vocal music curriculum for college students, which can innovate and optimize the content of vocal music teaching for college students, and has positive significance for students' professional improvement and comprehensive ability exercise.

The researcher concluded that with the gradual improvement of people's living standards in China and the deepening of people's quality education, college vocal music courses should become more and more perfect and follow the development of the times. In the current university vocal music classes, teachers are eager to find quality teaching methods for vocal music classes because of the large number of students in the whole class and the difficulty of teaching each child more efficiently when time is available. Since music education majors in Chinese colleges and universities basically train music teachers in primary and secondary schools, there is not enough training for college vocal lessons, and there are few channels for teachers to teach and research, so there is no relatively perfect education system, teaching methods and teaching materials. It is important to study and explore how to better teach vocal music to college students and cultivate more confident students to meet the needs of society. At the same time it is challenging.

One of the paths that voice teachers are eager to explore and study is to establish a new curriculum. We need to think deeply about what it means to build a "voice teaching" curriculum and practice. We know that teachers who are currently teaching voice are using textbooks and lesson plans that are too old, and there is no place to find new lesson plans. Most are teaching through their own experience and are not meeting the needs of their students for teaching outcomes in singing performance.

In this thesis, we interviewed key professional informants, studied a large amount of literature to summarize the teaching rules of vocal music teaching, and after a lot of practice to verify, we developed a method of teaching using "traditional songs of Chongqing". Through the analysis and conclusion, the construction of the "Chongqing Traditional Songs" course can have a positive impact on the development of university vocal music teaching courses. It is a valuable new course.

## Recommendation

### 1. Practical Recommendations

1) This study did not make a demonstration of the stage performance of the songs in the experiment. Therefore, if there is enough time, subsequent researchers who want to make use of this study can focus on solving the problems of practical application and stage performance.

2) After the issues of practical application and stage performance have been addressed. This approach could also be used by subsequent researchers for this study.

### 2. Recommendation for future research

1) Researchers who want to continue to study the topic of Chongqing traditional songs should select more styles of Chongqing traditional songs and Chongqing dialect songs and increase the number of students.

2) Future researchers can choose music with different difficulty levels according to the students' gender and singing ability.

3) Follow-up researchers should adopt more scientific music teaching methods to improve the quality of teaching traditional Chongqing song pieces.

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