

# The Development and Characteristics of Chinese 24 Solar Terms Ancient Poetry Works

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## Abstract

The fusion of ancient poetry and music is not only a superficial combination of two art forms, but also a deep fusion and resonance between culture and music. In Gong Linna's folk song creation, we see a perfect embodiment of this fusion. She combines the profound artistic conception of ancient poetry with the moving melody of music, creating music scrolls that vividly showcase the natural beauty of the 24 solar terms and deeply touch people's hearts. Gong Linna's selection and application of ancient poetry can be considered ingenious. She not only carefully selected ancient poems closely related to various solar terms, but also through the brushstrokes of music, let these ancient words shine with new life in modern music. Every ancient poem in her works seems to have turned into vivid movements, flowing with the blood of the times and beating with modern emotions.

**Keywords:** The Development and Characteristics of Chinese 24 Solar Terms Ancient Poetry Works

## Introduction

The 24 solar terms in China originated from the ancient Chinese people's observation of the movement of the sun on the ecliptic and the rotation of the earth, as well as their understanding of natural phenomena such as climate, agriculture, flora and fauna. This observation and understanding have been recorded in Chinese history, dating back to the Spring and Autumn period and the Warring States period.

The earliest people to determine the solar term were the ancient Chinese agricultural peoples. They judge seasonal changes and crop growth by observing the position of the sun in the sky and changes in light intensity. Based on these observations, farmers divide the year into 24 solar terms, each separated by approximately 15 days, to guide agricultural activities.

These solar terms were first recorded in ancient books such as "Yu Gong" and "Zhou Li" in the Book of Documents. In the Han Dynasty, the Huainanzi detailed the origin and characteristics of the 24 solar terms. With the passage of time, the names and divisions of solar terms gradually became fixed and became an important part of the lives of the Chinese people.

During the Tang Dynasty, Li Chunfeng's "Hundred Questions on Seasons" further systematically summarized the characteristics and significance of solar terms. During the Song Dynasty, books such as Sun Simiao's "Qi Min Yao Shu" and Yuan Dynasty's "Yu Pian" further elaborated on the division of solar terms and customs.

In 104 BC, the Taichu Calendar, formulated by Deng Xiaoping, officially established the 24 solar terms in the calendar and clarified the astronomical positions of the 24 solar terms. Since then, the "24 solar terms" have become the 24 specific seasons representing seasonal changes in the Ganzhi calendar (or lunar calendar), accurately reflecting natural rhythmic changes and playing an extremely important role in people's daily lives (Chen, 2023).

With the progress and development of society, research on the 24 solar terms in China has developed rapidly, and people's attention to the 24 solar terms is increasing day by day. Especially since the successful application for inclusion in the World Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2016, there has been a high enthusiasm from all sectors of society for the research, promotion, and promotion of the 24 solar terms. The 24 solar terms are not only a time system that guides agricultural production, but also a folk system that contains rich folk customs. It contains a long cultural connotation and historical accumulation and is an important component of the long history and culture of the Chinese nation. This knowledge system is the result of ancient ancestors following the agricultural season, observing the movement of celestial bodies, and understanding the laws of seasonal, climate, phenology, and other changes during the year.

## **Characteristics of Gong Linna's "24 solar terms ancient poetry, lyrics, and folk songs"**

### **Integrating Ancient Poetry and Music**

The charm of this integrated art form lies not only in the simple combination of ancient poetry and music, but also in their mutual stimulation and enhancement. The profound artistic conception of ancient poetry provides vast imaginative space for music, and the melody and rhythm of music in turn deepen the emotional expression of ancient poetry. For example, in Gong Linna's works, when using Du Fu's "Spring Night Rain" as the lyrics, she showcases the delicacy and tenderness of spring rain, as well as the vitality of life, through light and lively melodies and delicate rhythmic changes. When choosing Bai Juyi's "Ask Liu Nineteen", she creates a warm atmosphere of cooking wine in a winter furnace through deep and powerful melodies, allowing people to feel the warmth and tranquility of home during the cold winter solstice (Huang, 2020).

In addition, Gong Linna's integrated creation also reflects her profound understanding and innovative application of traditional culture. She not only inherits the essence of ancient poetry in music, but also injects new vitality into traditional culture through modern musical techniques. This fusion not only brings new brilliance to ancient poetry in music, but also makes music more profound and rich in connotation nurtured by ancient poetry. Gong Linna's folk song creation is not only an artistic expression, but also a cultural inheritance and innovation. She allows us to re-examine the charm of traditional culture and feel the infinite power of music and culture by integrating ancient poetry and music. Her works have opened a door to the depths of traditional culture for us, allowing us to appreciate the vastness and profoundness of Chinese culture while enjoying music. Furthermore, Gong Linna's integrated creation also provides important inspiration for our contemporary art creation. In today's increasingly globalized world, how to maintain and promote the cultural characteristics of our own nation is a question that every artist needs to consider. Gong Linna's creative practice tells us that only by organically combining traditional culture with modern artistic techniques can we create art works that have both national characteristics and international influence. Her successful practice has provided us with a feasible path, which is to deeply explore

traditional cultural resources, combine modern artistic techniques for recreation, and promote the modern transformation and innovative development of traditional culture. Meanwhile, this integration also reflects Gong Linna's profound understanding and respect for traditional culture. She is not only singing ancient poetry, but also inheriting and promoting the essence of Chinese culture through music. In her singing, we can feel the ancient people's reverence for nature, love for life, and longing for a better future. In addition, Gong Linna's fusion creation also has high artistic value. Her works not only showcase the beauty of ancient poetry, but also inject new vitality into traditional culture through innovative musical expression. This fusion not only brings new brilliance to ancient poetry in music, but also makes music more profound and rich in meaning nurtured by ancient poetry (Gagne, 2024).

Overall, Gong Linna's folk song creation perfectly combines ancient poetry with music, vividly showcasing the natural beauty and humanistic sentiment of the 24 solar terms through changes in melody and rhythm. This fusion not only reflects her profound understanding and respect for traditional culture, but also showcases her artistic talent and innovative spirit. Her works not only allow people to rediscover the beauty of ancient poetry, but also make them feel the infinite charm of music and culture. The artistic value and cultural significance of this fusion creation are worthy of our in-depth research and exploration.

#### **Rich and varied styles**

The rich and varied styles are not only a prominent label of Gong Linna's "24 solar terms ancient poetry, lyrics, and folk songs", but also a symbol of the flourishing branches and leaves of her art. In her music world, every song is like a brilliant star, shining brightly in the night sky of music, emitting a unique and charming light. Gong Linna's mastery of traditional folk songs can be described as impeccable. She deeply digs into the treasure house of traditional folk songs, absorbs the essence from them, and then integrates these ancient melodies and rhythms into her works in a new way. This fusion is not simply a combination or imitation, but a creative transformation and innovative development based on a profound understanding of the cultural connotations and musical characteristics of traditional folk songs. Therefore, when we listen to her singing, it seems like we can cross the tunnel of time and space, return to those ancient times, and feel that simple and sincere emotion. However, Gong Linna did not stop at tradition. She has a forward-looking perspective and bravely introduces innovative techniques of modern music into her works, breaking the boundary between tradition and modernity. The addition of modern music elements injects new vitality and contemporary atmosphere into traditional folk songs, making the entire collection retain both traditional charm and modern rhythm. This cross generational fusion not only gave her musical works a broader audience base, but also gave traditional folk songs new life and meaning (Tang, 2019).

The richness and variability of style are also reflected in the theme and emotional expression of the song. Gong Linna's every song revolves around a specific solar term, vividly depicting the natural scenery and humanistic feelings of each solar term through the perfect combination of music and poetry. For example, the vibrant spring equinox, the scorching summer solstice, the golden autumn equinox, and the snowy winter solstice... In her singing, we seem to be able to immerse ourselves in the scenes of various solar terms, feeling the extraordinary craftsmanship of nature and the profound cultural heritage. This creative approach based on solar terms not only endows the portfolio with distinct themes and profound connotations, but also allows the audience to have a deeper understanding and insight into traditional Chinese culture while enjoying music. In addition to the fusion of

music and poetry, Gong Linna also cleverly employs various musical elements and techniques to enrich the expressive power of her works. She flexibly uses different tones, rhythms, and melodies to create various atmospheres and emotional expressions. Sometimes she sings the freshness and brightness of spring with a clear and ethereal voice; Sometimes, with a deep and rich tone, it interprets the tranquility and depth of winter. This versatile music style fills her works with a sense of hierarchy and dynamic beauty, allowing listeners to wander and imagine in the ocean of music. Gong Linna's "24 solar terms ancient poetry and folk songs" can achieve rich and varied styles because of her profound understanding and superb skills in music. She not only possesses a solid foundation in music, but also has a keen artistic intuition and innovative ability. This allows her to freely shuttle between tradition and modernity, creating music works that are both in line with traditional aesthetics and full of modernity. In addition, the richness and variety of this style also bring great artistic enjoyment to the audience. Every song is like a beautiful scroll, making people intoxicated and unforgettable. When the audience appreciates these songs, they can not only feel the profound cultural heritage of traditional culture, but also find resonance and emotion in the rhythm of modern music (Yang, 2017).

Overall, Gong Linna's "24 solar terms ancient poetry, lyrics, and folk songs" have successfully attracted the attention and love of a large audience due to their rich and varied styles. This fusion of traditional and modern music style not only showcases Gong Linna's outstanding musical talent and innovative spirit, but also allows people to deeply feel the unique charm and era value of Chinese traditional culture while enjoying music. This cross generational fusion of art undoubtedly provides us with a brand new way of artistic experience, allowing people to find a moment of tranquility and comfort in their busy lives.

#### **Conveying the wisdom and beauty of solar terms**

Conveying the wisdom and beauty of the solar terms is the profound meaning carried by Gong Linna's "24 solar terms ancient poetry, lyrics, and folk songs". In these songs, she uses music as a medium to convey the natural changes of the 24 solar terms to us, while also revealing the indescribable beauty of harmonious coexistence between humans and nature. The 24 solar terms are a unique product of ancient Chinese agricultural culture, accurately marking the natural climate change and the growth cycle of crops. Gong Linna uses songs to bring new brilliance to these ancient knowledge of solar terms. Each song seems like a small story, telling the natural rhythms of spring plowing, summer sowing, autumn harvest, and winter storage. In the singing, we can clearly feel the cycle of the four seasons and how human activities are closely linked to this natural rhythm. But Gong Linna's songs are not just a simple imparting of knowledge about solar terms. More importantly, she demonstrated a concept of harmonious coexistence between humans and nature through music. In her singing, humanity is no longer the ruler or destroyer of nature, but a part of nature, growing and prospering together with all things. The communication of this concept is particularly important and precious in the context of increasingly serious environmental problems today. In addition to conveying the concept of harmonious coexistence, Gong Linna's songs also guide us to feel and experience the wisdom and beauty of traditional solar terms. In these songs, she cleverly blends ancient poetry and music, allowing us to not only appreciate the charm and artistic conception of ancient poetry while listening, but also deeply feel the unique atmosphere and emotions brought by the solar terms. For example, in the songs of the Spring Equinox, we can feel the warmth and vitality of spring; In the songs of the Winter Solstice, we can experience the tranquility and warmth of winter (Yao, 2023).

This kind of communication of the wisdom and beauty of solar terms is not only the inheritance of traditional culture, but also an inspiration for modern life. In the fast-paced and high-pressure modern life, we often overlook the natural changes and beautiful things around us. And Gong Linna's songs are like a window, allowing us to re-examine and feel the world around us, regain that reverence for nature and love for life. Furthermore, Gong Linna is actually advocating a lifestyle attitude and values through her musical works. She encourages us to pay attention to nature, respect nature, conform to nature, and live in harmony with nature. At the same time, she also reminds us to cherish every moment, to feel and experience the beauty and wisdom in life. The communication of this attitude towards life and values undoubtedly has positive significance for our spiritual life and social development.

Overall, Gong Linna's "24 solar terms ancient poetry and folk songs" not only convey the natural changes of the 24 solar terms, but also demonstrate the beauty of harmonious coexistence between humans and nature, guiding people to feel and experience the wisdom and beauty of traditional solar terms. This cross-border artistic integration and innovative attempt not only enriches our artistic life, but also provides us with a new way of understanding and experiencing the world. Through her music works, we can gain a deeper understanding and experience of the profound and contemporary value of traditional Chinese culture.

## **The Development and Characteristics of Chinese 24 Solar Terms Ancient Poetry Works**

### **Origin and Early Development**

The origin of the 24 solar terms in China is deeply rooted in the soil of ancient agricultural culture, and this traditional way of dividing time can be traced back to the ancient Zhou Dynasty. In that era, agriculture was the economic pillar of the country, and people needed to arrange farming, harvesting, and other agricultural activities according to changes in the weather. In order to better guide agricultural production, observing and summarizing celestial phenomena and climate became an important task at that time. The Book of Rites, as an ancient book that records the system of the Zhou Dynasty's laws and regulations, has clearly defined the classification of the four seasons of the year and the corresponding names of the twenty-four solar terms. The establishment of this system not only reflects the ancient people's meticulous observation of the changes in time, but also demonstrates their profound understanding and respect for the laws of nature. Each solar term represents a specific natural climate state and also indicates corresponding agricultural activities. However, the establishment of the 24 solar terms was not achieved overnight but went through a long and complex process of calendar development. Ancient calendars gradually improved and optimized the division of solar terms through precise observation of the sun, moon, and stars, combined with the needs of agricultural production practice. They not only determined the exact dates for each solar term, but also detailed the weather changes, phenological phenomena, and agricultural activities corresponding to each solar term (He, 2017).

During this process, ancient poetry, as a unique cultural carrier, began to closely integrate with the 24 solar terms. Poets capture the unique atmosphere and charm of each solar term with keen insight and delicate emotions. They use beautiful poetry to depict the tender green of spring, the warmth of summer, the golden color of autumn, and the pure white of winter, blending the magnificent scenery of nature with people's emotions. These ancient poetry works are not only vivid records of natural changes, but also profound expressions of people's emotions and observations. Poets convey their reverence for nature and unique insights into time and life through their poetry. These works are like vivid historical scrolls, allowing us to cross the tunnel of time and space, and feel the ancient people's understanding and experience of solar terms (Torri, 2024). In addition, the combination of the 24 solar terms and ancient poetry also reflects the unique charm and profound connotations of ancient culture. This combination not only enriches the creative themes and expressive techniques of ancient poetry, but also allows for a deeper exploration and dissemination of the cultural connotations of the 24 solar terms. Through these ancient poetry works, we can have a more comprehensive understanding of the way of life, way of thinking, and values of ancient people (Yao, 2023).

Overall, the origin and early development of the 24 solar terms in China are closely related to ancient agricultural culture. In this process, ancient poetry, as an important cultural carrier, formed a close combination with the 24 solar terms. This combination not only showcases ancient people's meticulous observation and profound understanding of nature, but also inherits rich cultural connotations and humanistic spirit. By conducting in-depth research on these ancient poetry works, we can gain a deeper understanding of the charm and value of ancient culture.

### **The Integration of Literary Creation and Solar Terms**

With the passage of time, Chinese literati and literati began to turn their attention to the natural solar terms closely related to people's lives. The 24 solar terms, a traditional way of dividing time, have gradually become an important theme in their writings. These writers, using their talents and wisdom, vividly depict the uniqueness of each solar term. In these poetic creations, we can see that the rain and dew of spring moisten the earth, and the scene of all things reviving leaps out between the lines of the poem. The heat of the summer solstice, the coolness of the autumn equinox, and the coldness of the winter solstice are all depicted by them with delicate brushstrokes (Cheng, 2023). Each solar term seems to be a vivid story, with both the magnificent scenery of nature and people's joy, sorrow, and hope. When writers depict the spring equinox, we seem to feel the tender green willows, delicate flowers, and the joyful songs of birds. Their poetry is filled with joy and anticipation for new things, and the vibrant vitality makes one's heart surge. At the summer solstice, the earth seems to be panting under the scorching sun, but poets can find the beauty in it and use words to draw us pictures of summer scenery. Turning to autumn, the arrival of the autumnal equinox signifies that the season of harvest is approaching. Poets praise the generosity of the earth with their brushstrokes, while also expressing respect for the hard work of farmers. And when the winter solstice approaches, with cold winds and white snow, literati convey a sense of tranquility and resilience through poetry, telling us that even in the coldest winter days, warmth and hope exist.

These ancient poetry works are not only simple descriptions of solar terms, but also delve deeper into the cultural connotations behind each solar term. For example, Qingming is not only a day for sweeping graves and worshipping ancestors, but also represents nostalgia and respect for our ancestors; The winter solstice symbolizes the birth of the cathode and yang, and all things are about to begin a new cycle. In addition, these ancient poems also incorporate a lot of humanistic sentiments (Sun, 2023). Poets express their emotions towards the flow of time, their appreciation for life, and their longing for harmonious coexistence between humans and nature through the depiction of solar terms. Their works are not only praises of nature, but also displays of human emotions and wisdom. It is worth mentioning that these ancient poetry works also occupy an important position in literary history. They have become a model for later literati to learn with their unique artistic charm and profound cultural connotations. Every poem is like a brilliant gem, embedded in the treasures of Chinese culture, shining brightly (Yang, 2024).

Overall, the integration of literary creation and solar terms is a major feature of Chinese culture. This fusion is not only reflected in the surface depiction of poetry, but also delves deeper into the core of culture, showcasing the subtle relationship between humans and nature, as well as between humans and time. Through these ancient poetry works we can have a deeper understanding of China's traditional culture and humanistic spirit.

### **Inheritance and Innovation: The Beauty of the Integration of Classical and Modern**

With the passage of time, history has opened a new page, and we have ushered in modern society. In this era, culture, art, and technology are all developing at an unprecedented speed, and people's aesthetic and emotional experiences are constantly changing and enriching. It is in this context that the ancient poetry works of the 24 solar terms not only inherit ancient culture, but also quietly integrate new elements and ideas, radiating new vitality and energy. Inheritance is the root of culture, which enables us to draw on the nourishment of history and stand on the shoulders of our predecessors to see further. As an important component of traditional Chinese culture, ancient poems and works of the 24 solar terms carry rich historical information and profound cultural heritage. These works convey to us the ancient people's keen observation and profound understanding of natural changes through their refined writing, beautiful rhythms, and profound artistic conception. In modern society, these precious cultural heritages have not faded over time, but are highly valued for their unique artistic charm and historical value. However, inheritance does not mean blindly copying the past. On the basis of preserving the charm and artistic conception of traditional poetry, modern poets and artists have injected new elements and ideas into the 24 solar terms ancient poetry works with an open mindset and innovative spirit. They combined the aesthetic needs and emotional experiences of modern people, using more diverse artistic techniques and forms of expression, and created a batch of excellent works that have both classical charm and modernity (Chen, 2023).

This innovation is not a tree without roots or water without a source but is based on a deep understanding of the essence of traditional culture. Modern poets have refined the essence of ancient poetry through in-depth study and speculation and created a series of innovative works combined with their unique understanding of nature, life and society. These works not only retain the beautiful rhythm and profound artistic conception of traditional poetry, but also integrate modern thoughts and emotions, forming a unique artistic style. For example, in poems depicting the Spring Equinox, modern poets may incorporate calls for environmental protection and express their yearning for harmonious coexistence between humans and nature; In poems depicting the autumnal equinox, they may incorporate joy of harvest and praise for the hard work of farmers. These new elements and ideas not only enrich the connotation of poetry, but also make it more in line with the practical life and emotional needs of modern people. In addition to innovation in content and ideology, modern 24 solar terms ancient poetry works also exhibit diverse characteristics in their forms of expression. Poets use modern poetic writing techniques such as symbolism, metaphor, and jumping narrative to make their works more tense and layered. At the same time, they also attempted to combine poetry with art forms such as music and painting to create a brand new artistic experience (Zhao, 2024).

## Conclusion

Overall, modern 24 solar terms ancient poetry works have found a balance between inheritance and innovation. They not only retain the essence and charm of traditional culture, but also integrate the thoughts and emotional experiences of modern people, presenting an aesthetic style that blends classical and modern. This style not only enriches our artistic life, but also provides us with a unique perspective to re-examine and experience traditional culture.

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