

Constructing Piano Accompaniment Guidebook of Shandong Folk Dancing for Teaching Piano Major Students at Shandong University of Arts

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Abstract

The objectives of this study were (1) to study Shandong folk dance from key informants, (2) to construct piano accompaniment guidebook of Shandong folk dancing for teaching Piano Major students at Shandong University of Arts, (3) to experiment the teaching by using piano accompaniment guidebook of Shandong folk dancing for teaching Piano Major students at Shandong University of Arts, and (4) to evaluate the teaching by using piano accompaniment guidebook of Shandong folk dancing for teaching Piano Major students at Shandong University of Arts. This study is a mixed method of qualitative research and quantitative research. The research tools of qualitative research are interview guide and observation form.

The research findings were China has made significant progress in piano solo performance in higher education, with Chinese pianists achieving international recognition. However, piano accompaniment remains undervalued, with limited courses and experience in this field. Strengthening piano accompaniment education, particularly for dance, can enhance the overall curriculum, align with market demands, and produce more versatile graduates. A teaching experiment at Shandong University of Arts, using a newly developed "Shandong Folk Dance Piano Accompaniment Guidebook," demonstrated the benefits of integrating traditional culture into accompaniment training. The 16-week course, involving theoretical and practical learning with dancers, significantly improved students' skills, showing the guidebook's effectiveness in enhancing piano accompaniment education.

Keywords: Constructing; Piano Accompaniment; Guidebook; Shandong Folk Dancing; Shandong University of Arts

Introduction

Yangko is one of the most representative folk songs and dances of the Han nationality in China. It has a history of nearly a thousand years in China. The book "New Year's Miscellaneous Chanting Copy" by Wu Xiqi, a scholar in the Qing dynasty records that "Yangko is the happiness in the village at night in the Southern Song Dynasty." It is believed that Happy Village, a popular folk dance in the Song Dynasty, is the predecessor of Yangko, and Yangko reached its peak in the Qing dynasty and Ming dynasty (Liu, 2020).

Yangko art has various forms and rich contents, which fully embodies the artistic talent and intelligence of the working people in China, and is the crystallization of China's excellent traditional culture. On May 20th, 2006, with the approval of the State Council, Yangko was listed as the first batch of national intangible cultural heritage. Yangko is a popular folk dance form in northern China, which mainly includes three categories: northeast Yangko dance, Shandong Yangko and northern Shaanxi Yangko. Shandong Yangko is the embodiment of the

traditional culture of the Han nationality, and it is also a unique dance form in Qilu. In 2008, Zhang Yinsong led Haiyang Yangko dance to attend the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games on behalf of Shandong, and showed the world the dance "Comfortable Days Twisted" with elements of Jiaozhou Yangko and Haiyang Yangko (Yu, 2011).

Yangko, the original ecological dance art culture, contains rich cultural value and spiritual strength. Compared with other dance art forms, this dance embodies people's imagination and creativity, is a unique yearning and understanding for a better life, and is an act of entertaining people for better production and life. The artistic form of Shandong Yangko reflects the authenticity, diversity and nationality of people's life in Shandong. It is the essence of a national culture and the source of its traditional culture. Yangko, as an original dance, has a natural aesthetic feeling. When it is performed, it will show the subject of harmony between man and nature, bring people a sense of tranquility and tranquility during the performance, and show the diversity of people's real life during the performance (Huang, 2017).

As one of the three categories of Yangko, Shandong Yangko is not only seen in various activities and competitions, but also regarded as one of the important compulsory courses in the courses of major art colleges, which is helpful to expand the influence and spread of the characteristic culture of Shandong Yangko music in society (Li, 2014).

Shandong Province is one of the areas where ancient culture developed earlier in China. The folk culture in Shandong is rich in artistic forms such as folk songs and dances, traditional opera music and national instrumental music, while the art of Shandong Yangko is more prominent among folk songs and dances, which is also the most representative of Han nationality's song and dance music. There are more kinds of Yangko in Shandong province, about 30 kinds, among which the three kinds of Shandong Yangko dance music, namely, Guzi Yangko, Jiaozhou Yangko and Haiyang Yangko, are outstanding, which are called the "three major Yangko" in Shandong and are also important representative songs of Shandong Yangko dance art.

Research Objectives

1. To study Shandong folk dance from key informants
2. To construct piano accompaniment guidebook of Shandong folk dancing for teaching Piano Major students at Shandong University of Arts
3. To experiment the teaching by using piano accompaniment guidebook of Shandong folk dancing for teaching Piano Major students at Shandong University of Arts
4. To evaluate the teaching by using piano accompaniment guidebook of Shandong folk dancing for teaching Piano Major students at Shandong University of Arts

Research Methodology

This study is a study on piano education among junior students majoring in piano at Shandong University of the Arts, mainly using qualitative methods. In 2023, there are more than 20 junior students majoring in piano at Shandong University of the Arts, all of whom have certain piano foundation and music performance ability. 10 students who are interested in Shandong singing and dancing and piano accompaniment were selected as the research subjects. Tests, evaluations and comparisons were conducted before and after the course, and the research results were summarized. Designed and studied the evaluation criteria for piano accompaniment of Shandong folk songs and dances. The validity of this study was verified through tests, surveys, and interviews.

Conceptual Framework

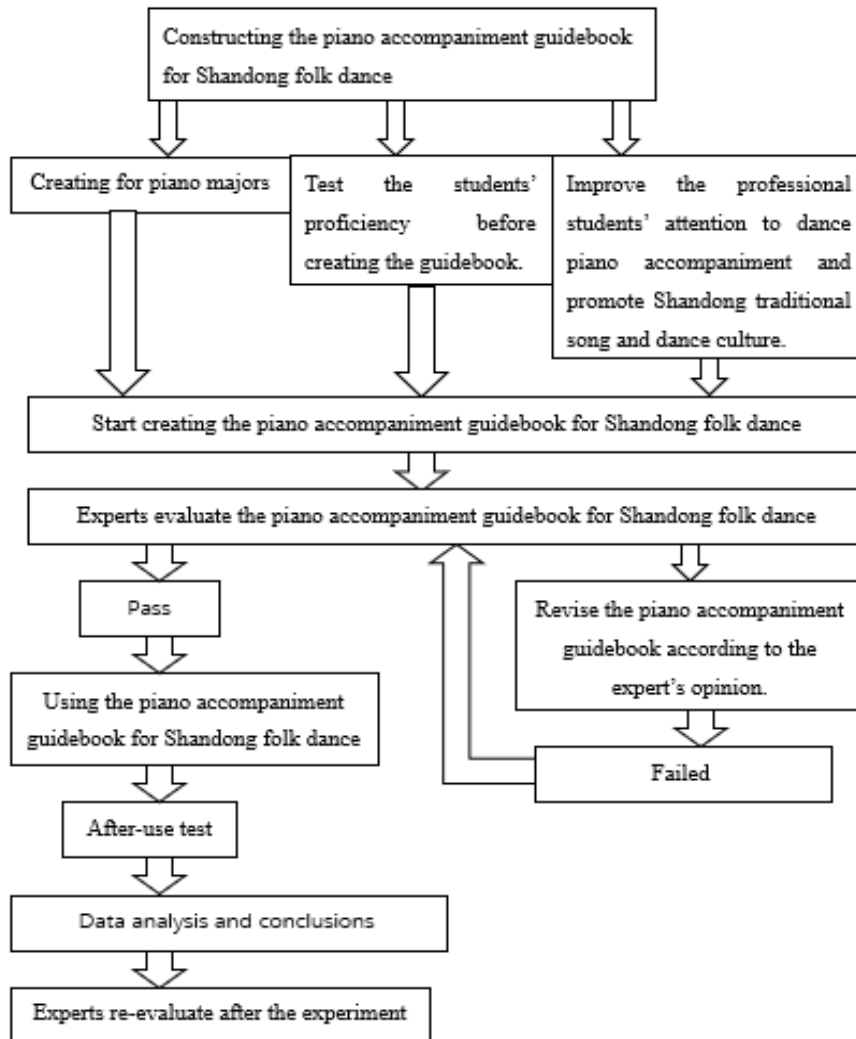


Figure 1 Conceptual Framework

Research Findings

At this stage, China piano playing higher education teaching has made great achievements in the solo field. China players have made great achievements in world-class piano competitions, and the teaching effect of China piano has been verified in terms of musical performance and technical difficulty. The rise of China pianist in the world music scene has strengthened our confidence in developing this educational cause. However, the field of piano accompaniment is far less valued than solo, and the course is short and the accumulated experience is insufficient. We still need to improve in all aspects of teaching and practice.

Strengthening the course construction of piano accompaniment will not only help to improve the course system of piano performance major, but also achieve the training objectives set in the training plan, balance the development of piano solo and accompaniment art in China, and cultivate professionals with more comprehensive ability, higher quality and stronger competitiveness.

The construction goal of piano accompaniment course should serve the overall performance goal of piano performance major and even music performance major in colleges and universities, and be consistent with it in direction and principle. Judging from the introduction of music performance specialty made by the current Ministry of Education, at this stage, we should focus on cultivating applied talents who can engage in relevant performance and teaching work in professional cultural performance groups, cultural centers, primary and secondary schools, etc. The so-called "application-oriented" reflects the corresponding adjustment made by the state to higher education and the types of talents trained according to the economic, cultural and social development. Colleges and universities must fully understand and grasp the direction of social demand for professionals in various fields, adapt to the requirements of higher education reform and development, timely adjust school-running concepts and objectives in top-level design, constantly reform, enrich and improve curriculum and teaching content, and ensure that graduates' vocational skills are in line with market demand.

The chances of piano solo performances becoming successful are relatively small, but the demand for piano accompaniment is increasing. From a social perspective, the most in-demand piano talent for performance groups is the versatile talent who can accompany other art forms such as vocal music, instrumental music, dance and even drama in addition to solo performances.

Dance piano accompaniment is a blank part in the current piano accompaniment course, and there are almost no special courses involving dance piano accompaniment, so it is of great research significance.

China's outstanding music works and dance works are gradually spreading to the world and getting some recognition. Global culture continues to blend, and the inheritance of China's traditional culture is constantly strengthened in the field of education in China. Shandong folk dance is chosen as the content of students' study because China traditional ethnic culture dance and music combine China's excellent traditional culture and elements. Through the integration of these traditional contents, music and dance works can stimulate students' cultural resonance, make students worship and revere China's excellent traditional culture better, and then realize the emotional resonance between people and works. Taking dance works with traditional cultural elements as the teaching content can guide students to understand the charm of China's traditional music culture from the unique artistic interpretation perspective of China.

In the teaching process, it is necessary to strengthen students' study and understanding of the characteristics, background of the times and overall musical style of the works, so as to complete the accompaniment repertoire completely, accurately, fluently and expressively. The accompaniment can be adapted and integrated with the dancer's movements, speed, breathing and emotional treatment, and the works can be completed together in a balanced and tacit cooperation, which really plays a role in setting off and even leading.

The creation of a piano accompaniment guide book for Shandong folk dance students majoring in piano in Shandong Art College.

Based on the understanding of students' current situation and interviews with experts, the researcher decided that this guide book is divided into three parts, with 16 courses in total.

The first part is based on theory. In view of the weakness of piano students' dance accompaniment, they mainly focus on grasping dance knowledge, history and style. Therefore, before the course practice, we should enrich students' knowledge of dance theory and systematically and comprehensively introduce the basic summary, history, style and musical characteristics of Shandong folk dance.

In the second part, the theoretical knowledge is applied to practical playing with specific dance accompaniment tracks. At the same time, in this part, dancers will be arranged to cooperate with piano students in practice, which will help students understand the characteristics of dance, enrich piano accompaniment classes and stimulate students' interest in learning.

The third part is based on the piano technical difficulties in the second part of the dance accompaniment repertoire, and carries out systematic practice and breakthrough improvement one by one.

After writing the guidebook, the researcher invited three piano experts and three dance experts to evaluate the guidebook. Six experts agree that Shandong folk dance piano accompaniment guide book has proper content, clear knowledge framework and complete knowledge structure. Experts believe that this teaching guide can be used in teaching practice and can promote piano students' learning of dance piano accompaniment.

Teaching experiment of Shandong Folk Dance Piano Accompaniment for junior piano majors in Shandong University of Arts

"Shandong Folk Dance Piano Accompaniment Guidebook" was written and conducted as a teaching experiment for junior students majoring in piano at Shandong University of the Arts. Through 16 weeks of course study, from theory to playing exercises to practicing with dancers, students not only improved their ability to dance piano accompaniment, but also gained an understanding of dance music, the development history of Shandong folk dance, and musical characteristics. With a deeper and more comprehensive understanding, I have mastered more theoretical knowledge and dance accompaniment skills. The researchers tested the students' dance accompaniment ability three times before, during and after the experiment, and studied and analyzed the changes in the students' test scores. The data analysis showed that the students' control of the style of the dance works, cooperation with the dancers, and mobilization of the dance The player's abilities as well as musical expression and musical emotions have been significantly improved.

The "Piano Accompaniment of Shandong Folk Dance Guidebook" is divided into 16 lessons, which can be roughly divided into two parts. The first part is mainly based on theory, which is also the weak point of students, so the researchers chose to start with theory when compiling the textbook, first enriching students' knowledge of dance and the theoretical part of dance music. Then, dance accompaniment music is added. At the same time, the difficulties of the piano playing part in the repertoire are targeted and improved in combination with specific repertoires. Finally, through the coordination of time with the dancers, the teaching goal of comprehensively improving students' dance piano accompaniment ability is finally achieved.

Using "Shandong Folk Dance Piano Accompaniment" for Teaching

Through the teaching experiment of 16 classes in one semester, during the experiment, the researcher conducted pre-experiment test, formative test and summative test on the students respectively. Through the analysis of the data of the three tests, it can be proved that the students who participated in the teaching experiment have obviously improved their grades. Facts have proved that the application of "Shandong Folk Dance Piano Accompaniment Guide" in junior piano majors of Shandong University of Arts is feasible and effective.

The researcher made a basic analysis of the students' situation before the start of the experiment, and found the students' weaknesses. According to the results, most students scored almost 8 points in several aspects related to dance, such as the control of work style, musical mood, and the cooperation with dancers to mobilize the dancers' ability. Including the communication with students after the test, the researcher found that students did not lack these abilities, but lacked dance knowledge and music, and even more lacked dancers' ability. Therefore, researchers focus on strengthening the knowledge of dance theory, helping students analyze their works and providing practical opportunities for cooperation with dancers. When testing students again, we find that most of the above problems have been improved in formative tests, with the average score increasing from 77.37 to 81.48. From the comparison of the results of formative test and summative test, the average score continues to improve, from 81.48 to 84.87. It can be seen that the Guide Book of Shandong Folk Dance Piano Accompaniment has provided practical and effective help to students and played an important role in improving their ability of piano accompaniment.

Discussion

Piano is a performing art, including solo, ensemble and accompaniment. Piano accompaniment is widely used in various forms of music performance and has unique artistic appeal. Piano accompaniment is as important as piano solo and plays an irreplaceable role in music practice. In colleges and universities, piano accompaniment is becoming an independent major, but it is also very necessary for piano majors to have piano accompaniment skills. Dance is a comprehensive art form, which expresses human thoughts and feelings through dancers' movements and gestures, which makes dance inseparable from music. Therefore, piano accompaniment plays a vital role in dance. In addition, the difference between dance piano accompaniment and vocal piano accompaniment is that dance piano accompaniment is characterized by regularity, improvisation and flexibility. Therefore, this requires the accompanist to have certain playing skills and be familiar with the characteristics of dance and its relationship with piano accompaniment (Liu & Li, 2002).

Therefore, the researcher chooses junior piano majors as the research object, and the whole teaching experiment is also carried out around the knowledge of Shandong folk dance, the improvement of the ability to cooperate with dancers and the improvement of piano playing skills.

By understanding the students' pre-test situation, interviewing experts, and reviewing literature, the teaching focus and teaching difficulties were clarified. At the same time, because the teaching content selected for this experiment is Shandong folk dance music, it can not only improve students' professional skills but also promote excellent traditional culture and achieve the educational goal of "establishing morality and educating people" in Chinese higher education.

In teaching, from theory to practice, starting from students' weak points, the piano accompaniment level of Shandong folk dance is systematically and comprehensively improved. As a course for college students, the dance piano accompaniment course in this experiment should not only focus on cultivating students' mastery and application of dance piano accompaniment skills, but also comprehensively cultivate students' musical literacy (Xing, 2014).

Interspersing pictures and video appreciation in the theoretical teaching part can not only allow students to have a more comprehensive understanding of dance art and dance music, but also increase students' interest in understanding Shandong folk music and dance music. Only if they like and understand Shandong folk music and dance music from the bottom of their hearts can they better express the music when playing piano accompaniment for Shandong folk dance and integrate it with the dance and dancers.

Recommendations

1. Practical Recommendations

After compiling the guide book and experimental experience, the researcher thinks that society and schools should increase policy support for piano accompaniment courses for piano majors. According to the survey, piano accompaniment courses are rarely offered in major music and art colleges, especially the dance piano accompaniment courses involved in this study. Offering piano accompaniment courses can strengthen the professional level of piano majors from more angles, improve their comprehensive strength and enhance their employment competitiveness after graduation.

Secondly, whether it is piano or piano accompaniment, stage performance is the most effective way to test the learning effect of music majors, and it is also the ultimate goal of learning piano performance, dance performance and piano accompaniment. As mentioned above, there are few piano accompaniment courses in major music and art colleges and universities. Similarly, there are even fewer opportunities for major colleges and universities to provide students with stage performance exercises. Schools should provide students with opportunities to practice stage performances on a regular basis. At the same time, schools should also provide students with various professional performances, so that students not only have the opportunity to practice, but also have the opportunity to watch various performances to broaden their professional horizons and improve their professional aesthetic ability.

2. Recommendation for future research

The teaching object of this experimental study is the third-year students majoring in piano in Shandong University of Arts, and the teaching effect is good. The researchers hope that in the future, the research scope can be expanded and included in the formal curriculum of piano major, which can provide more opportunities for piano majors to learn dance piano accompaniment and improve their employment competitiveness.

Although the experiment is over, the research and study will not stop. Researchers will continue to evaluate the teaching effect of the guidebook regularly, constantly listen to the feedback from experts and students, and constantly improve and perfect the contents and teaching methods of the guidebook.

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