

Realistic Expression and Emotional Rhetoric of Music: A Study on the Style Characteristics and Emotional Aesthetics of Music in Baroque Period

Pan Hu

School of Music, NanJing XiaoZhuang College, Nanjing, Jiangsu, 210000, China
hupan1162023@126.com

Abstract: The Baroque period, which originated in Italy in the second half of the 16th century and reached its peak in the 17th century, represents a significant symbol of the mainstream cultural characteristics of the 17th and 18th centuries. The music art of this period has a unique symbolism and guidance, both in the performance and the work itself reflects the characteristics of this era. This study mainly studies the style and characteristics of Baroque Music: first, the humanistic nature of the music subject, which emphasizes human emotion and performance; Secondly, the lyrics of Baroque music are usually literary and poetic; Then there is the emotionality of melody change, which often conveys profound emotions; Next is the diversity of forms of expression. Baroque music is famous for its various forms and structures; Finally, the flexibility of accompaniment texture, which allows musicians to express emotion and creativity in performance. Finally, by discussing the emotional aesthetics in Baroque music, we can deeply understand the emotional expression and rhetorical use in music, and then learn from the experience of this special historical period to provide beneficial enlightenment for the development of modern music.

Keywords: Baroque period, Music, Style characteristics, Emotional Aesthetics

Introduction.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Baroque period represents the transition between two important historical moments in the history of European civilization. This period of history is not only a span of 150 years, but also profoundly carries the spirit of the Renaissance, and evolves in continuous exploration, finally pushing European humanistic culture to a new peak - the era of classicism (Wang & Zhang, 2023). In the late Renaissance, the emphasis on individual value and material enjoyment led to the luxury and exaggeration of the artistic style of the whole European society. However, after the impact of the Renaissance, the church began to actively restore its influence and re-infiltrate people's lives with a new way of communication (Yang, 2023). This change made the Baroque period a new competition between secular and religious, and Baroque style emerged in the context of various social contradictions. Among the music works created in this era, the

development of secular music has obviously surpassed religious music, and even the unique music form of the integration of religious and secular music has appeared, such as opera, oratorio, cantata, passion and other vocal works, as well as Sonata, Concerto, Fugue, suite and other instrumental works. These colorful musical genres reflect the cultural diversity and social unrest in the Baroque period (X. Liu, 2023). Therefore, the music in Baroque period has shown obvious surrealism and deep connotation in terms of genre, content and form., And diversified music styles can also convey certain emotional aesthetics in humanistic creation, so as to strengthen the artistic expression and symbolic power of music works (Lin, 2022).

2. STYLE CHARACTERISTICS OF BAROQUE MUSIC

2.1 Music Theme: Full Integration of Secularity and Humanism

The music works of Baroque era have got rid of the limitation of religion and moved into a broad field, praising love, nature and human nature. It began to explore human emotions more profoundly, including but not limited to a series of colorful emotions such as love, hatred, confession, jealousy, sadness, joy and expectation (Duan, 2023). In the history of European music development, Mr. Shang Jiexiang especially emphasized the core themes of Baroque music works, including feelings such as confusion, enthusiasm, separation, sadness, joy of meeting, bitterness and elegance, noble faith, pure friendship, beautiful memories, and the desire for love.. The music works of this era show great diversity, reflecting the rich experience of people in all aspects of life (c. Wang, 2022). For example, the work "you have not tormented me for a long time" by Antonio CESTI, an Italian musician, profoundly depicts the internal conflict between pain and sweetness in love. Alessandro Scarlatti's "sunshine on the Ganges" vividly shows the vibrant and colorful scene of the Ganges River under the sunlight, filled with praise for nature. And Paisiello's "my heart no longer burns the flame of youth" expresses the emotion of love without reservation.. In addition, there is "who wants to buy a beautiful lark" created by composer Yomeili, which is light and simple, full of life emotion, and outlines the image of bird sellers in the market. Chestie's "people around whom I worship" expresses his deep feelings for his lover in a lyrical way. In addition, the "lovely trap" created by Italian composer Pasrini in the early 18th century vividly shows the protagonist's inner struggle and choice of love through the emotional changes in the music. At

the same time, there are also music works selected from the plot of the Bible, such as Handel's in the shade of this shady tree and comfort my people (z. Wang, 2022). They are also based on the reflection of Secularity and reality, revealing their unique emotional aesthetics in music expression. These works bring together the richness and diversity of emotion in Baroque period, and skillfully integrate human emotion and real life into music.

2.2 Lyrics Writing: Full Combination of Poetic and Melodic

The music works of Baroque period are not only highly praised for their smooth and beautiful melody, but also have high aesthetic value for their highly artistic lyrics. The music works of this period usually use the poems created by poets as lyrics. Sometimes these poems are ancient poems, and sometimes they are created by poets at that time. Composers often cooperate with poets to complete the lyrics of songs. For example, in the early 17th century, the famous Italian composer cacini participated in the camarano art group organized by count Baldi of Florence, which brought together composers, poets, singers, performers and theorists (K. Liu, 2023). During this period, the lyrics of songs were considered to be an important part of music art, and kacini even put forward the idea of "giving priority to words, supplemented by singing". Some of his works even use classical poetry, such as his "Amaryl", whose lyrics are an ancient lyric poem in the middle ages, which the author has no way to verify. In addition to co poets and classical poems, the poems written by some famous poets at that time also became popular choices. For example, the poems of Shakespeare and Goethe are very popular. The English composer thomasarne wrote cuckoo based on Shakespeare's poetry, which has become one of the important musical and cultural heritages in Britain. In addition, the German composer carlfriedrichzelter is a close friend of the famous poet Goethe and often writes songs with the poems written by Goethe as lyrics. The lyrics of his "endless love" are just a poem created by Goethe to express his contradictory psychology in love. These poems often end in the form of rhyme, which enhances the lyrical rhythm and poetry of the song. These carefully selected lyrics enrich and intoxicate the music works of Baroque period, and add depth and emotion to the music art (Bai, 2023).

Rastose Liebe (endless love)
DEM schnee, DEM regen,
DEM wind, entge Gen
Im dampf der KL ü FTE,

Durch Nebel DL ü fte
Immer Zu, immer zu
Ohne RAST nonch RUH!
Ohne RAST nonch RUH!

2.3 Melody Change: Integration of Musical Melody and Emotional Expression

In the Baroque era, musicians and theorists have studied in depth how music evokes the emotional resonance of the audience with crucial aesthetic issues. They firmly believe that the main goal of music is to inspire people's emotional response, so emotion has become the core feature of Baroque music works, and music aesthetics in this period especially highlighted the role of music in emotional expression (Fu, 2023). Among the different elements of music, musicians in the Baroque period paid special attention to melody, believing that it was the strongest and most direct expression of music lyricism (Wei, 2022). The music works in Baroque period pay more attention to melody than ever before. J. mattheson, a German composer and music theorist, once emphasized the importance of melody in his academic work "the perfect captain of music". He believed that "melody has the main significance and makes music the peak of perfection". He even advocated that in music aesthetics, the expressive significance of melody to emotion is far beyond harmony. The independent voice part of melody can have aesthetic value alone, while harmony is dependent on melody. For musicians in Baroque period, melody should not only have flexibility, clarity, fluency and beauty, but also be able to convey emotions in a variety of ways and have rich expressive force. Mattesson believes that melody, like human language, is the medium of emotional expression. Therefore, the integration of emotion and music melody has become an important feature of Baroque music, making music melody not only intoxicating, but also able to deeply convey emotion and express emotion.

2.4 Forms of Expression: Musicians Make Music More Diverse

Since the birth of opera, the art of music has entered the golden age, which not only produced bel canto, but also enriched the forms of musical works. In the middle ages and the early Renaissance, choral music was the dominant form of music works. However, with the emergence of new musical forms such as opera, cantata and oratorio, the forms of musical works have undergone revolutionary changes. During this period, many

outstanding musicians and music educators emerged, such as Ferri boldassare, Nicolino, senesino, Giovanni carestini, cafarelli, Farinelli, Guadagni gaspano, paecherotti Gasparo, etc. The creative practice of these musicians has completely subverted the face of music works and promoted a new musical realm, in which vocal and instrumental music are no longer competing with each other, but playing together harmoniously. Although there is still a close relationship between music and instrumental music, with the evolution of music art, music is no longer regarded as an independent instrument, but develops in parallel with instrumental music (Wu, 2023). Composers no longer rely solely on instrumental accompaniment, but have created a large number of amazing instrumental works and written new repertoires for various musical instruments. The field of music is no longer dominated by a single style. The performers have gradually stepped into the front stage and become the focus of attention, which has greatly improved the social status and self-confidence of instrumental performers (Wei, 2022). At the same time, the rise of opera, the prevalence of Bel Canto and the prosperity of a variety of music genres have brought great impetus to the progress and development of music art. During this period, the idea of "Concerto" can be traced back to the end of the 16th century, when it was first used to describe the collaborative performance of vocal and instrumental music. In the Baroque period of the 17th century, the concept of "Concerto" added a layer of meaning, that is, the musical genre of vocal and instrumental music competing with each other, emphasizing the elements of competition and confrontation.

2.5 Accompaniment Texture: General Bass Makes Music Accompaniment More Flexible

In the Baroque period, the continuous bass, also known as "digital bass", as an important music creation technique, was widely used in various music works. It not only played a key role in harmonic accompaniment, but also became a milestone in the development of music art (Hu, 2022). The appearance of the tonal bass marks the end of polyphony music before the 16th century, and leads a new era of tonal music. The digital low tone representation of the general instrument appears. This method makes it possible to play keyboard instruments by guiding the harmonic accompaniment with numbers. This accompaniment technique runs through the whole musical work and provides a wide range of creative possibilities for composers. Baroque music works, whether opera or oratorio, are almost all based on the construction of digital bass. It makes harmony get rid of the strict counterpoint method in polyphony music, and

makes melody develop and change freely. In addition, the general bass also provides the possibility of decorative extension and other techniques in music creation, which were not possible before. Under the guidance of the general bass, the music entered the main tone stage, and got rid of the shackles of multiple melodies in the Polyphony period (Tang, 2022). The two main problems of polyphonic music are that multiple melodies are easy to interfere with each other, and the audience is difficult to distinguish the lyrics; At the same time, the strict counterpoint method affects the coherence of lyrics, resulting in the loss of the ability of music to express the theme. The main melody is combined with the accompaniment of the general bass through a main melody, which highlights the main melody and allows the singer to improvise according to the meaning of the song, his own state and environment. One of its important characteristics is the flexible notation of the bass. It uses Arabic numerals instead of fixed notes, which provides free harmony space for singers. Singers can improvise and add decorative notes during singing according to their own understanding and feelings. This improvisation enables the Baroque music works to better adapt to the lyrics and rich performance. Therefore, the music works of Baroque period not only occupy an important position in the history of music, but also are famous for adapting to the lyrics and rich performance (Bai, 2022).

3. EMOTIONAL RHETORIC AESTHETICS IN BAROQUE MUSIC

3.1 Piano Art Aesthetics: The Infiltration of Rationalist Aesthetics To Achieve Emotional Expression

In the Baroque period, piano musicians were deeply influenced by rationalism. They generally believed that there was a corresponding symbolic relationship between music and people's inner feelings. Based on this concept, musicians try to express different emotions through specific musical forms. In order to achieve this goal, they use rational processing and analysis methods to deal with the creation and emotional relationship of music works, so as to express more profound and rich musical connotation. This rational aesthetic concept makes the Baroque piano music more rich and diverse in form and content (y. Wang, 2022). In the Baroque era, musicians were deeply influenced by the trend of emotionalism, and they pursued the deep feelings and emotional expression of music creation. German music theorists explored the theory of emotional expression in music, while Italian songs widely used

emotional techniques. These characteristics fully demonstrated the characteristics of emotional aesthetics in this period. Baroque music works, such as Bach's piano works, reflect the romantic thoughts of German citizens. He describes the emotional life of citizens through music and conveys a belief in deep feelings and free expression of emotions. This makes them no longer subject to the shackles of the secular, but the pursuit of sincere emotion and personal freedom. Although Bach's religious music has been criticized by others for being too vulgar and even undermining the purpose of church music, he always adheres to his own creative style and places his emotions in noble thoughts. In addition, Baroque piano music art also contains the emotional aesthetics. Music aesthetics in this period advocated that music could express emotions and stressed that music was an important carrier for human expression and transmission of emotions (Liu, 34-36). Ma Taisong, a representative figure, believes that musicians need to skillfully use sound and its combination rather than relying solely on words to create impressive works. Therefore, in the Baroque period, most musicians were influenced by rationalist ideas. They paid attention to the expression of personal emotions, as well as the rationality and standardization of music (Li, 2022). It can be said that from the perspective of piano art aesthetics, rationalist aesthetics is more able to achieve the infiltration and expression of emotion (Zhang, 2022).

3.2 Chorus Art Aesthetics: Multi Dimensional Auditory Experience Promotes Atmosphere Aesthetics

In the Baroque period, there was a close relationship between the aesthetic thought of chorus art and the creation of music structure. Musicians in this period emphasized the emotional aesthetics of the Renaissance and regarded music and art creation as a necessary means to meet the emotional experience needs of the people in the society. The choral works in Baroque period successfully expressed the rich emotions of the people at the bottom through ingenious melody structure, accompaniment harmony and other musical elements. This emotional expression not only reflects the musicians' keen insight into human emotions, but also highlights their rational use of music creation skills. In the Baroque period, musicians generally believed that music creation should use skills reasonably from the perspective of rationalization, so as to achieve the purpose of accurately and effectively controlling and guiding the audience's emotions. The practice of this aesthetic concept not only enhances the expressive force of chorus art, but also further enriches the connotation and value of music (Wu, 2022). In the famous religious music

work "Messiah" in Baroque period, we can see the musicians' in-depth excavation of emotions and attention to the emotions of the people at the bottom of society. This is not only the innovation of traditional religious music works, but also the new expression of music art emotion. In the Messiah, the author uses the combination of multi-dimensional sound effect and structure to bring a unique auditory experience to the audience, which is full of emotion and imagination. This way of emotional expression not only reflects the musicians' keen insight into human emotions, but also emphasizes their emotional use of music creation (Jiang, 2022). In the choral music works of Baroque era, the combination of music texture has become one of the key factors to create emotional resonance. This not only emphasizes the emotional depth of music art and the appeal of sound space in the chorus part, but also enhances the emotional resonance of chorus art through the emotional change of harmony and the emotional expression of sound theme. For example, in "glory to God" and "Hallelujah" and other works, the composer skillfully used emotional chord texture, emotional imitation and emotional expression, so that different sound themes were intertwined, showing a state of emotional richness. The use of this texture not only enriches the sense of musical hierarchy, but also creates a musical space full of emotional atmosphere for the audience. From the perspective of emotional aesthetics of chorus art, the music space constructed by multiple texture, voice part, melody and harmony elements can better realize the three-dimensional transmission of music and form a space environment with strong emotional atmosphere within the space (Jane, 2022a; Kang, 2022). The creation of this emotional atmosphere not only enhances the expressive force of chorus art, but also further enriches the connotation and value of music. Therefore, the choral works in Baroque period are not only a form of music, but also a perfect combination of emotion and rationality, leaving a valuable artistic heritage for future generations (Hu, 2022).

3.3 Creative Aesthetics: Music Works Realize the Release of Humanistic Emotions

The Baroque period represents a revolutionary moment in music creation. Its aesthetic concept emphasizes the social role of music and is committed to stimulating people's emotions, not just the expression of personal emotions. Musicians in this era began to boldly try different musical instruments, which gave birth to the diversity of musical styles and creative structures. This innovative practice has left a rich heritage of music

for future generations, which shows the aesthetic value of Baroque music. Baroque music has varied forms and rich themes, including not only traditional chorus and Orchestra, but also opera, chamber music and other genres. This variety of creative forms requires musicians to design musical forms according to the characteristics of different genres in practice to meet the aesthetic needs of different audience groups. At the same time, in order to better convey their inner feelings, musicians also need to establish distinctive themes in their works and use rich musical language and skills to express their feelings (Jane, 2022b). In the Baroque period, the aesthetic thought of music creation has gone far beyond the scope of simple musical skills and forms. Music creators try to explore the infinite possibilities and diversity of music by means of the innovation of music genre and the change of the original music genre. The music works in this period have various forms, rich content, profound ideological connotation and humanistic spirit, which can bring unique music enjoyment and experience to the public. The charm of Baroque music lies not only in its gorgeous skills and grand form, but also in its profound emotional and human expression. Music works bring the audience into a world full of emotion and imagination through rich emotion and sincere expression, so that people can feel the resonance of emotion and idea conveyed by music. The creation of Baroque music is not only an artistic act, but also a cultural and social phenomenon. Through the way of musical narration, Baroque music expresses people's cognition and feelings about the real world, and also reflects the political, cultural and ideological background of the society at that time. Therefore, the phenomenon of music in Baroque period is not only an important stage in the history of art, but also the embodiment of social and cultural progress.

4. THE CONTEMPORARY SIGNIFICANCE OF MUSICAL RHETORIC AND EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION IN BAROQUE PERIOD

In the historical process of human liberation, people began to re-examine and think about the relationship between rationality and sensibility. With the passage of time, the boundary between the two has gradually become blurred, and even the trend of separation has appeared. Especially under the influence of Romanticism in the 19th century and irrationalism in the 20th century, people began to pay more attention to and pursue the expression and release of natural humanity. In this context,

words and concepts such as "romanticism", "emotion" and "perceptual power" have gradually taken root in the hearts of the people and become a symbol of resistance and freedom from the shackles of rationalism. Although musicians and theorists in the early stage of rationalism believed that emotional expression and rational idea should complement each other, it can be seen from the perspective of music aesthetics in Baroque period that music creation in this period was more based on rational technical means. These music works not only pursue the expression of true feelings, but also try to influence and guide the audience through music, and cause their thoughts and emotions to resonate. In the Baroque period, music creation enabled human emotions to be displayed in a specific form. Emotions such as joy, sadness and anger can be perfectly expressed through elements such as melody, rhythm and harmony of music. This way of expression not only has strong appeal, but also can touch people's deep emotional resonance. In addition, the musical aesthetics of Baroque period also has its unique characteristics. In the music creation at that time, the stylization and typification of expression means were very common. At the same time, the theory of musical rhetoric has also been widely applied and developed in this period. These theories and practices provide important guidance and support for Baroque music creation. Therefore, the expression of "rational emotion on music aesthetics" accurately reflects the core characteristics of Baroque music creation. Music works in this period not only pay attention to emotional expression, but also pay attention to rational control and the use of technical means. This unique way of creation makes the music works in Baroque period have high artistic value and aesthetic value, and has become one of the important sources of music creation in the future. The significance of reviewing Baroque Music rhetoric and emotional expression is far more than simply remembering the past. This action is actually to dig into the music wisdom of that era and take it as the inspiration source for the innovation and development of today's music art. The value of Baroque music does not only exist in the dust of history, but also remains fresh over time, which provides valuable guidance for solving various problems in the current process of music development. To achieve real progress and breakthrough in music art, we must constantly seek innovation and improvement in rhetoric rules and emotional expression system. Although modern music has made some breakthroughs in technology and expression, and even abandoned the traditional skills and modes in some aspects, it does not mean that the traditional value has been completely abandoned. On the contrary, the

development of Baroque music reminds us that any major artistic progress is based on profound historical accumulation. In order to move forward, we must re-examine and inherit those forgotten traditional skills and rules, combine them with modern elements, and create more colorful music forms. While pursuing the emotional expression of perceptual music, we cannot ignore the value and influence of rationalism. Rationalism plays a vital role in music art. It provides structure and framework for perceptual elements, making music works more complete and profound. The perfect combination of perceptual elements and rationalism is one of the remarkable characteristics of Baroque music, and it is also the key to maintain its strong vitality after hundreds of years. For today's modern music works, especially pop music, the pursuit of emotional expression is often too much and the value of rationalism is ignored. This phenomenon limits the depth and connotation of music works to a certain extent. In order to enhance the cultural style and artistic value of works, modern music needs to be innovated at the emotional expression level. This not only means that we should re attach importance to the value of rationalism, but also integrate more thinking and philosophy into the creative process, so as to make the works richer and hierarchical.

4.1 Epilogue

To sum up, in the long history of western music, Baroque Music period is a pivotal stage. The music creation in this period was deeply influenced by the emancipation of human nature. Musicians began to integrate humanistic content into music creation, forming a unique music style. Among them, Baroque music is characterized by its simple accompaniment texture, smooth melodic voice and lyrical singing style, which together constitute the distinctive characteristics of the music of this period. In addition, Baroque music also pays attention to the emotional rhetoric and aesthetic expression of music. Musicians can create music with humanistic themes based on realistic attributes. At the same time, they combine rationalism and emotionalism in music presentation to bring unique musical hearing enjoyment to the audience. The music art of this period showed infinite charm and had a far-reaching impact on the development of western music.

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