

Exploration Into the Necessity of College Piano Teaching Innovation and the Construction Strategy of Innovation Mode

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Abstract

In the new development stage, innovation attracts more and more attention. College piano teaching is taken for example. To give full play to its function, it is required to train students' creative thinking and creative spirit, actively explore the innovation mode of piano teaching, set clear teaching objectives, combine piano teaching with other disciplinary teaching, introduce innovative activities into piano teaching and promote the construction of piano teaching innovation mode. This paper analyzes and discusses the construction strategy of innovation mode based on the necessity of innovation in college piano teaching.

Key words: Piano teaching; Necessity; Innovation model; Construction strategy

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INTRODUCTION

As a keyboard instrument among western classical musical instruments, piano is melodious in its timbre and is widely applied in solo, ensemble and accompaniment. Besides, piano is also very convenient for both composition and musical rehearsal, so it has long been known as "the king of musical instruments". Especially, with the continuous improvement in people's standard of living over recent years, the pursuit of art also has driven the development of

piano teaching and colleges face a brand new development situation for piano teaching. Since piano teaching is an important item of music art teaching, it is required to use innovation as the foundation and driving force for its development and promote teaching innovation in teaching content and teaching mode. However, at present, many college management personnel and piano teachers don't pay enough attention to the innovation in piano teaching so that piano teaching lags far behind innovative practice, greatly affecting the development of piano art. For this reason, it is required to enhance the exploration and construction of innovative piano teaching mode.

1. INNOVATIVE COLLEGE PIANO TEACHING MODE

In recent years, with the continuous deepening of quality-oriented education, China's course of education has changed the past mode of purely highlighting students' scores, has began to use training high-quality interdisciplinary professional talents as the teaching objective, has emphasized the training of students' creative thinking ability, and has attached importance to students' practical ability to apply knowledge, in the hope that students can handle their future learning and work in a better way. If this is analyzed from a deeper level, training students' creative spirit and consciousness of innovation is the basic requirement for constructing an innovation-oriented country and also the unremitting driving force to facilitate China's long-term steady development. Therefore, colleges should attach importance to the innovation in piano teaching mode, carry out innovative teaching, and enhance students' consciousness of innovation and creative ability.

Compared with the traditional teaching mode, the innovation mode of college piano teaching abandons the traditional mode that teachers teach and students practice, fully respect students' dominant position in the classroom,

and provide them with a freer and broader development space so that students can give full play to their subjective initiative. In the new teaching mode, teachers mostly serve as mentors and controllers of teaching to help students to learn. Meanwhile, in the innovation mode, it is required to strengthen students' understanding and perception of piano music works and train their creative ability by enhancing their experience. Besides, it should be realized that the innovation in college piano teaching mode involves multiple aspects. To better train students' consciousness of innovation, we can associate piano with other disciplines, introduce knowledge concerning pedagogy, management and psychology into the innovative teaching mode, and guarantee the integrity and reliability of the teaching mode.

2. NECESSITY OF INNOVATION IN COLLEGE PIANO TEACHING

Based on China's fundamental realities, promoting quality-oriented education reform mainly aims to strengthen students' comprehensive quality and train their innovation ability so as to achieve the strategic goal of construction of harmonious socialist society. Innovation, which is the key point of creative thinking, can be visually embodied through innovative methods and innovation approaches. As an important part of music art, piano education plays an unignorable role in training students' creative thinking ability so it must receive enough attention. Let's take the specific piano performance for example. Why the performance effects of the same track played by a beginner and a piano master are quite different? It is mainly because music performance is affected by numerous factors such as timbre, tone and rhythm. Besides, different understandings and perception degrees of a track will result in totally different performance effects. Even a player may reach different performance effects of a track in different environments and moods. As for a piano player, if he/she is immersed when playing a piano track, he/she must add his/her own understanding and perception of piano and the track in the playing process and integrate his/her practical emotional experience to form his/her unique piano playing style, and then can stimulate the audience's strong emotional resonance by transmitting emotional experience. On the contrary, if a player fails to deeply understand the emotion expressed in a piano track but purely taps he keyboard according to the music score and lacks overall considerations in such factors as rhythm density, strength structure and melodic structure, his/her performance will lose the emotional transmission; as a result, it is difficult to lead to people's resonance.

Through the analysis from this perspective, piano playing is highly innovative. To guarantee a satisfactory performance effect, students should not only control corresponding playing skills but also have good creative

thinking ability. As the teaching mode has a guiding and integration effect in piano teaching, it must be scientific and reasonable to guarantee the smooth implementation of piano teaching. Therefore, when the traditional teaching model fails to meet the requirements of modern piano teaching, it is extremely important to actively explore the innovative piano teaching mode.

3. CONSTRUCTION THOUGHT OF INNOVATIVE COLLEGE PIANO TEACHING MODE

A teaching model itself involves various contents, including teaching content, teaching objective, teaching method and teaching subject etc.. As a steady and scientific teaching method system, the teaching mode realizes the expected teaching target through corresponding teaching thought. From this aspect, it is required to comprehensively consider multiple aspects during the construction of innovative teaching mode so as to train students' consciousness of innovation and creative spirit based on fully guaranteeing both piano teaching quality and teaching efficiency. To be specific, we can proceed with the construction of innovative teaching mode from the aspects below:

3.1 Clearly Set a Teaching Objective

Clearly setting a teaching objective is the first step to construct an innovative piano teaching mode and also a critical step. Under the guidance of a teaching goal, a teacher can choose a reasonable teaching method, promote the smooth implementation of teaching activities and guarantee a satisfactory teaching effect. An incorrect teaching objective will certainly cause a deviation in teaching activities, so clearly setting a teaching objective is extraordinarily important in the process of building an innovative piano teaching mode. As for college piano teaching, the most fundamental and uppermost teaching objective is to make students to continuously improve their aesthetic standards, artistic culture level and the ability to discover, appreciate and create beauty, and, meanwhile, train their creative thinking ability by guiding and educating students when they learn piano knowledge and practice piano tracks. To achieve all of them, the guidance of a reasonable and clear teaching objective is needed.

3.2 Improve the Teaching Method

The cramming method is mostly adopted in the traditional college piano teaching mode, where the teacher plays the leading role in teaching, completely controls classroom teaching and imparts relevant knowledge and skills concerning piano playing to students, who mainly passives accept what the teacher teaches. Such a teaching mode ignores students' subjective initiative and the stimulation of students' learning interest. As a result,

students have a strong ability to imitate but severely lack the capability of independent innovation so they cannot meet the development requirements of modern society. Therefore, in the process of constructing an innovative piano teaching mode, it is required to actively improve the teaching method and respect students' dominant position. Besides, a teacher should no longer serve as the leader in teaching activities but a participant and a helper to ensure that students can give full play to their initiative innovation and continuously improve their piano art culture and aesthetic ability when learning piano knowledge.

3.3 Propel the Discipline Integration

The mutual integration of disciplines is the key to construction of the innovative piano teaching mode. At present, it is thought that any discipline cannot exist alone, must have some connections with other ones and also affects the development of other disciplines when being affected by them. On this basis, it is required to fully consider the influence factors of other related disciplines during the construction of innovative piano teaching mode, gradually facilitate the mutual integration of piano teaching and other disciplines including psychology in art and modern education theory etc., integrate the contents and theoretical knowledge of other disciplines into the process of piano teaching, expand the teaching contents and teaching methods, and enhance the possibility of constructing the innovative piano teaching mode through a broader space, richer materials and more perfect theories.

4. CONSTRUCTION STRATEGY FOR THE INNOVATIVE COLLEGE PIANO TEACHING MODE

4.1 Introduce Innovative Activities

We can proceed with the introduction of innovative activities from creating a classroom teaching atmosphere. As is well known, a relaxed and joyful mood in the learning process can help students to better understand and master knowledge and improve their independent consciousness and self-confidence, so it is of great significance for training students' creative thinking ability. Therefore, teachers should introduce innovative activities into piano teaching, change the traditional single teaching mode and create a favorable teaching atmosphere based on the content and requirements of piano teaching. For example, teachers can ask students to give improvisational performance in class based on their knowledge mastery degree and this can meet students' desire for performance, encourage them to boldly give play to their creativity and strengthen the interchanges between teachers and students. For another example, if the condition allows, colleges may hear some well-known pianists to give lectures and carry out other activities so that students can learn their

growth and progress courses and obtain enlightenment and inspirations. In this process, students can learn more piano playing skills, get more interested and enthusiastic in piano learning and, meanwhile, have their understanding and perception of piano deepened. It should be realized that arbitrary introduction of innovative activities is not allowed but teachers should control the introduction based on the needed of practical teaching so as to ensure that the teaching activities can be closely related to the teaching target and content and to train students' awareness of innovation with abundant and colorful activities. Meanwhile, it should be also realized that all teaching activities must be related to practical application and help students to convert the knowledge they've learned in class and their experience into their internalized things, which should be verified in practice. In addition, teachers should also insist on differential treatment in education, helping students to overcome their issues in learning and playing. For instance, some students have a solid theoretical foundation and are proficient in playing skills, but feel so nervous on a stage with countless audiences that they usually forget the tune and even cannot complete the playing successfully. If this continues, such students' self-confidence must be affected and a vicious cycle will be formed accordingly. Therefore, teachers can lead students to participate in live performance in the theatres and celebration places etc. so that students can accumulate experience ceaselessly, establish their self-confidence and thus can face the audience more calmly after they enter the society.

4.2 Emphasize Inspiration and Guidance

In the innovative piano teaching mode, both guidance and inspiration are very important elements and also effective strategies to build an innovative teaching mode. In the traditional piano teaching, for the sake of students' easy understanding, teachers usually give detailed explanations and deep analyses of relevant knowledge to students and impart knowledge into students. It is undeniable that this educational method has its advantages: Namely, students can master the basic playing skills and get familiar with the theoretical knowledge after the teachers' explanations and demonstrations. However, compared with other musical arts, piano needs more specialization and techniques. Especially, with respect to some classical piano works, it is difficult for one to manifest the artistic conception of works without steady professional skills and proficient playing skills. Thus, in order to train students' creative thinking ability in piano teaching, it is required to firstly ensure that they have solid basic specialized knowledge. It can think that the basic theoretical piano knowledge and playing skills are the foundations and driving forces for making innovations in piano teaching. Teachers can emphasize inspiration and guidance

on the basis of traditional teaching so as to help students to build a more solid piano foundation.

In the heuristic teaching, it is required to emphasize students' domination position, give full play to the teacher's helping role, encourage students to integrate their perception and life experience into piano through inspiration, stimulate students' interest in piano innovation, and thus gradually form the innovative piano teaching mode. In the heuristic teaching, teachers should not imitate the traditional simple demonstration but guide students to show the artistic conception of works according to their understanding and perception of piano works; in this way, students can practically experience the respective aesthetic effects of different playing ways in practice and, thus, they can choose their most suitable learning methods and playing ways.

4.3 Pay Attention to Active Exploration

Exploratory teaching is an important content of innovative piano teaching mode. Similarly, such a teaching mode can guide students to actively make explorations and arouse their enthusiasm in piano learning in the exploring process so that students can independently study various issues caught in the piano learning and practice processes in combination with their knowledge learned, make deep explorations, have their independent learning ability and independent thinking ability trained and, thus, strengthen their consciousness of innovation. In the exploratory teaching, students should reduce their dependence on teachers in the learning process, rely more on themselves, independently discover problems in piano learning and find feasible solutions. Meanwhile, students can also independently perceive the style and playing skills of piano works, learn the emotion and artistic conception implied in works, form their unique cognition of works based on their own understanding, realize the secondary creation of piano works and enhance the appeal and vitality of works. As for teachers, they should consciously introduce some unsolved problems in classroom teaching, encourage students to independent explore them or discuss them in groups, guide and help students well, and thus help them to gradually form their unique playing styles.

4.4 Attach Importance to Music Design

In piano teaching, music design means that students perceive the music playing style based on their music knowledge, the characteristics of secondary and tertiary creation of music performance, their understanding of piano art and their perception of music score, integrate their association and imagination into the music playing style, control and conceive piano playing on the whole, and gradually form an innovative mode which complies with the piano playing logic. In this mode, students must independently conduct music design, which plays an

extremely active role in improving students' performance, creativity and playing skills etc. In addition, in the innovative mode, it is required to conceive and design the key touching, emotion and other factors in combination with the music effect and train students' creative thinking. Meanwhile, in music design, it is required to correctly understand the creation intention and emotion implication of works and scientifically analyze the structural layout of music works.

The music design teaching is largely different from the traditional piano teaching mode. In practice, teachers need to firstly choose a performance way according to the music works, guide students to clearly learn the creation background and playing style based on their knowledge about the works, and then ask students to give performance. Later, students can discuss the content of the works and the playing skills etc. based on the playing conditions and then can make a recreation and give a performance based on the discussion result. In this way, this can fully arouse students' enthusiasm and initiative in learning, deeply dig students' potential in piano playing and music creation and promote the improvement in teaching effect.

CONCLUSION

In a word, it is very necessary to innovate the teaching mode of piano teaching in Colleges and universities, which is related to the improvement of teaching level and the cultivation of students' innovative consciousness. For teachers, we should introduce innovation in teaching, improve teaching methods, through the guide and inspiration, to explore and cultivate students' innovative thinking, excavate the potential of innovation, cultivate the spirit of innovation, and comprehensive talents of all-round development.

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