

A Study on the Narrative Structure and Narrative Art of TV Documentary

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Abstract: Television documentary is to systematically and completely report and record political, economic, cultural and other related news topics by using electronic recording equipment and means. TV documentary is characterized by authenticity: in its shooting process, from the perspective of news, it objectively and truly records social life, objectively reflects real people, real events, real emotions and real-life scenes, and focuses on showing the complete process of the original form of life. Therefore, when creating TV documentaries, we must pay attention to the rational and effective use of narrative structure and narrative art, so as to further enrich the content and expression of TV documentaries.

Keywords: TV documentary; Narrative structure; Narrative art.

1. Narrative structure of TV documentaries

Some traditional TV programs can be modified according to the tastes of the audience, and such fictional plots are absolutely impossible to appear in documentaries. Because documentaries need to record and analyze from the true and objective perspective, and pursue authenticity and documentary, which is the essential difference between TV documentaries and traditional TV programs. Because there are many topics for TV documentaries, and some documentaries cannot meet the needs of the audience in terms of material selection, the evaluation of TV documentaries has been very low. However, the correct story design of TV documentaries plays a key role in moving the audience, deeply rooted in their hearts, and thus arousing their curiosity to watch the program. Therefore, the correct choice of story structure is of key significance for improving the production efficiency, content expression and audience attention evaluation of documentary films.

1.1. Progressive narrative structure

Progressive narrative system is a complete systematic arrangement based on recording the process of events, story development and the logical order of public understanding. These narrative methods can effectively highlight the story occurrence process and connotation of a TV documentary, and can further metaphor different characters, stories and contents, so as to straighten out the audience's thinking and improve the story logic of the documentary.

1.1.1. Time as axis

Progressive narrative structure is a common narrative technique. It is a narrative technique based on the linear sequence of characters' activities and events and materials, taking time as the axis. For example, in the documentary "Taking Mother to the End of the World", the whole story tells that the son made his own tricycle and drove his mother to see the beautiful scenery of the motherland. He did so to thank his mother for her upbringing and to open her eyes. This documentary took the travel time as the axis and the activity process of mother and son as the sequence, and shot for one year. It not only tells a moving story completely, but also

reflects the humanistic connotation of the film, which plays a positive role in promoting the harmonious development of society.

1.1.2. The logical order of public cognition of things is the axis

Progressive narrative structure can also be built on the basis of people's cognitive logical order of things. We can often see this narrative structure in some science and education documentaries, such as "Exploration and Discovery", "Approaching Science" and other documentaries, which all use this logical cognitive order as the narrative structure. The contents of documentaries are arranged from the simple to the deep, from the outside to the inside, and from the front to the back, so as to strengthen the performance effect of documentaries.

1.1.3. Narrative axis based on time and space

In the multi task and multi scene documentary shooting, the narrative structure formed by the intersection of time and space is often used to express. The characteristic of this cross-narrative structure is that it can be used to express different characters, places and events in the same period. For example, in Our Study Abroad Life, there is a character recorded in chronological order. However, from the perspective of the whole documentary, it adopts the narrative structure of time-space intersection to form a narrative axis, which closely links different characters, different places and different emotions at the same time, and organically combines these narrative individuals with the time axis.

1.2. Tandem narrative structure

Tandem narrative structure refers to connecting different documentary materials through the center line of the whole film, highlighting the theme of the documentary from multiple angles, so as to enrich the theme of the documentary.

There are many such TV documentaries, such as "Looking at the Great Wall" and "The Silk Road", which are most well-known. They all link the rich content with one or more natural or human factors as clues, thus forming a magnificent narrative documentary. For example, the TV documentary "The Three Gorges" is a good example. Focusing on the Three Gorges Water Conservancy Project, the film truthfully records all links of the Three Gorges Project construction from various angles and aspects, and tells about the relationship

between the government and the masses, the masses and the land, and the masses and the Three Gorges Project, which makes the documentary more vivid and rich. The narrative structure of the tandem center makes the huge and complex materials more concise and clearer, and also makes the documentary easy to compile and narrate.

1.3. Essay narrative structure

The essay style narrative structure is to record and analyze the events from the creator's own perspective, so that the audience can be based on the first-person perspective, as if they are in the event, real and friendly, with a certain sense of substitution and experience. This form is just like our prose. Where we want to write, this structure is characterized by authenticity and naturalness. But this kind of narrative structure of documentary is a great test for the creator's ability in the selection of material content.

For example, "Kindergarten", although this documentary has a timeline to connect the materials, there is no obvious protagonist or main line, but it is compiled from many of the most interesting scenes of children's daily life in the kindergarten, highlighting the children's liveliness and innocence in the kindergarten.

1.4. Embedded narrative structure

Embedded narrative structure refers to the narrative structure of one link after another. From the perspective of narrative structure of TV documentaries, we can simply understand that in a documentary, one story covers another, and one clue leads to other relevant clues.

Embedded narrative structure is seldom used in documentaries, because this kind of narrative structure is very complex, and it is not good to control documentaries as a whole. *Destiny* is a classic documentary with such a narrative structure. In this documentary, the creator deliberately selects the characters in the film. After telling the story of a character, he will introduce the next character through the interview of the character or its content, and create a simple story to create the material, which forms a simple embedded narrative structure.

2. Narrative art of TV documentaries

Most TV documentaries are too simple and quiet in the narrative process, so we should learn from the way and content in some film and television narrations, so that we can make documentaries more active. On the premise of ensuring the authenticity of documentaries, we can properly edit the content, so that documentaries have more tortuous plots and rhythms, mobilize the audience's desire to watch, and thus increase the ratings of documentaries. Therefore, we must strengthen the research on narrative art of TV documentaries. Documentary is particularly important in the selection of content. It is necessary to ensure the uniqueness of the content, but also to scientifically select the subject matter, use real events to impress people, attach importance to the role of details, and deeply explore the essence of things, so as to enrich the theme connotation of TV documentaries.

2.1. Truth and emotion

Documentaries record all kinds of real events. In order to improve the authenticity of documentaries, creators should have certain professional ethics to carefully study and create. In order to make audiences more like documentaries, artistic creation should be added on the basis of ensuring the

authenticity of documentaries. In some traditional documentaries, authenticity is paid more attention, while emotional communication with the audience is ignored. This makes the narrative style of the documentary very boring, and the audience feels very dull in the process of watching. They may turn off the documentary when they see half of it, which to some extent adds difficulties to the creation of documentary works.

In the process of documentary production, in order to ensure the authenticity of the documentary, the creators will track the development of various events. However, due to tracking shooting, there will inevitably be camera jitter and noise problems. In order to ensure the authenticity of the event, montage editing techniques and some long shots were not used in the later editing process, and there would not be too much music and commentary, so that the audience could really understand the development of the situation through what was recorded by the camera. Although this narrative method is reasonable, it also records and spreads people's true feelings, but it makes the documentary lack artistry on the whole. To achieve the combination of truth and emotion, documentary must pay attention to its artistry in its creation.

The reality and emotion contained in the documentary need to be fully unified, and its artistic treatment can show the unique artistic charm of the documentary. In order to ensure the authenticity of the documentary, we can try to reduce the jitter of the lens during the tracking shooting process, and then cut off the noise that affects the appearance. In addition, montage editing techniques can be properly used in the later editing of documentaries, which can enrich the narrative effect. In order to make documentaries more emotional, we can also add some appropriate music, strengthen the use of commentaries in documentaries, and improve the amount of information recorded in documentaries. Such artistic treatment can not only stimulate the audience's emotions, but also strengthen the significance and social value of the documentary.

2.2. Rational application of modern technology

With the continuous development of society, the progress of the film and television industry is increasingly inseparable from the support of modern information technology.

In the narrative process of TV documentaries, modern technology can be skillfully used to strengthen the narrative effect and art of TV documentaries. For example, digital special effects, post editing and animation can bring different feelings, thus enhancing the vitality of documentaries. For example, when recording people and animals, you can insert clips of interviews with animal experts in the documentary to learn more about animals. 3D animation can also be made to show their living environment and animals' habits, which can not only make the audience understand animals in a relaxed and happy process, but also strengthen the harmonious relationship between people and animals. According to the content of documentaries, some social documentaries add image pictures, icons and other processing methods to explain abstract things, which can make boring content more vivid and interesting, so that better narrative effects can be obtained, so that the audience can enjoy the film better, enhance their love for documentaries, improve the ratings of documentaries, and achieve the purpose of spreading true stories to the society.

3. Conclusion

Through the above discussion, we can draw a conclusion

that in the creation process of TV documentaries, we should grasp which themes are suitable for what kind of narrative structure and narrative art. On the premise of ensuring authenticity, we should strengthen emotional communication with the audience, record details through modern technical means, and enrich the narrative effect of documentaries. Let the audience deeply understand the content and significance of different stories, and enhance their love for TV documentaries. Through these ways, we can further improve the quality of documentaries and promote the vigorous development of the cause of documentaries.

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