Current Situation and Countermeasures of Dance Development in China

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Abstract: This paper examines the current situation of the development of Chinese dance and its countermeasures. First, the development history of dance in China is summarized, including ancient dance, modern dance and contemporary dance. Then, the current situation of dance development in China is analyzed, including the status of dance artistic creation, dance education and training, dance industry and market, and dance performance. Then, the paper discusses the problems and challenges facing China's dance development, mainly including the shortage of creative and innovative ability, the shortage of dance education and training, the shortage of dance industry and market, and the shortage of dance performance market. Finally, countermeasures for China's dance development are proposed, such as improving the creative and innovative ability of dance, strengthening dance education and training, developing the dance industry and market, and promoting the development of the dance performance market. It is hoped that these countermeasures will promote the prosperity and development of dance in China.

Keywords: Chinese Dance, Development Status, Countermeasures, Dance Creation, Dance Education.

1. Introduction

With the prosperity and development of Chinese culture, Chinese dance, as an important part of national culture, is increasingly receiving widespread attention. As an art form with a long history and rich connotation, Chinese dance has an irreplaceable role in inheriting national culture and promoting national spirit. In the context of globalization, Chinese dance is facing unprecedented development opportunities and challenges. Therefore, it is of great significance to comprehensively sort out the development status of Chinese dance and discuss the future development trend and countermeasures to promote the prosperity of Chinese dance.

2. Overview of the Development History of Chinese Dance

2.1. Ancient Dance

In the long history of Chinese dance, ancient dance occupies an important position. Ancient dance originated from the sacrificial activities of the primitive society and gradually evolved into various forms such as court dance, folk dance and religious dance. It is characterized by elegant dance posture, standardized movement, full of mysterious and romantic colors.

Court dance is an important part of ancient dance, represented by the Six Dances of the Zhou Dynasty, including Yunmen, Xianchi, Daxia, Shao, Dawu, and Bianbian, which symbolize the natural phenomena of heaven and earth, the five elements, the four seasons, and other natural phenomena and ethical morals, respectively. Court dances reached their peak in the Tang Dynasty, with masterpieces such as the Neishang Yuyi Dance and the King of Qin's Broken Formation Music being handed down to this day.

Folk dances, on the other hand, have a more life-like flavor, such as the Han's "Rowing the Dry Boat" and "Stepping on Stilts", the Tibetan's "Pot Village Dance", and the Mongolian's "Top Bowl Dance", etc. These dances express the people's living customs. These dances express the people's living customs, labor scenes and emotional expression, with strong regional and national characteristics.

Religious dance in China's ancient dance history also occupies a place, such as Taoism's "gossip dance", Buddhism's "Yoga Dance" and so on. These dances have strong religious colors and convey religious beliefs and philosophical thoughts through specific movements and gestures [1].

2.2. Modern Dance

Modern dance refers to Chinese dance from the mid-19th century to the 1980s. During this period, the art of Chinese dance underwent qualitative changes, inheriting the excellent traditions of ancient Chinese dance and incorporating new artistic elements and expressive methods [2].

In the middle of the 19th century, with the introduction of Western culture, Chinese dance began to change. The techniques and styles of Western dance were combined with traditional Chinese dance to produce new dance forms. Most of the dance works in this period were based on the theme of expressing social reality and life, such as The Last Victory and the May 30 Tragedy. These works reflected the contradictions and conflicts of the society at that time through the form of dance, with a strong sense of the times and practical significance [3].

From the 1950s to the 1970s, Chinese dance art entered a new stage of development. The dance works in this period were mainly based on ethnic themes, such as "Pauline Lamp" and "White-haired Girl". Through the form of dance, these works showed the struggle of the Chinese people and the national spirit, with distinctive national characteristics and the atmosphere of the times [4].

In the 1980s, Chinese dance art entered a period of diversified development. The dance works in this period were of various kinds and styles, such as modern dance, folk dance, ballet and so on. These works were innovative in form and content, breaking through the traditional methods of dance expression and paying more attention to the expression of personality and emotion. At the same time, the dance works of this period also began to go to the international stage and
received widespread attention and praise [5].

2.3. Contemporary Dance

Contemporary dance refers to Chinese dance from the 1980s to the present. During this period, the art of dance has made remarkable development and progress in creation, education, industry and market [6].

In terms of creation, contemporary dancers have actively absorbed the essence of traditional Chinese culture and folk dance, while drawing on the expressive methods of Western dance to create a number of dance works with contemporary characteristics and national styles. These works not only reflect the traditional aesthetics of Chinese dance, but also show modern aesthetic concepts, and are favored by audiences at home and abroad.

In terms of education, Chinese universities and colleges and art training institutions have set up dance majors, training a large number of excellent dancers, choreographers and teachers. At the same time, the government and all sectors of society have also increased their investment in dance education, which provides a guarantee of talents for the development of the dance industry.

However, contemporary dance also faces some problems and challenges in the process of development. First of all, the innovation ability of dance creation is insufficient, and some works are overly pursuing forms and techniques, lacking profound connotation and unique style. Secondly, the level of dance education and training is uneven, and the professional quality of some dancers and choreographers needs to be improved. In addition, the dance industry and market are not yet perfect, and the development space of the dance performance market needs to be further expanded.

To solve these problems, we need to take a series of countermeasures. First, strengthen the cultivation of dance creation and innovation ability, encourage dancers to dig deep into Chinese traditional culture, while absorbing the excellent achievements of the world dance art, and create more works with ideas and artistic value. Secondly, improve the quality of some dancers and choreographers needs to be improved, and the professional quality of some dancers and choreographers needs to be improved. In addition, the dance industry and market are not yet perfect, and the development space of the dance performance market needs to be further expanded.

In order to improve the quality of dance art creation, we need to make efforts in the following aspects. First, strengthen the training of dance artists and improve their creative ability. Dance colleges and universities should pay attention to cultivating dance talents with innovative spirit and practical ability, so as to provide a constant source of innovative power for dance creation. Secondly, improve the evaluation system of dance creation, so that more high-quality dance works get attention and recognition. Dance selection activities should focus on the artistic value and social influence of the work, and encourage dance artists to create more depth and connotation of the work. Finally, improve the social status and treatment of dance artists to stimulate their creative enthusiasm. By optimizing the creative environment and improving the creative funding, we can provide better creative conditions for dance artists and promote the prosperity of the dance art career.

3. Analysis of the Current Situation of China's Dance Development

3.1. Status Quo of Dance Art Creation

Dance art creation is the core of dance development, and the current Chinese dance art creation presents a diversified situation. On the one hand, traditional dance art has been inherited and innovated. Chinese dance artists dig deep into traditional culture, combine traditional dance with modern aesthetics, and create a large number of dance works with contemporary characteristics and cultural connotations. Such as classical dance, folk dance, etc., they make comprehensive attempts and breakthroughs in movement vocabulary, choreography techniques, etc., and integrate traditional techniques with modern elements, presenting a unique artistic charm [8].

On the other hand, modern expressions and dance forms have been widely used in Chinese dance art creation. Dance artists pay attention to social phenomena and humanistic concerns, and express stories and emotions in real life through dance. At the same time, they are also good at drawing inspiration from other art forms, such as theater and movies, and integrating them into their dance creations, expanding the expression space of dance. In addition, cross-border cooperation has also become a major highlight of dance creation, and the combination of dance with other art forms, such as music and visual art, makes the dance works richer and more diversified [9].

However, there are some problems in the creation of dance art. First of all, the lack of creative innovation ability is a problem that needs to be solved. Some of the dance works are too much in pursuit of form and technique, lacking depth and connotation, and it is difficult to leave a deep impression on the audience. Secondly, the training and growth mechanism of dance artists needs to be improved, and the emergence of excellent dance talents needs to be strengthened. Finally, the evaluation system of dance creation is not reasonable. Box office revenue and word-of-mouth communication play a greater role in the evaluation of dance works, while the lack of a professional evaluation system makes dance creation blind to some extent.

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3.2. Status of Dance Education and Training

Dance education and training, as an important way to cultivate dance talents, occupies an important position in the development of Chinese dance. At present, dance education and training in China presents the following characteristics [10].

First of all, the coverage of dance education and training is wide. From children to the elderly, people of all ages can find suitable dance courses for themselves. Especially in children's dance education, more and more parents pay attention to their children's dance training, aiming to cultivate their children's
aesthetic ability, physical quality and self-confidence. In addition, adult dance education and training is also becoming popular, such as ballet, modern dance, street dance and other courses, which meet the needs of different dance enthusiasts. Secondly, the quality of dance education and training is constantly improving. With the professional and standardized development of dance education in China, more and more professional dance teachers have joined the dance education industry, which makes the quality of dance education and training guaranteed. At the same time, dance schools and training institutions are also constantly improving teaching facilities and environment, providing students with better learning conditions. Third, the diversified development of dance education and training. At present, dance education and training is not only limited to traditional dance types, such as ballet, Chinese dance, etc., but also covers modern dance, street dance, Latin dance and other emerging dance forms. This diversified development makes dance education and training richer and meets the individual needs of different people.

However, there are some problems in China's dance education and training, such as the high mobility of dance teachers, which leads to unstable teaching quality; some dance schools and training institutions pay too much attention to the economic benefits, neglecting the humanistic care of dance education; and the fierce competition in the market of dance education and training, which leads to the survival pressure on some small-scale training institutions. In view of these problems, we need to further strengthen the standardized management of dance education and training, improve the treatment and stability of dance teachers, and pay attention to the sustainable development of dance education, so as to promote the prosperous development of China's dance industry.

3.3. Status of Dance Industry and Market

Dance industry and market is an important part of the development of dance art, which includes many aspects such as dance performance, dance education, dance creation and dance supplies. In China, the development status of dance industry and market shows the following characteristics [11].

First, the dance market is gradually huge. With the development of social economy and the improvement of people's living standards, more and more people begin to pay attention to the art of dance, and the dance performance market gradually grows. Large-scale commercial performances, theater dance performances, outdoor dance activities and other forms of dance performances are more and more loved by people. According to relevant data, the size of China's dance performance market has reached 10 billion yuan in 2019, and it is expected to continue to maintain the growth trend in the next few years. Secondly, the dance education market is developing rapidly. With the country's emphasis on quality education, dance education has gradually become a popular choice for young children's training. According to statistics, there are currently more than four thousand children's dance training institutions in China, and the market size of the children's dance training industry in 2021 exceeds 16 billion yuan. First-tier cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and other places have a large scale of dance training market, high level of training, many organizations, intense competition, and low industry concentration. Again, dance creation is becoming increasingly active. In recent years, China's dance creation has achieved fruitful results, not only emerged a large number of excellent dance works, but also appeared many innovative dance groups. Under the support of national policies, dance creation has received more attention and financial support, which has provided a constant impetus for the development of the dance industry. However, there are some problems in the development of dance industry and market. For example, the phenomenon of unregulated dance market, the uneven quality of dance education, and the tendency of commercialization of dance creation. These problems need to be gradually solved by means of strengthening industry supervision, improving the quality of dance education and guiding the healthy development of dance creation.

Overall, China's dance industry and market have shown a good development trend, but also face some challenges. In the future, with the further support of national policies and the continuous expansion of market demand, China's dance industry and market are expected to realize a higher quality and more competitive development.

3.4. Status of Dance Performance

Dance performance, as an important form of expression of dance art, is an important support for the development of dance career. In recent years, China's dance performance market has shown rapid development. On the one hand, all kinds of dance performances are rich and colorful, including folk dance, modern dance, ballet, street dance and other types, which meet the needs of different audiences. On the other hand, the number of dance performances and the number of audiences have increased year by year, and the art of dance has gradually become an indispensable part of people's lives.

However, at the same time, there are some problems in China's dance performance market. First of all, the dance performance market is still immature, and the audience's awareness and appreciation of dance art need to be improved. Secondly, compared with foreign developed countries, the commercial operation and marketing strategy of China's dance performance market is still insufficient and needs to be further strengthened. In addition, the dance performance industry chain is not perfect, and the survival environment of dance troupes and dancers is more difficult, which also restricts the development of the dance performance market.

In response to these problems, our government and cultural departments have taken a series of measures, such as increasing support for the dance business, raising subsidies for dance performance tickets, and promoting popularization and education of dance art. In terms of market operation, dance performance practitioners are also trying to innovate, through diversified forms of performance and marketing means to attract more audiences into the theater. In short, with the continuous development of China's dance industry, the dance performance market is expected to achieve greater breakthroughs in the future.

4. Problems and Challenges Facing China’s Dance Development

4.1. Insufficiency of Creative Innovation Ability

In the process of development of Chinese dance, the insufficiency of creative innovation ability is a remarkable problem. First of all, due to historical reasons, China's dance art has been influenced by western dance for a long period of time, which makes some dance creators, in the process of
creation, overly pursue the forms and techniques of western dance, while ignoring the traditional elements and characteristics of China's dance. This makes some dance works lose the uniqueness of our own country's dance, and it is difficult to stand out on the international dance stage [12]. Secondly, China's dance creation has certain limitations in the choice of subject matter. Many dance works pay too much attention to the excavation of traditional themes and neglect the attention to real life. This makes the dance works seem incompetent in reflecting real life and expressing the spirit of the times. In addition, poor communication between choreographers and actors in the process of dance creation is also an important factor that affects the ability to create and innovate. In some dance creations, choreographers pay too much attention to their own artistic expression and ignore the suggestions and feedback of actors. This makes it difficult to realize breakthroughs in the form of expression and performance techniques.

In order to improve the innovation ability of dance creation, we need to make efforts from the following aspects. First, strengthen the training and education of dance creators to improve their artistic literacy and creative ability. Secondly, encourage dance creators to pay attention to real life and draw creative inspiration from life. Once again, strengthen the communication between choreographers and actors, and give full play to the positive role of actors in the creative process. Finally, increase the financial support for dance creation to provide better conditions for dance creation. Through these measures, we have reason to believe that the creative and innovative ability of Chinese dance will be significantly improved [13].

4.2. Inadequate Dance Education and Training

Dance education and training is an important link in the development of dance, but at present there are still some deficiencies in dance education and training in China.

First of all, the popularization of dance education and training is not enough. Although dance education has gradually been emphasized in recent years, compared with developed countries, dance education in China is still at a low level. Especially in rural and underdeveloped areas, there is a lack of resources for dance education and training, and many children are unable to get in touch with formal dance education. Secondly, the quality of dance education and training varies. Due to the imperfect qualification system of dance teachers, the professional quality of some dance teachers is not high, which makes it difficult for them to meet the learning needs of students. In addition, some dance training organizations ignore the quality of teaching in order to pursue profits, resulting in students not being able to get formal dance training. Again, the content of dance education and training is relatively single. At present, China's dance education and training is mainly based on traditional dance, and less training for modern dance, street dance and other emerging dance forms. This single training content is difficult to meet the diversified market demand, but also limits the development of students' dance skills.

4.3. Inadequacy of Dance Industry and Market

Although China's dance industry and market have achieved some development in recent years, there are still some shortcomings.

First of all, the market scale of Chinese dance industry is relatively small. Due to historical and cultural reasons, the development of the dance industry started late in China, and the market potential has not yet been fully tapped. At the same time, compared with other entertainment industries, such as movies and music, the market share of the dance industry is relatively small, and the industry value chain has not yet formed a complete closed loop [14]. Secondly, the consumer group of China's dance market is relatively limited. Dance, as a performing art, has a relatively small audience and is dominated by young people. And in China, dance performances often have high ticket prices, which limits the access of some potential audiences. In addition, dance performances also have certain limitations in cultural dissemination and promotion, resulting in the dance market not having a wide enough consumer base [15]. In addition, the development of China's dance industry faces certain policy constraints. In China, the dance performance market is strictly regulated, and all kinds of performance activities need to be approved by relevant departments. Although the government's support for the cultural industry has been increasing in recent years, the policy constraints still affect the development of the industry to a certain extent when it comes to the dance industry [16]. In addition, China's dance industry is also deficient in talent training, work creation and dance performance. At present, the domestic dance education and training system is not perfect, and there is a shortage of professional dance talents. In terms of dance creation, there is a lack of works with innovative and unique styles, and many dance works still remain at the level of imitation and inheritance. As for dance performance, the acting skills and expressiveness of actors need to be improved, and there is a big gap with the international first-class level [17].

5. Countermeasure Suggestions for the Development of Chinese Dance

5.1. Improvement of Dance Creation and Innovation

In the long history of Chinese dance, it carries rich traditional culture as well as shows the style of the times [18]. However, in contemporary times, in the face of the impact of globalized culture and the development of diversified aesthetics, the ability of Chinese dance creation and innovation is particularly important. Improving dance creation and innovation ability not only can keep the dance art alive and energetic, but also is the key to promote the development of China's dance career.

First of all, the enhancement of dance creation and innovation ability requires dance artists to deeply excavate and inherit the traditional elements of Chinese dance, combine these traditional elements with modern dance language, and create dance works with the characteristics of the times and national characteristics. At the same time, dance artists should actively absorb the advanced experience and technology of international dance art, so as to enrich the expression form and artistic language of Chinese dance. Secondly, the enhancement of innovative ability of dance creation needs to strengthen the research and communication of dance creation. Dance artists, choreographers and scholars should carry out interdisciplinary and cross-field exchanges and cooperation, and study dance creation from various perspectives, such as dance aesthetics, dance psychology, dance sociology, etc., so as to stimulate new creative inspirations in theoretical research and practical exploration. In addition, the enhancement of creative ability in dance
creation needs the support of dance education and training. Dance colleges and training institutions should pay attention to cultivating students' creative consciousness and practical ability, and stimulate students' creative potential by setting up diversified curriculum systems and organizing dance creation competitions, so as to cultivate a batch of dance talents with innovative spirit.

5.2. Strengthening Dance Education and Training

Dance education is an important way to cultivate dance talents, inherit dance culture and promote the development of dance industry. In recent years, China's dance education has made certain achievements, but compared with developed countries, there is still a certain gap. In order to better promote the development of dance education in China, the following aspects need to be strengthened.

First, improve the dance education system. From basic education to higher education, a perfect dance curriculum should be set up to cultivate students' dance literacy and aesthetic ability. At the same time, professional dance education should be strengthened to improve the quality of dance talent training. In addition, it is necessary to pay attention to the construction of dance education teachers and improve the professional level and teaching ability of teachers. Secondly, pay attention to the innovation of dance education content. In the process of dance education, it is necessary to inherit the classic dance culture, but also pay attention to the development of the times, and integrate modern dance elements into the educational practice. Encourage schools to carry out special dance education and cultivate students' dance specialties. Again, the integration of dance education with other fields should be strengthened. Dance education is closely related to music, art, literature and other fields, and through interdisciplinary communication and integration, it can enrich the connotation of dance education and improve the comprehensive quality of students. In addition, dance education should be combined with cultural industry and tourism industry to provide more practical opportunities for the training of dance talents. Finally, improve the popularization of dance education. By organizing various dance activities, more students can be exposed to the art of dance and stimulate their interest in dance. At the same time, strengthen the publicity of dance education and raise the awareness and attention of the whole society to dance education.

In conclusion, strengthening dance education is of great significance to cultivate dance talents, inherit dance culture and promote the development of dance industry. We should strengthen dance education from many levels to contribute to the prosperity of dance in China.

5.3. Developing Dance Industry and Market

Developing dance industry and market is one of the important countermeasures for China's dance development. The development of dance industry and market can not only provide more display platforms for dance artists, but also provide more learning and development opportunities for dance lovers.

In order to develop the dance industry and market, it is first necessary to strengthen the construction of the dance industry chain. This includes various links such as dance creation, dance performance, dance education and training, and dance performance. By creating a complete industrial chain, it can promote the interaction and development of each link, thus promoting the development of the whole industry. Secondly, it is necessary to strengthen the promotion and publicity of the dance market. Through various channels, such as the Internet, television, radio, etc., the art of dance is promoted to the public and the visibility and influence of the dance market is increased. There is also a need to strengthen the regulation of the dance market, combat piracy and infringement, and protect the rights and interests of dance artists. There is also a need to strengthen the development of dance education and training. By establishing more dance schools and training institutions, the quality of dance education will be improved and more dance talents will be trained. There is also a need to strengthen the popularization and education of dance enthusiasts and improve the quality and appreciation of dance audiences. Finally, international exchanges and cooperation in the dance industry need to be strengthened. Through exchanges and cooperation with the dance industry of other countries and regions, foreign dance works and ideas are introduced to promote the development and innovation of China's dance industry.

In general, the development of the dance industry and market requires the joint efforts of the whole society. Only through the implementation of measures such as strengthening the construction of the dance industry chain, promoting and publicizing the dance market, strengthening the development of dance education and training, as well as strengthening the international exchanges and cooperation of the dance industry, can the development of China's dance industry and market be promoted.

5.4. Promoting the Development of the Dance Performance Market

First of all, increase the publicity of the dance performance market. Popularize the art of dance through various channels, such as TV, Internet, social media, etc., to increase public awareness and appreciation of dance performances. At the same time, encourage dance groups and artists to participate in dance performance exchange activities at home and abroad to enhance the influence of Chinese dance in the international arena. Secondly, optimize the policy environment of the dance performance market. Government departments should introduce more policies conducive to the development of the dance performance market, such as tax incentives, financial support, venue provision, etc., to reduce the operating costs of the dance performance market and stimulate market vitality. Again, strengthen the supervision of the dance performance market. Regularized supervision of the dance performance market, crack down on ticket speculation, ticket scalping and other illegal acts, and safeguard the rights and interests of consumers. At the same time, standardize the order of the dance performance market and stimulate market vitality. Again, strengthen the supervision of the dance performance market. Regularized supervision of the dance performance market, crack down on ticket speculation, ticket scalping and other illegal acts, and safeguard the rights and interests of consumers. At the same time, standardize the order of the dance performance market and stimulate market vitality.

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talents with international vision and professional level, so as to provide talent guarantee for the development of China's dance performance market.

6. Conclusion

As one of China's outstanding traditional cultures, Chinese dance has evolved and developed over thousands of years, carrying the rich history and culture of the Chinese nation. In the context of the new era, the development of Chinese dance faces many challenges and opportunities. By analyzing the current situation of China's dance development, we can see the diversification of dance art creation, the popularization of dance education and training, the gradual improvement of the dance industry and market, and the activity of dance performance. However, there are still problems such as insufficient creative and innovative ability, imbalance of dance education and training, limitations of dance industry and market, and single market of dance performance.

In order to solve these problems, we need to start from improving the creative and innovative ability of dance, strengthening dance education and training, developing the dance industry and market, and promoting the development of the dance performance market. The government should increase support for dance creation, encourage dance artists to explore traditional culture, innovate dance forms, and enhance the expressive and infectious power of dance art. At the same time, it should strengthen dance education and training, cultivate dance talents with high quality, and improve the overall level of the dance team. In addition, it is also necessary to promote the development of the dance industry and market, through market-oriented operation, broaden the channels of dance performance, increase the opportunities for dance performance, attract more audience attention and participation in dance art.

In conclusion, the development of Chinese dance has both challenges and opportunities. Only through strengthening the development of dance creation and innovation, dance education and training, dance industry and market, as well as dance performance market, can we promote the prosperity of China's dance industry. Let us work together to make greater contributions to the inheritance and development of Chinese dance art.

References


