Chinese Children's Choir The Artistic Style of Northern Children's Choir

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Abstract: The aim of this study is to explore the artistic styles of Chinese children's chorus - Northern children's chorus. Firstly, the acoustic characteristics, repertoire selection and arrangement, as well as performance styles and techniques of northern children's chorus are discussed. Then it analyses the song forms, stage images and costumes, as well as stage sets and lighting effects of northern children's chorus. It then discusses the teaching methods and teaching materials, vocal training and skill development, and artistic quality and team consciousness of Northern children's chorus. Then the development history of children's choir in the north is reviewed, successful cases are analysed and evaluated, and future trends and challenges are discussed. Finally, a conclusion is made, including a summary of the study and a prospect of the existing problems.

Keywords: Northern Children's Chorus; Artistic Style; Performance Form; Training and Education; Development and Prospects.

1. Introduction

Chinese children's chorus, as a unique form of music, has always been highly loved and respected by people. As one of the important branches of Chinese children's chorus, Northern children's chorus has its unique artistic style and characteristics. With the rapid development of China's economy and the strengthening of cultural exchanges, the influence of northern children's chorus at home and abroad is increasing, and it has attracted the attention of more and more scholars and artists. However, there are relatively few studies on northern children's chorus at home and abroad. At present, the research on children's chorus in the north mainly focuses on its acoustic characteristics and performance skills, and the in-depth exploration of its artistic style is still relatively insufficient. The research on the training and education of children's chorus in the north, as well as the development and prospect of children's chorus in the north is also still blank. Therefore, this study aims to systematically explore the artistic characteristics, performance forms, training and education of children's chorus in the north, as well as its development and prospects. Through in-depth research on the art and education of children's chorus in the north, it aims to provide theoretical guidance and practical reference for the further development and enhancement of children's chorus in the north. At the same time, this study will also explore the future development trends and challenges of northern children's chorus by analysing and evaluating its successful cases, so as to provide valuable experience and inspiration for researchers and practitioners in related fields.

2. Artistic Characteristics of Northern Children's Chorus

2.1. Sound Characteristics
First of all, in the choice of repertoire, attention should be paid to the adaptability and challenge of the repertoire. Adaptability means that the repertoire should be in line with the children's range and timbre characteristics, whether it is a children's solo or choral ensemble, should be able to reflect the children's clear and innocent tone. Challenging means that the repertoire should have a certain degree of difficulty, so children can get a sense of achievement and improve their skills. The repertoire should have a certain degree of difficulty, so children can get a sense of achievement and improve their skills.

Secondly, the volume control of northern children's chorus is very important. In the singing process, the children's choir needs to reasonably adjust the volume according to different repertoire and occasions. In the melodic lyrical repertoire, the children's choir shows the soft and delicate volume to show the beauty of the repertoire; while in the exciting and passionate repertoire, the choir needs to show the full and powerful volume to express the impact of the repertoire.

In addition, the northern children's chorus has a wide range. In the music arrangement, different ranges are arranged according to the characteristics of different vocal parts. Generally speaking, the children's chorus has a relatively high range and can easily sing the treble part, but its performance in the bass part is relatively limited. Therefore, in the selection and arrangement of the repertoire, it is necessary to determine the range of the register according to the characteristics of the children's chorus and the actual situation, in order to ensure the smoothness and harmony of the singing.

Finally, the sound quality of northern children's choir is also one of its acoustic characteristics. Sound quality refers to the characteristics of the musical sound itself. Northern children's chorus is famous for its clear and bright sound quality. In order to ensure the beautiful sound quality, the choir needs to carry out targeted vocal training and focus on the cultivation of vocal skills. In the process of singing, the choir should reasonably use breathing control, resonance and other skills according to the repertoire and performance needs, to improve the purity of the sound quality and the beauty of the tone.

2.2. Selection and Arrangement of Repertoire
First of all, in the choice of repertoire, attention should be paid to the adaptability and challenge of the repertoire. Adaptability means that the repertoire should be in line with the children's range and timbre characteristics, whether it is a children's solo or choral ensemble, should be able to reflect the children's clear and innocent tone. Challenging means that the repertoire should have a certain degree of difficulty, so children can get a sense of achievement and improve their musical skills in the process of singing.
Secondly, when arranging the repertoire, it is necessary to consider the unity and diversity of the repertoire. Unity means that the repertoire has a similar artistic style and emotional expression, so that the whole performance has a consistent effect. Diversity means that there should be differences between the repertoire, including changes in rhythm, key, style, etc., so as to increase the richness and interest of the performance.

In addition, when selecting and arranging the repertoire, it is also necessary to consider the audience's acceptance and appreciation experience. The choice of repertoire should take into account the audience's cultural background and level of musical knowledge, and try to choose the repertoire that the public is familiar with and loves, so as to increase the audience's sense of participation and interest. At the same time, the arrangement of repertoire should pay attention to the ups and downs and sense of hierarchy, through the arrangement of different rhythms and emotions of the repertoire, so that the whole performance has the artistic effect of ups and downs.

In conclusion, repertoire selection and arrangement is an important part of the artistic style of northern children's chorus. By reasonably selecting adaptable and challenging repertoire, and reasonably arranging unity and diversity, it can make the northern children's chorus performance more vivid and wonderful, and can improve the children's musical literacy and team consciousness. In future practice, further research and exploration are needed to continuously improve the repertoire selection and arrangement strategies of northern children's chorus.

2.3. Performance Style and Technique

In terms of performance style, the Northern Children's Choir pays attention to the combination of tradition and modernity, and strives to incorporate modern music elements on the basis of maintaining the traditional flavour, so as to make the singing more individual and modern. In terms of traditional music, Northern Children's Choir focuses on dignified and solemn singing style, pursuing the purity and beauty of music. At the same time, the use of modern music elements also makes the performance style of northern children's choir more diversified, lively and dynamic. When singing, the children's choir should pay attention to the matching of timbre and the details of the performance, so that the audience can feel the emotion and connotation contained in the music itself.

At the same time, the northern children's choir also has certain characteristics in the use of skills. Firstly, in the processing of sound, attention should be paid to the overall volume control and rhythm of the choir. Because the chorus is a multi-part ensemble, it is necessary to ensure that the volume of each part is balanced, and the overall sound is clear and bright. Secondly, strict requirements on pitch, to maintain the children's choir voice perfect match, forming a double enjoyment of audio and visual. For example, "My Country and I", "Ode to Joy", etc., these works through the colorful stage image and gorgeous choreography, and children's chorus voice perfectly match, forming a double enjoyment of audio and visual.

3. Performance Forms of Northern Children's Chorus

3.1. Song Form

First of all, in the song form of northern children's chorus, classic national songs are a highlight. These songs are selected from the folk traditional music of various nationalities, with sincere lyrics and simple melody. For example, "Jasmine Flower", "Red Plum Praise" and so on, these classic national songs have been widely sung in the northern children's chorus. In the singing process, the children's choir focuses on integrating the emotional expression of national music, and conveys the respect and love for traditional culture through the delicate voice and pure timbre.

Secondly, the song forms of northern children's choirs also include the creation and interpretation of modern musical works. With the development of the times and the progress of music, many composers began to create modern musical works suitable for children's chorus. For example, "Promise under the Stars", "Memories of Childhood", etc. This modern music works in the northern children's choir singing, showing the children's choir's unique clear and bright voice and lively and dynamic performance. In the song form of the Northern Children's Choir, there are also some works with special themes or expressions.

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3.2. Stage Presence and Costumes

Stage images and costumes play an important role in the Northern Children's Choir performance. They can not only show the overall style and characteristics of the children's choir but also strengthen the audience's visual impact on the performance and enhance the viewing pleasure. This chapter will focus on the design and selection of stage images and costumes of the Northern Children's Chorus. The stage image of the Northern Children's Choir focuses on showing the characteristics of childishness, cuteness, and innocence.

In the design of stage images, the children's innocence is usually taken into account, trying to make them look cute and eye-catching on stage. Therefore, stage images are usually designed in a bright, lively, and colorful way. Therefore, stage images are usually designed in a bright, lively and colourful way. In the choice of costumes, the Northern Children's Chorus will usually be based on the style and theme of the performance repertoire.

In the choice of costumes, the northern children's chorus will usually be based on the style and theme of the performance repertoire. The design of stage costumes should be in harmony with the repertoire and its performance style as well as meet the aesthetic requirements of the audience. For example, when singing lively and cheerful songs, brightly coloured and exaggerated costumes can be chosen to increase the visual effect of the performance; while when singing soft and lyrical songs, light and soft costumes can be chosen to...
highlight the emotion of the songs.

In addition, the design of stage costumes also needs to take into account the age characteristics of children and the requirements of stage performance. The comfort and flexibility of the costumes are very important for children's performances, and they need to be able to show their body's dance movements and singing skills freely.

### 3.3. Stage Set and Lighting Effects

In the performance of Northern children's chorus, the stage set plays the role of the top and bottom. The design of the stage set should take into account the venue and the audience's viewing angle, but also be in line with the theme requirements. The design of the stage set should take into account the venue and the audience's viewing angle, but also in line with the theme requirements. For example, in the singing of grand epic songs, you can design a magnificent landscape background, giving a grand and majestic feeling; while in the singing of youthful and energetic songs, you can design a campus background full of vitality and energy. The design of the stage set should highlight the theme of the performance so that the audience can better understand the expression of the song.

Lighting effects are also crucial in the performance of the Northern Children's Chorus. It can bring more distinctive visual effects to the stage set and performers, and enhance the atmosphere and emotional expression of the scene. Lighting design should be based on the style and rhythm of the performance pieces, and precisely control the brightness, color, and change of the light, to create just the right light and shadow effects. For example, in the singing of passionate songs, you can use bright red light to create a warm and passionate atmosphere; while in the singing of gentle lyrical songs, you can use soft yellow light to create a warm and romantic atmosphere. Through the clever use of lighting, you can make the performance more varied and layered.

At the same time, the coordination of the stage set and lighting effects also need to have a good match. They should echo each other and set off each other, making the whole performance more harmonious and perfect. When designing the stage set and lighting, the overall style and theme of the repertoire need to be taken into account to enhance the artistic effect and visual impact of the performance as much as possible.

In the future development of children's chorus in the north, the importance of stage scenery and lighting effects will be more prominent. With the continuous progress of science and technology, the technical means of stage scenery and lighting will be more abundant and diversified, which will bring more wonderful and shocking effects to the performance. Therefore, stage set and lighting designers need to continue to learn and innovate, to integrate more artistic elements into the design, and to present the audience with more expressive and infectious performance.

### 4. Training and Education of Northern Children's Choir

#### 4.1. Teaching Methods and Teaching Materials

First of all, for the choice of teaching methods, diversified methods can better stimulate students' learning interests and potential. In the teaching process of Northern Children's Chorus, a variety of teaching methods should be used, such as demonstration teaching, listening teaching, practical teaching, and so on. Demonstration teaching can be carried out through the singing of instructors or excellent choirs, and students can improve their singing skills and expressive ability through imitation and singing along. Aural teaching emphasizes the cultivation of students' music perception ability and improves their music appreciation and performance skills by listening to different types of musical works. Practical teaching combines theoretical knowledge with actual practice, consolidates what students have learned, and improves the overall effect of the choir by letting them participate in singing and choral activities in person.

Secondly, the selection of teaching materials is a part of the teaching process that cannot be ignored. Good teaching materials should not only have a certain depth of knowledge but also meet the characteristics and requirements of children's chorus. In the teaching of children's chorus in the north, we should choose teaching materials that reflect the characteristics of Chinese culture and meet the interests of students. The content of the teaching materials should contain a rich variety of children's chorus repertoire, ranging from classical choral works to modern compositions, focusing on the artistry and expressiveness of the songs, but also taking into account the adaptability of the student's age and vocal characteristics. At the same time, the teaching materials should also provide detailed singing instructions and skill explanations to help students correctly understand and master the requirements of choral skills, pitch, and rhythm.

In addition, the teaching methods and selection of teaching materials need to be adjusted according to the characteristics of students of different ages. For younger students, a game-based teaching method can be used to stimulate their motivation and desire to learn through games and competitions. For older students, inquiry-based teaching methods can be used to encourage independent thinking and creative expression and to develop their musical literacy and teamwork skills.

#### 4.2. Vocal Training and Skill Development

Firstly, vocal training is the foundation of a children's choir. Vocal training includes the cultivation of basic skills such as breathing, vocalization, and resonance. Through scientific breathing training, the choir can master the correct breathing method, enhance lung capacity and breathing control ability, and provide sufficient breath support for singing. At the same time, vocal training helps to develop the vocal stability and clarity of children's choir members, so that they can maintain good sound quality and pitch in the singing process. Resonance training can help chorus members develop a good resonance cavity, improve the penetration and flavor of the voice, and make the singing effect more outstanding.

Secondly, skill development is an important part of children's choir to improve their singing level. Skill development includes range expansion, tone shaping, coordination, and so on. Range expansion refers to widening the range of chorus members through practice, increasing their ability of pitch and bass, and improving the richness and expressiveness of singing. Tone shaping, on the other hand, through the joint efforts of chorus members, develops a unique choral tone style, so that the singing has distinctive personality characteristics. In addition, coordination training helps chorus members to collaborate and understand each other during the singing process, which ensures the overall effect of the music is perfect.

In the process of implementing vocal training and skill development, professional guidance and appropriate methods
are crucial. Choirs need experienced vocal teachers to guide them and develop scientific and reasonable training programs. In addition, a combination of classroom teaching and individual counseling will help choir members to strike a balance between individual skill development and overall collaboration. At the same time, vocal training and skill development should be systematic and progressive, and the training should be targeted according to the actual level and needs of the chorus members to achieve the best results.

4.3. Cultivation of Artistic Literacy and Team Awareness

First of all, to cultivate artistic literacy, the team should focus on each member's learning and mastery of basic music knowledge and skills. This includes the cultivation of music theory knowledge, singing skills, vocal training, and so on. Choral conductors and music educators should formulate a systematic teaching plan to provide members with rich musical materials and training opportunities so that they can continuously improve their musical skills.

In addition, the team should strengthen the cultivation of art appreciation and performance skills. Members of choral teams should have the ability to understand and appreciate musical works and be able to accurately read out lyrics and interpret appropriate emotions. They should also learn how to cooperate with others, play to their strengths, and work well with each other in a team. Performance skills can be developed through regular group rehearsals and stage performance training.

A sense of teamwork is crucial to the success of a choral team. Team members should develop a sense of common purpose and the ability to collaborate to ensure overall musical and performance effectiveness. Choral conductors and music educators should set up a team reward mechanism to encourage team members to cooperate and help each other and organize regular collective activities to enhance team cohesion.

The cultivation of artistic literacy and team awareness also needs to focus on the balance between individual development and overall development. While cultivating individual artistic literacy, the chorus team should focus on cultivating the overall performance ability and artistic level. Team members should always keep the identity of the overall goal, and improve the performance level of the whole team through common efforts and training.

5. Development and Prospect of Northern Children's Choir

5.1. The Development History of Northern Children's Choir

The development of children's choirs in the North can be traced back to the 1950s and 1960s when children's choirs in the north started late due to the limitations of social and economic conditions and the lack of music education resources. However, through years of hard work and unremitting pursuit, the Northern Children's Choir gradually showed its unique artistic style and achievements.

In the early stage of development, the main goal of the children's choir in the north is to cultivate children's interest in music and expressiveness. At first, this form was mainly based on some school and community choirs, which inspired children's love of music by carrying out some simple choral activities. Over time, more and more educational institutions began to pay attention to children's choir in the north, and have opened relevant courses and training sessions to provide children with more professional music education.

In the decades after the reform and opening up, the Northern Children's Chorus has made great progress. Under the impetus of education reform, the popularity of music education has gradually increased, and more and more children have access to choral singing as an art form. Some excellent choral conductors and music educators have joined the cause of children's chorus in the north, bringing more innovation and development opportunities to this field.

At the same time, the repertoire of children's chorus in the north is gradually enriched and diversified. From the traditional children's songs at the beginning to the chamber choral works and independent compositions, to the cross-border cooperation and innovative attempts now, the musical forms and expressions of the northern children's chorus are gradually rich and diversified, presenting a more unique and personalized artistic style.

In addition, the Northern Children's Choir focuses on cultivating the children's musical literacy and stage performance ability by continuously improving their choral skills and performance styles. The management and organization of the choir are also becoming more and more perfect, focusing on cultivating the children's team consciousness and collaborative ability. These efforts have made the Northern Children's Choir achieve remarkable results and recognition at home and even internationally.

With society's increasing emphasis on art education, the development prospect of Northern Children's Choir is very optimistic. In recent years, more and more music colleges and art education institutions have begun to offer professional children's chorus courses to cultivate more talented children's chorus talents. At the same time, the support of the government and the community for art education is also increasing, providing a more favorable environment and opportunities for the development of children's chorus in the north.

However, the development of children's chorus in the north also faces some challenges and problems. On the one hand, due to the unbalanced distribution of educational resources and insufficient popularisation of art education, the children's chorus career in some areas is still in a relatively weak state. On the other hand, the education and training system of the children's chorus still needs to be further improved, and the professional teaching team and standardized teaching methods need to be upgraded urgently.

5.2. Analysis and Evaluation of Successful Cases

Firstly, Beijing Children's and Young People's Choir is one of the representative groups of children's Choruses in China. The group was founded in 1958 and has a history of several decades. Their performance repertoire is wide-ranging, covering a variety of fields such as Chinese classical, modern, and ethnic music. They focus on the integration and coordination of voices in their acoustic characteristics and show the unique charm of Chinese children's chorus through the delicate expression of vocal parts. In addition, they are very delicate in the selection and arrangement of repertoire, able to make appropriate selections and reasonable arrangements according to different themes and occasions, to show rich musicality and emotional expression.

Secondly, Hebei Provincial Children's Choir is a highly
regarded northern children's choir. They are committed to combining traditional northern music with choral art to create a unique and characteristic performance style. The choir focuses on the cultivation of performance skills and makes great efforts in the design of stage images and costumes. They focus on the team's overall cooperation ability, and show a high degree of tacit understanding and team spirit in the performance, bringing the audience visual and audio enjoyment.

In addition, the Shanxi Provincial Children's Choir is also an important force in the field of children's choir in the north. They are excellent in the use of stage sets and lighting effects and can present a unique visual effect to the audience through the arrangement of the stage and the deployment of lights, increasing the artistic impact of the performance. They also pay great attention to their vocal training and skill development, and through careful teaching methods and selection of appropriate teaching materials, they have produced several outstanding child singers.

Overall, the analyses and evaluations of these success stories show that northern children's choirs have an important position and role in music education and performance. They have made positive contributions to the development of the Northern Children's Chorus through innovation and development in acoustic characteristics, repertoire selection and arrangement, performance styles and techniques, song forms, stage images and costumes, stage sets and lighting effects, teaching methods, and teaching materials selection, vocal training and skills development, and artistic qualities and teamwork awareness development.

5.3. Future Development Trends and Challenges

First of all, with the continuous development of society and the expansion of the children's chorus audience, the performance form and repertoire selection of the children's chorus will be more diversified and personalized. In the future, children's chorus will pay more attention to innovation and breakthroughs in artistic expression, constantly explore new music repertoire suitable for children's voice development, and at the same time pay more attention to cultivating and showing children's unique artistic expression ability.

Secondly, the training and education of children's chorus will pay more attention to specialization and systematization. To improve the artistic level of the children's chorus and cultivate more excellent children's chorus teams, the teaching methods and teaching materials will be more scientific and professional. In addition, vocal training and skill development will be paid more attention to, through scientific training methods and skill development, to improve the children's artistic quality and team consciousness.

Thirdly, the future development of children's choirs will pay more attention to international integration exchange, and cooperation. With the intensification of globalization, children's choirs will have more frequent and closer exchanges and cooperation in the international community. Through exchanges and cooperation with outstanding foreign chorus teams, we can learn from and absorb international advanced experience, which will promote the development of Chinese children's chorus.

Finally, the future development of children's choirs will face some challenges. Firstly, the professional training and education cost of children's choir is high, so how to guarantee the supply of funds and resources will be an important challenge. Secondly, the diversity of children's chorus audience groups and the individualization of needs is also a challenge. How to better meet the needs of different audience groups and provide more diversified performance forms and repertoire choices will be a major challenge for the development of children's chorus in the future.

6. Conclusion

6.1. Research Summary

This study has comprehensively explored and researched the artistic style of the Northern Children's Chorus. By analyzing the acoustic characteristics, repertoire selection and arrangement, performance styles and techniques, stage image, and costumes of the northern children's Chorus, we have gained an in-depth understanding of the artistic characteristics and performance forms of northern children's Chorus. In terms of the training and education of children's chorus in the north, we found that the teaching method and teaching material selection, vocal training, and skill cultivation, artistic quality, and team consciousness cultivation are the keys. In the analysis of the development and prospect of the children's chorus in the North, we evaluate and look forward to the development history, successful cases, and future development trends of the chorus in the North.

6.2. Problems and Prospects

Firstly, the Northern Children's Chorus has certain deficiencies in terms of acoustic characteristics. Due to limited equipment conditions, the sound equipment in some performance venues is not perfect, resulting in unsatisfactory singing effects. Therefore, we need to devote ourselves to improving the quality and effect of sound equipment to enhance the singing quality.

Secondly, there are some problems in repertoire selection and arrangement. At present, the repertoire selection of children's chorus in the north is relatively single, lacking diversity and innovation. At the same time, the arrangement of the repertoire is not rich and diverse enough, lacking a sense of hierarchy and highlights. Therefore, we need to strengthen the excavation and creation of the repertoire, focus on diversity and uniqueness, and improve the artistry and ornamental of singing.

In addition, there are also some problems in the performance style and skills. The performance style of the northern children's chorus is generally in favor of tradition, lacking modernity and innovation. Meanwhile, in terms of performance skills, the performance skills of some choral groups are not mature enough and need to be further improved and perfected. Therefore, we need to constantly explore new performance styles and techniques to inject more vitality and charm into Northern Children's Chorus.

In addition, the stage image and costumes of the Northern Children's Chorus also need to be improved. At present, some chorus teams lack unity and professionalism in stage image and costumes and have not formed a unique style and image. Therefore, we need to pay attention to the design and presentation of the stage image, carefully choose suitable costumes, and create a recognizable and artistic image of the northern children's Chorus.

In addition, the stage set and lighting effects also need to be strengthened. At present, the stage sets and lighting effects of some performance venues are not exquisite and professional enough, which affects the viewing effect of the
whole performance. Therefore, we need to strengthen the design and arrangement of stage scenery and lighting effects to enhance the visual effect and artistic sense of the performance.

In the training and education of children's chorus in the north, there are also some problems with the teaching methods and choice of teaching materials. At present, the teaching methods of some chorus groups are relatively traditional, lacking diversity and pertinence. At the same time, the selection of teaching materials needs to be more careful and scientific to suit the characteristics and needs of children of different ages. Therefore, we need to keep exploring and innovating teaching methods, actively searching for suitable teaching materials, and improving the educational quality and achievements of children's chorus in the North.

In terms of vocal training and skill development, we encourage the Northern Children's Choir to strengthen professional vocal training and improve the control of pitch and tone. At the same time, we focus on cultivating the children's artistic qualities and team awareness and improving their singing skills and co-operation ability.

Finally, for the development and prospect of children's chorus in the north, we should actively advocate and support the exchange and cooperation of chorus teams to promote the interaction and development of children's chorus in the north. At the same time, we need to pay close attention to the relevant developments and trends at home and abroad, and adjust and update our development strategies to maintain the leading position of Northern Children's Chorus in the field of art.

References