Exploration of the Application and Artistic Value of Music in the Film of “Dying to Survive”

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ABSTRACT. As a phenomenological realistic film, the film “Dying to Survive” focuses on some sensitive social issues in the society, inspiring viewers to rethink about morality, law, humanity and other aspects thus promoting a wide range of social effects. From the perspective of audio-visual language, music is an important part that cannot be ignored in this film. The music of this film strengthens emotional effect and story climax from the different forms, kinds and connotations, enhancing the cohesion of the film. From the perspective of technicality and artistry of music, this paper analyzes the specific application of film and television music and the artistic value of sound aesthetics combined with narration.

KEYWORDS: Film and television music; The sound; Music montage; Artistic value

1. The Specific Application of Music in “Dying to Survive”

1.1 The Application of Theme Music and Background Music

The theme music in the movie “Dying to Survive” comes from a popular song “Longing for Plain”. As the theme music, the word are moving and real and the overall melody carries the heavy feeling. The lyrics of this song are just right blended with the development of the storyline in the film. In the film, Cheng Yong’s character gradually changes qualitatively from the helpless confusion to the positive temperament, the lyrics and tune have changed. The soothing tune can make the viewers feel the experience of the helpless of Cheng Yong when he saw the death of Lv Shouyi and the young man.

Life is the most important thing. The singers, Zhang Jie and Zhang Bichen, sing the song softly, making Cheng Yong return to the reality. The lyrics of “willing to fight for danger” is a recognition of Cheng Yong. “There is no aura of God, you and me. Born and ordinary” Cheng Yong, who returned to reality, has a human glory at this time, retreating from the aura to complete self-salvation, returning to the ordinary from the “medicine god. The ordinary is very important and rare. The song is also expressing the patients in the movie to the audience. They are suffering from illness at all times, and we are healthy. Therefore, the deeper meaning of the film tells the audience to cherish everything in front of us, including family, friends, and lover. We need be gentle to them. This is a manifestation of growth and maturity. People are most happy when they have these. When the theme music gradually sounds at the end of the film, the audience further perceives the theme of the film, which inspires a strong emotional feeling. The life is long and short, strong and fragile. Without the aura of God, only the ordinary exists. We are all ordinary people, but some people have extraordinary lives in ordinary life.

In the film “Dying to Survive”, the most representative background music is “Song of Medicine God”, sung by singers, Ning Hao, Wen Muye and Huang Chao. When the music sounded, the content of the screen was a steady stream of purchases after Cheng Yong obtained the agency rights. More and more people queued to buy medicines. Cheng Yong became the “Big gun”, wearing sunglasses and flying money in the air. All of these reflect the changes of the character. The changes in the attitude of life and the characteristics coincides with the tone of the background music. The whole song is light when the hero show his splendor, the team is harmonious and the development is rapid. Everything is on the normal track. The picture and the song at this time are synchronized with a fast clip, rhythm. Consistently on the side, the side shows Cheng Yong’s greed for money and the pleasure of being praised. The brisk style and self-deprecating lyrics are in stark contrast. Through the music, the character's fate is portrayed and the black humorous situation is set as the public, serving as a deep foreshadowing for the story.
1.2 Application of Voice over and Voice in

In the film “Dying to Survive”, a large amount of voice over are used to render the atmosphere in the film, highlight the character's psychology, and create a suspense atmosphere by means of audio-visual means. For example, the film begins with the Indian songs that the Chinese are particularly familiar with. The Indian god oil, the photo of two main characters (Cheng Yong and the Indian) etc. are shown in the camera as a details. Appeared in half a minute, these props not only show the work environment, occupations, and background of the story of the protagonist's life, but also paves the way for the following story.

At the same time, the voice over with strong rhythm has begun to reappear many times. For example, when Cheng Yong went to India to purchase generic drugs, the voice over in the film sounded to show the intricate and chaotic environment of India and the leading character Cheng Yong as a grassroots image crashing on money. The second is when Cheng Yong's return to the country and make the promotion of Indian medicine with friends, the voice over sounded, showing the tacit understanding between Cheng Yong and Lv Shouyi. With the development of the plot, the voice over appeared in the episodes of Lv Shouyi and a young man's death. Cheng Yong passed through the patients wearing masks at the door of Lv Shouyi. Cheng Yong’s heart-wrenching sorrows all appeared on his face. At this time, the music followed, and further let the audience realize the heavy feeling of Cheng Yong at this moment. After the accidental death of the young man, the voice over became slower and more sad. On the one hand, the music revealed the sentiment of Cheng Yong. On the other hand, the music expressed that the world of the young man will return to calm forever, and will never suffer from illness. Therefore, as a kind of “hidden” music, the voice over has a strong sense of subjectivity through the story, deeply affecting the audience's emotions and giving the audience a direct feeling. It can be said that the voice over gives the more profound meaning to thee film.

When it comes to voice in, there are two scenes in the nightclub. The first scene shows the work environment of Liu Sihui. Every day, she earns money from a pole dance at a nightclub to buy a sky high price medicine for her daughter with chronic myeloid leukemia. The second scene shows Cheng Yong’s team celebrated together, showing that they were earning money through the channels of importing drugs.

1.3 The Application of Synchronization of Sound and Picture, Contrast of Sound and Picture, and Parallel Sound and Picture

First of all, the synchronization of sound and picture refers to the unity of the artistic style, the background and the social environment of music and picture content, and is followed by the unity of the mood and atmosphere of music and pictures. The film episode “Song of Medicine” appeared when Cheng Yong won the agent representation. The rhythm and melody of the song were consistent with the picture of the quick clips, which is intended to express the pleasure of Cheng Yong and the desire for greed. In addition, the film uses a large number of sound and picture synchronization. All of these carries many meanings, which are thought-provoking, sad, and pleasant. It is the synchronization that fully express the pure emotions of the story.

Secondly, the contradiction between sound and picture means that music and pictures are completely opposite in emotion. The application of this form has a unique aesthetic value. In this situation, the audience should be active and deeply understand the connotation of the film. In the movie, Zhang Changlin sells fake medicines at a cheap price, and seizes the psychology of the patients who are “sickly rushing to the hospital.” All patients applaud him. The song “Grateful Heart” appears in the picture. At this moment, the music and Zhang Changlin's hypocritical face formed a strong contrast. Therefore, the article believes that the opposition of sound and picture has a special role in the film. The contradiction between the fake drug dealer and the patient, the intertwining of justice and evil, and the binary opposition between good and evil will be among the typical characters. The ugly part of the set is more eye-catching, resulting in an artistic effect of the beauty and ugliness.

Finally, it is the parallel application of sound and picture. At the end of the film, the young man and Cheng Yong talked at the seaside at dusk. The background music is the theme song of the guitar playing “Longing for Plain”, the music deepens the visual image of the picture through the auditory image, making the audience's emotions blended into the content of the picture to make the story more touching. But the music at this moment is not limited to the content of the picture, but a review and summary of all the content of the previous plot. The music is used to interpret the ideological connotation of the whole film. At the same time, it should be conveyed to the audience and let the audience reflect and understand themselves.

1.3 Application of Time and Space Music Montage
The music montage, a more common kind of music montage in film art, uses music to connect a group of shots. The content displayed by the lens can be in the same space, and the moment matches the context of the music. At the same time, narratives can be made in different spaces, consistent with the rhythm and mood of the music. The content in the shots takes place in time, and the music serves the advancement of the story. Secondly, the music is in the chronological order as the vertical axis, and the scenes are vertically connected in series and merged into the atmosphere of the scene, so that the audience can more subtly accept the information. In the narrative of this film, Cheng Yong and Lv Shouyi visit hospitals and residential buildings from morning to night to promote Indian generic drugs. In these parts, the music fits into different spaces and scenes. Whether it is from the movements, lines or screens of the characters in the picture, the music follows the basic standards and aesthetic principles of the music montage in this process, reflecting the unique role and charm of the film and television music.

1.4 The Application of Audio Music

Acoustic music means that the sound operation mode has the performance and significance of music. The content that appears is the sound, but in fact it has the form of music and plays the role of music. In the film, Cheng Yong decided to disperse the friend who sold the medicine with him. On the table, the sound of the young man crushed the glass and the glass fragments was very crisp, echoing with his hair covered with blood in the picture. It shows the relationship between the psychological contradictions between characters. Although the sound of these fragments is relatively short-lived, it has risen to the meaning of musical aesthetics. Therefore, the integration of this music sound and plot highlights the heartbreak and disappointment of the young man and other friends on Cheng Yong’s betrayal.

2. The Artistic Value of Music in “Dying to Survive”

With the multidimensional development and pattern of film, the application of music has become a special form of artistic expression that must exist in movies. The director's cognition and control of music in his creation is extremely important, so its status is undoubtedly important. Whether it is the promotion of the plot of the movie, the portrayal of the characters of the movie, or the bursting of emotions, the music is very important. That is to say, it is the assistance of the music that makes the film with fully artistic sense and humanity.

2.1 Deepen the Theme

In this film, Cheng Yong’s betrayal is followed by Cheng Yong’s life after one year. In the course of this year, those patients who have been helped by Cheng Yong seem to have returned to the original point. Some people are puzzled, and some people are still grateful. The story changes the life of the Cheng Yong to reveal the suffering of the patients. Therefore, the director will inevitably tell the story together with the music in this episode, and the sound and the emotions of the picture will maintain a high degree of harmony and consistency. Secondly, another role can alleviate the audience's emotions. The narrative at this stage can be seen as an indirect transition, the continuation of emotions, that is, the transitional effect. And then the conflict is broken and the narrative is completed. Therefore, music compresses a narrative that spans a long time, and briefly explains the changes in the state of the characters and the changes in the surrounding environment. This clever approach expresses the central idea of the film and deepens the theme of the film.

2.2 Setting the Atmosphere

In the movie, no matter the addition of music or the use of sound montage, the most intuitive feeling for the viewer is to create an atmosphere. Music is the art of emotion. In the creation, the director should consider the comprehensive scheduling of characters, environment and camera to express the content of the picture in a refined lens language, and cooperate with appropriate music creation. Under the rendering effect of music, the final effect is in line with the director's creative intention. In the paragraph of this film, when the police are arresting the fake drug dealer Zhang Changlin and searching for fake drugs, the rhythm of the music gives the audience a feeling of tension and pleasure, and the heartstrings of the audience are connected with the emotions of the music. This effect allows the audience to feel immersive, sympathize with good people, and hate bad people. This kind of expression is a good way to cope with the psychological feelings of the audience, and to resonate through the role of music in the atmosphere.
2.3 Describe the Characters

The details of the film are composed of visual details on the image and auditory details[1]. As a detail, music has the role of portraying characters, explaining the environment, and conveying emotions. More importantly, once it participates in narrative and influences the story and relationship, it really becomes a core part of promoting narration. It can not only promote the appearance of typical characters, but also highlight the character of the characters and the relationship between the characters. Therefore, from this perspective, the artistic value of music has risen to the height of the details of the narration. In the movie, with the appearance of Mr. Liu, showing the music in the church and his pious prayers, it is obvious that this is to explain his identity to the audience: a Christian, and the image he has been shaped into. It is three-dimensional, flesh and blood. Fully accounted for the identity of Mr. Liu.

3. Conclusion

In summary, through the above analysis of the film “Dying to Survive”, it can be concluded that the application of film and television music is not only the part that the director should consider when creating, but also an important concern of the public in the film. In the art of cinema, it can be used as a material and as a flavoring agent to reconcile a delicious audio-visual feast. To a certain extent, the use of excellent film and television music can improve the aesthetic value of the whole film, which is conducive to the development of the story, telling the story, and benefiting the overall promotion of the film. Therefore, in the film creation, the application of film and television music should be paid attention to, deepen thinking. And the directors should make music truly a tool in creation.

References