

Study on the Development of Artistic Features of Xiangxi Miao Drum-Dancing, China

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ABSTRACT. *With the development of the social economy and the progress of The Times, the quality of people's life has been greatly improved, and Chinese traditional art is also gradually attached importance to. Chinese Xiangxi is located in Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Region, Hunan Province, China, so it is called "Xiangxi". It is an art form that the Miao drum-dancing, and its artistic and cultural value has been better highlighted at the present stage. The Miao drum-dancing not only enriches the life of Miao's people, but also becomes a treasure of folk culture and art in China. Based on this, this article makes a comprehensive and systematic research and analysis on the development of artistic form characteristics of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing, China.*

KEYWORDS: *Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing; Artistic features; The development*

1. Introduction

Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is an ethnic dance art with unique characteristics in the Region of Miao nationality in China. Some researchers believe that the Miao drum-dancing originated from the Miao sacrifice before the Han Dynasty, while others believe that it originated from the ancient Period of The Yellow Emperor. In a word, Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is the most precious folk art, and it has a long history, rich content and distinct ethnic characteristics, which is one of the most favorite forms of dance art expression of the Miao people in China.

2. The artistic form characteristics of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing, China

(1) Characteristics of the form of dance performance

There are many kinds of Miao drum-dancing in Xiangxi with various forms of performance. According to its performance form that can be divided into the form of single, double and four people of drum-dancing, and there are 36 drum beating skills in total. During the performance, the cowherd drum should be placed on the wooden stand, and the performer should hold the drum stick. One person should perform in the front, and another person should assume the accompaniment task at the side of the drum. Meanwhile, the drumbeat should be accompanied in the rhythm. Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing can be divided into several performance actions based on the form of performing. It mainly includes productive labor, customs, imitating animals and martial arts. Production labor is mainly in the form of farming, plowing and carrying water. Customs mainly to do farm work, cooking and other forms. For martial arts and boxing can choose to dance block, back arrow and other forms to carry out. The movement of imitating animals mainly acts as the lion rolling hydrangea, monkey climbing trees and so on. The female performer as the main participant of the Miao flower drum-dancing. Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is not only the embodiment of the life of Xiangxi Miao but also the characteristic and essence of the Miao.

(2) Costume characteristics of dance performance

Miao drum-dancing is an important part of Miao culture in Chinese Xiangxi. With the continuous development of the social economy that costume has changed from simple dark colors to bright colors, so the original art moves towards the stage performance. The modern male clothing of the Xiangxi Miao is mainly blue and white with a diagonal cross loincloth. They wear double-breasted clothes with seven buttons. The sleeves are long and small, and the trousers are short and big. The garments of Xiangxi Miao female tend to be luxuriant in color, with full lapses, over-waisted and loose cuffs. No matter of performance and the daily life that the Miao female prefer to wear silver ornaments, which with all kinds of styles.

(3) The dance drum beat and its characteristics

The Chinese regional difference makes the different kinds of the rhythm of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing such as Jishou and Baojing county. There are several differences in drumbeat and the beating skill, and the action of performing is left-hand plays a clap, right-hand took two forms in bilateral, and rhythm would be adjusted as the fast and slow. There is also a kind of drumbeat in Huaguan County, which has a complicated rhythm. It is a kind of drum beat with both hands, and the left-hand stops and the right hand continues to beat two beats at the same time. The rhythm of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is extremely complicated, and different beating rhythms represent different expressions and outbursts of emotion. In the performance process, its movement is more flexible, and the speed is different; the drumbeat is vigorous and powerful. Drum and side drum are the most outstanding forms of performance. The main play is the drumbeat, and the accompaniment is the side of the drum. This form of performance is unique unlike others.

(4) Characteristics of dance movements and steps

The form of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is very special, which is composed of the steps of the feet and the drumming movements of the upper body. The main steps are as follows: the first type of step is three steps, which means the left and right feet are crossed and exchanged in front many times; the second is the front and both sides of the small kick step, this step is mainly performed by the female with graceful dance and small movement range; the third is the rolling body method, in the process of drumming the body to change with the drums, and the movement changes are changeable; the fourth step is to step on three feet and take three steps. The dance steps are clean and flexible and can hit the rhythm of 3/8 at the highest in the performance. Most of the movements are martial arts, which are best used in physical exercise. The Xiangxi Miao people also express their perception of nature and life through drum-dancing, which demonstrates their colorful national culture.

3. The development of the art form of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing, China

(1) The development of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing in folk art activities, China

The setting of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is square, which is quite suitable for dancing. The main characteristic of the square dance is the simple steps and group performance. Most of the movements of square dancing come from life, and they do not need solid dancing skills. These movements are the reflection of people's living conditions and their positive attitude toward life. Square dance is easier to learn compared with other dances, so Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is one of the best choices as the square dance. In addition to drumming, everyone can participate in the performance, which is also a highly interactive square dance performance. In addition, the Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is also a unique local creature, which can reflect the traditional culture and national characteristics and beliefs of Miao nationality in West Hunan and convey its unique charm to the world. Drum-dancing as the most characteristic folk art of the Xiangxi Miao also developed tourism value and broadened tourism channels for West Hunan. Chinese Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is a form of dance expression that shows enthusiasm, unrestrained and forthright. It is completely different from the flexible beauty of dance in the imagination of citizens. Therefore, it has attracted a large number of tourists from home and abroad to watch it and won unanimous praise from the public.

(2) The brand-new development of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing in stage art, China

In recent years, the Xiangxi Miao has gradually moved from the mountains to the national stage of China and a broader international stage. In the past, the Miao's drum-dancing could only be regarded as a form of self-entertainment, but it could not meet the actual demand of stage art performance. However, with the continuous development of the social economy and the progress of the times, the life of the Xiangxi Miao has been greatly changed and improved. At the same time, many dance elements have been added to the Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing, which further sublimates the artistry of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing. Compared with the traditional form, the Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is closer to the stage and art. For example, the family of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing The Reunion Drum-dancing represent the new form of the Miao drum-dancing, and add the music based on the present traditional dance without music; the dance formation aspect also has improved, and combine the drum and dance of Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing closely. With the meticulous "processing" that makes Chinese Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing from life to a wider stage with a better development prospect.

4. Conclusion

To sum up, the Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is a historic folk art treasure. With the progress of history, some changes have taken place in the form of dance performance and artistic expression. What belongs to the nation belongs to the world. The Chinese Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing is an important embodiment of the life of the

Miao and spreads its unique charm throughout China and the world in the course of continuous development. With the continuous development of the Chinese economy, Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing has crossed over from life and production to political, economic and cultural fields. In the development of tourism, the Xiangxi Miao drum-dancing highlights its charm, which is recognized and praised by people all over the world. It also shows us the development and trend of Chinese folk art in the future.

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