

# On the artistic function of film music based on narratology

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**Abstract:** *Film is a comprehensive art. After entering the film, music broke through the space-time structure of the film, making the film a real audio-visual art with unique forms of expression. It has also become a kind of movie music combining audio and video. Become an indispensable part of film art. No music. The authenticity of the film cannot be fully expressed [1]. The role of music in movies is mainly manifested in the artistry of music itself, the rendering and contrast of music in movie narrative, and the construction of music in movie narrative. In the creation of film works, music art is one of the indispensable means to create suspense and express emotions in movies. Music with the right atmosphere and appropriate lens pictures can arouse the audience's desire to watch movies and attract the audience to watch the whole movie. Good music can not only reveal the theme of the film, but also lay the tone of the film's style. It can also help the film set the plot suspense [2].*

**Keywords:** *Film narration; music*

## 1. Introduction

To a great extent, the keynote of a film depends on the background music. Sometimes the film needs to express a specific emotion, such as joy and sadness, and sometimes it needs to create a specific atmosphere, such as solemnity, bustling and noisy. At this time, the film only has visual content, and there is no or very little dialogue. According to the needs of the picture content, adding different music can not only strengthen the characters' emotions, but also render the environment atmosphere, thus deepening the visual effect of the film, enhancing the artistic appeal of the film and setting off the atmosphere of the whole film [3]. One of the important reasons why movies attract the attention of many audiences is the cooperation between movies and music. The application of music by filmmakers in the process of making movies will make movies more vivid. At the same time, music plays a very important role in paving and developing the plot of movies and setting off the whole atmosphere of movies. Music should be consistent with the overall style of the film and complement the narrative structure of the film. This kind of film music can provide motive force for the development of film art form and add the true feelings of the film. Besides semantic expression (language and characters), it is a unique method to narrate movies through music, and it is also a very effective method. The variety of narrative modes of music has injected new and more vitality into the art of film. The study of music is of great practical significance to the construction of movies [4].

## 2. The role of music in film narrative

Background music can be divided into two types: in-picture music and voiceover music. Different nationalities and different times will produce different music cultures. The national culture and the spirit of the times will also have a great impact on music culture. Western classical music emphasizes harmony and melody, while Chinese traditional folk music is based on the five tones of "palace, business, horn, sign and feather" [5]. The purpose of using background music in the film is to enhance the audience's understanding of the story [6]. Therefore, the background music in the film can't be the superposition of several independent simple fragments. Music, as a kind of background element, participates in the construction of the narrative plot of the film, which first affects the audience's perceptual thinking. With the continuous improvement of the audience's music literacy, the perceptual thinking will gradually rise to rational thinking. In addition, the film music and the positioning of the hero's personal emotion in the film not only have strong emotional color. It can also connect the audience's perception with the era background of the film, so that the film music has obvious flavor of the times and distinct personal emotional characteristics.

### **3. Music's construction of film narrative time and space**

#### ***3.1. Music on the construction of film narrative plot***

The great charm of film is largely attributed to the excellent cooperation between film and music. Film workers' grasp and choice of music makes film art more colorful. Starting from the relationship between movie music and movie music narrative, this paper focuses on the construction of movie storyline, time and space of movie narrative and audience acceptance psychology by music, and then completes its own narrative function, fully excavating the side of movie music that highlights movie theme and renders scene atmosphere [7]. As far as film art is concerned, it is more brilliant because of the addition of music, which brings the audience excellent enjoyment in sight and hearing.

When the audience appreciates the quality of movie music, they can get accurate judgments through auditory feedback. In the long process of artistic development, the importance of melody and harmony has always existed. Under the influence of movie information, movie music will be closer to the audience's psychology. It can get unexpected results by discussing the audience's thinking mode and cutting people's emotional cognition. Music is an indispensable part of movies, which plays the role of rendering themes [8]. Many successful movie works are created by music to a great extent. The completion of the movie narrative also needs to be expanded by the space of movie music. The performance of the movie narrative is more distinct with the addition of this art form, and the emergence of characters' emotions and the creation of movie atmosphere will all constitute a part of the movie music narrative. There are some differences between pure music form and movie music form. Movie music can skillfully blend different movie elements and play a narrative role while paying attention to audio-visual feeling. To study the connotation of film music, we should start with its unique expression form, and then find more emotional content [9].

#### ***3.2. Music on the construction of the film story***

Although both music and film belong to the art spanning time and space, and the organic integration of music and film can participate in the construction of film narrative plot, the time and space scenes described in the film are more complex. However, it is precisely because of the film's characteristics that the film music has special time and space significance in the film narrative, and is fully utilized in the film's time and space, thus becoming an important means and way to construct the film narrative time and space [10]. To realize self-expression with rhythm and timbre of music, the time of linear progress is the primary, and the space of music displacement and modeling is the secondary. Music can travel through the story time and space of movies.

Film time can be divided into three types: skill time, essay time and screening time. There are two main ways to transform the sound source of a film: First, the narrative space of the film is changed by changing the musical attributes. This way, the narrative time of the film is broken, the narrative mode is changed, and the story presents a forward movement, changing the physical attributes of the sound, thus transforming the voice-over into the in-picture sound [11]. The second is to change the picture time and space of the film, but the property of music itself does not change. For example, in the film *Schindler's List*, the first sound source conversion method is used. At the railway station, many Jews waiting to be transferred are queuing and registering. When the typewriter is typing the list, the voice-over music *Black Sunday* slowly sounds, and then the picture changes to a small room, where the music *Black Sunday* is playing on the radio. At this time, with the transformation of time and space of story narration, the music of the film has changed from voice-over to voice-in. In the film *Red Violin*, the second mode of sound source conversion is used. Although music shows different time and space states in different forms. But it always runs through the narrative space of the film. Moreover, it effectively makes up for the intermittent narration caused by time and space break, which not only makes the story of the film natural and smooth, but also realizes the transformation of time and space of narrative [12]. Music also helps to show the long shots of movies. The film long shot refers to a continuous shot that shows the scene state in all directions. The use of long shot in the film can not only show different scene levels and depths at the same time, but also build multiple narrative spaces. The addition of film music can not only make the audience intuitively feel the narrative space of the film.

#### ***3.3. Music's psychological construction of audience acceptance***

The psychological change of the movie hero is an important point that arouses the audience's

resonance, and the development of the story follows this main line and plays the role of perceptual rendering. It is difficult to measure the attraction and moving degree of the story and movie music to the audience by a standard. There are similarities between the development of movies and the ups and downs of music. When the audience experiences an intermittent and ups and downs story, it will cause their own thinking to jump or ups and downs, prompting the audience to accept the views or information in movies. Art Academy is also the key for music to build the audience's acceptance psychology. Pictures are particularly important, but they are cleverly arranged by different static pictures, which is why the jumping and intermittent feeling of space-time effect comes from.

On the contrary, the switching of the lens allows the audience to see the continuous images. Music attracts the audience into the film space-time through different rhythm, timbre, melody and other factors. The change of melody is the key to reduce the speed of linear time extension, and the succession of different sounds constitutes various melodies. The film's construction of time and space by technology alone will cause a certain sense of discontinuity, while music just relies on its own continuity to fill the discontinuity of the film, so the audience can accept this clever way more psychologically. To a great extent, music has made great contributions to film technology. There are still many differences between the essence of pictures and music. There are also great differences between the way of constructing the audience's psychology and music. The more intuitive and vivid aspects are still reflected by the pictures, and the development of the movie storyline also needs the telling of the pictures. Subtle changes in hearing are unique to movie music, which is unmatched by visual images, and more shows people's inner emotional changes. The wonderful movie world has become so perfect because of pictures and music, and music has added a strong stroke to the movie theme for the construction of narrative time and space.

#### ***3.4. Music's construction of film narrative time-space transformation***

Narrative distinguishes the time of skill from the time of this article, and the time of screening is also a part of the time of movie. Whether it is the leading director, the actors involved in the filming, or the audience who finally appreciate the movie, they will put it in the movie time. The change of sound source is an important factor for film music to highlight the linear motion of the story. The time limit of the original three films will become blurred, and the narrative will become more free and ingenious. To some extent, the change of music attribute is due to the change of sound source, and the most common point is the switching between voice-over music and in-picture music. With the addition of music, narrative progress and ingenious changes become more smooth. Linear motion changes the sound source, which makes the film's spatio-temporal and narrative features more obvious. The change of music essential attribute is the main measure to complete the transformation of narrative environment, and it is also a kind of sound source transformation. Changes in physical attributes such as music will also change the narrative subject, and voice-over music can make a good transition to in-picture music. Complete clear expression through emotional words such as moving and liking. At the same time, the passage of time and the transformation of space exist in the film reasonably and naturally with the cooperation of music. Of course, the concatenation of story plots and the transformation of time and space, which are full of causality, in turn act on the shaping of characters. George's slightly neurotic struggle, sensitive and delicate inner world, under the background of music, under the support of plot, and with the cooperation of time and space, become more and more true and lovely. With the charm of music itself and the appeal of pictures, the inner activities of the hero are displayed straightforwardly, and then the characterization is completed [12].

#### **4. Conclusions**

This art form of film has been tempered and upgraded for more than 100 years. Today, it shines more and more brightly in the art hall. Many classic films bring different visual and auditory feelings to the audience. Movie entertainment has become more and more important to the public. Music plays an increasingly obvious role in highlighting the theme of movies and constructing narrative space, which is a major breakthrough for movie art. To a great extent, the gradual improvement of narrative ability is due to the ingenuity, richness and epochal nature of movie music. The addition of modern music makes movies have a distinct sense of the times and brings different artistic enjoyment to the audience. The play of the narrative function of music makes the film climb to a higher artistic hall, and it has achieved different artistic effects while keeping up with the development of the times.

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