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Talat Turdi¹
¹Xinjiang Arts Institute,
Urumqi, China

REFLECTION ON DANCOLOGY CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT – TAKE DANCOLOGY OF XINJIANG ARTS INSTITUTE AS AN EXAMPLE

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Abstract

The article examines the ways of understanding and construction of “dansology” and its development on the example of the Xinjiang Art Institute. The author cites from the history of different levels of training in the specialty of dancing at this institute from the day of its establishment. The medium-term and long-term plan for the education and development reform in education (2010-2020) by the National Ministry of Education of China, remains an important priority. The place of practical teaching of dance and the goal of improving mastery in conditions of diversification are also analyzed. The efforts to the construction of dansology in the relevant fields, the setting of objective consciousness and the coordination of culture are considered by the author in the global vision.

Keywords: China, Xinjiang Art Institute, dance, dansology, Educational Program.

Introduction

The history of dance major in Xinjiang Arts Institute started from 1958, from the secondary education established from the middle of last century to the undergraduate education started from 2001, it obtained the conferral right of master’s degree of dancology in 2013 and enrolled the first batch of academic master degree candidates, and it also acquired

the conferral right of professional master degree in 2014. At present, dancology covers 3 undergraduate programs, including dancology, dance performance, choreographer and 5 major fields. From the original secondary education developing into today’s undergraduate and postgraduate education, it has had almost sixty years’ history. In this nearly sixty years’ history, the university has

aimed at constructing comprehensive arts university, it started with the formulation of personnel cultivating program, the construction of practice teaching platform, management system and other aspects and organically combined dance practical training, stage performance, performance viewing, club activity, social practice, specialty practice, graduation project, dance creation, dance competition and other subsystems together, which has achieved results in promoting the practical ability of students in all majors of dance. However, discipline construction and development is still faced with some issues that are to be solved, hereby some constructive thoughts and suggestions are proposed, which intends to reach an agreement with experts and scholars and make a contribution to the healthy development of dancology.

Methods

1. The core thoughts on the construction of teaching system of dance arts

State Medium and Long Term Educational Reform and Development Plan Outline (2010-2020) issued by China National Ministry of Education specifically stresses the importance of “intensifying practical teaching linking” in higher educational field and considers practical ability as one of the three abilities, which is as important as study and innovation ability. Xinjiang Arts Institute responds the social need in time and focuses on cultivating comprehensive talents who integrate dance performance, choreography techniques, works creation and theory teaching, that is, cultivating students’ expression, taste, creativity and the ability of teaching. Positively create practical cultivation platform both in school and out of school and use basic knowledge

and skills to mould and perform dancing works. Both teachers and students will be involved in the whole process, feel personally, practice repeatedly and understand the sublimation to enhance expression, taste, creativity and the ability of teaching.

In the practice process, we have improved the cognition that higher arts education is an important joint point of the first power of innovation, the first resource of talents, the first productive force of science and technology and the first soft power of culture through learning and reference. And therefore, to fully give play to the function of joint point, we have actively adapted the social need on senior arts talents, taken advantage of the school-running characteristics and geographical advantage of Xinjiang Arts Institute according to the demand of cultivating top-notch innovative personnel proposed by the state, which attracted the exchanges and cooperation of inland art academies, partner assistance academies and art academies in peripheral friendly neighbors; and powerful exploration was also made in promoting good neighborly and friendly relations, developing art discipline and cultivating compound and creative senior talents.

In terms of specific methods, firstly, the construction of practical teaching system of dance arts is strengthened and it takes the cultivation of students’ practical ability as core and takes three dimensionalities as basic entry points including classroom, stage and society, which puts effort into training students’ basic ability and promoting the skills of stage performance on the one hand, and focuses on moulding students’ connoisseurship and critical consciousness on dance works and cultivates the creative ability as far as possible on the other hand.

Stress the significance of practice places both in school and out of school for the cultivation of students' comprehensive abilities. Provide guarantee for the forging of students' practical ability through completing the matched mechanism construction of practical teaching course system. Secondly, to combine classroom training with stage performance and provide a platform for both teachers and students to show creative ideas and skills in the process of stage practice, which stimulates the teachers' and students' creative enthusiasm of dance and promotes the creative ability of dance. The students transform into active performance from passive performance, and their stage experience is accumulated constantly in practice and the creativity and performance is highlighted and intensified. Thirdly, to combine school study with social practice, social practice consists of in-school practice and out-of-school practice, the former mainly are all kinds of teachers' and students' dance activities in school, while the latter includes the field survey of dance folk-custom, activities to bring cultural scientific medical services to the rural areas in summer time, gratitude performance, the attendance of all kinds of culture and art shows and communication, the practical activities of competition and so on. Fourthly, to combine professional training and dance competition, the period of national level and provincial level professional dance competition is longer, students not only get trained of corresponding combination within a longer period, but also constantly and repeatedly practice, view and emulate and perform, which will quickly improve both their dance performance and practical experience on stage. Fifthly, to combine optional field and supported project, encourage students to observe and think more on specific

fields of dance major in daily learning and life; and also encourage both students and teachers to declare social practice project of all levels together, make dance major students have a more and deeper thought on dance practice in the process of field survey through the implementation of practice project so that the structure of practice knowledge of dance major students can be optimized and the ability cultivation can be intensified. Sixthly, to combine teachers' teaching and extracurricular self-study, which is required in the practice teaching reform of dance major; use system to mould students' good extracurricular habits and encourage students to autonomously take advantage of dance studio and multi-media classroom to strengthen practice after class so as to fully consolidate the classroom knowledge.

Results

2. Intensify the practical teaching link

The activity space of practical teaching of dance is relatively complicated and the purpose is more diversified, which involves classroom, outside class, some scenes outside school, the expansion of knowledge, the improvement of skills, the promotion of theory and other purposes, which determines the diversity of practical teaching of dance major, what's more, there is also a mutually connected structure system between scenes and types. For the past few years, the construction of dancology of Xinjiang Arts Institute has focused on promoting the construction and implementation of practical teaching system of dancology, dance performance, dance education and choreographer. Start with the amendment of talents training program, the construction of practical teaching platform, management system and other

aspects, and organically band practical training of dance, stage performance, performance viewing, club activities, social practice, specialty practice, graduation project, dance creation, dance competition and other subsystems together according to the discipline characteristics of dance major; taking “project teaching” as orientation has achieved a great result in promoting the students’ practice ability of all dance majors. Firstly, to complete the assembly line construction of the practice ability cultivation of “one stage one competition in practical training” and form a fixed training pattern of practice ability, which is from classroom training to stage performance and then to dance competition so as to practice the continuity of teaching and promote the of practice effect. Teachers take advantages of special performance of dance in classroom training and inspect and evaluate the study effect of dance major students from which excellent students can be found. Select these excellent students to join dance troupe and Xinyi Song and Dance Troupe, and positively organize them to participate in the stage performance of large-scale comprehensive variety shows. Secondly, to complete the assembly line construction of the practice ability cultivation of “one project one practice in classroom”, cultivate students’ basic theoretical attainment and interest in dance culture in classroom learning, conjunctively push out a scientific research project based on practice, guide both students and teachers to cooperatively declare social practice project, based on the enough financial support, encourage students to spend holidays on field survey, increase students’ understanding of dance practice and the comprehension of dance culture, promote students’ dance connoisseurship and provide full materials for dance

creation. Thirdly, to perfect the matched mechanism construction of practice teaching course system, build a detailed and systematically-operated assessment criteria that focuses on three aspects of teaching, including condition, process and result, guide and promote the reform of practical teaching, intensify the macro-control of practical teaching and further deepen artistic practice and classroom teaching interaction. Artistic practice services social culture has achieved the close integration of course construction and artistic practice; strengthen the cultivation and development of students’ autonomous learning mode has solved the employment difficult problem of students. Fourthly, the university reinforces the construction of innovation team and requires the discipline leaders to lead innovation team and students to actively take part in creation practice and theoretical research activities. We not only promote the teaching quality but also encourage teachers and students to actively carry on all kinds of creations and performance projects relying on “Xinjiang Modern& Contemporary Dance Creation Research Innovation Team” and the team construction of “the Culture and Teaching Research of Xinjiang Folk Dances of Chinese Ethnic Groups”. We positively undertake the plan, training, guidance and performance activities of cultural projects of national and relevant government departments of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and all prefectures, which has obtained tremendous social benefit and economic benefit, greatly raised the popularity of the university, trained teachers’ and students’ creation and performance ability as well as enhanced the employment rate of graduates. For example, in recent years, the large-scale projects of nation

and Autonomous Region have been undertaken by the team, including the performance on Xinjiang float in the military parade activities of the 50th anniversary of People's Republic of China; the “performance in touring activities” performed by Beijing workers in cultural palace to celebrate the 55th anniversary of National Day and the design and performance task of Xinjiang float in the 60th anniversary military parade activities, the performance of opening ceremony activity of China Xinjiang International National Dance Festival from the first session to the third session, the artistic performance of the opening ceremony of the 13th Winter Games in China, *Awards and Artistic Performance Activity* of national Russian language year in Xinjiang, large-scale artistic performance of the opening ceremony of Manas International Tourism and Culture Festival in Ke prefecture, Xinjiang, China and other performance activities. Relying on the national support, we have successively visited America, UK, France, Korea, Japan, Thailand, UAE, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and other countries as well as Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan regions to develop academic communication and performance activities; at the same time, we also encouraged both teachers and students to take part in all kinds of national level and provincial level competitions and activities. In recent five years, the teachers and students of dancology have accumulatively won 59 national level and above provincial level prizes in all kinds of competitions, including 5 first prizes of national level competitions, 8 first prizes, 46 second and third prizes of autonomous region level competitions; on the other hand, all kinds of measures have been taken to encourage teachers to engage in scientific

research and creation, which completed the nationwide planning task of art scientific *Xinjiang Modern& Contemporary Dance Survey*, supporting projects named *Xinjiang Uyghur Dance Course*, *Xinjiang Tajik Nationality Dance Course*, *Training Course of Dance Basic Skills*, *Dance Xinjiang to Rhyme*, *Teaching Methodology Textbook of Uyghur Dance*, *Teaching Methodology Textbook of Ballet Basic Skills*, *Theoretical Course of Choreographer*, *Dance Anatomy Teaching Course* and other professional textbooks of autonomous region textbook compilation with local characteristics. Teachers have published over one hundred papers in national core journals and provincial level periodicals, which cultivated a group of young and middle-aged backbones of dancology and the members of innovation team. In terms of the construction of teaching staff, the in-service teachers’ proportion in studying for doctor’s degree and master’s degree has increased obviously as a result of going out for further education, visiting and studying abroad, which has further optimized the educational background structure of teaching staff and teachers’ teaching, creation and the quality and level of academic research has improved obviously. In terms of communication, we have increased the culture and art communication with Central Asian countries in recent years and signed cooperation agreement with arts universities and relevant organizations in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and other countries, which cultivated nearly one hundred music and professional dance talents for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and other countries

For years, dancology has been determined as a key support discipline by Autonomous Region; majors of dancology have been defined as key majors of

Autonomous Region arts discipline development. "The construction of Xinjiang choreographer and creative teaching system" won the third prize of Excellent Teaching Achievement of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region; the construction of dancing arts practical teaching system under the idea of "constructively combine teaching and learning, choreography begets performance, blend skills and methods" obtained the first prize of Excellent Teaching Achievement of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region in 2016. After the long-term construction and development, several disciplines and majors of dancology have topped the list at home.

Discussion

3. The difficulties in discipline construction and development

After several years' construction, the dancology of Xinjiang Arts Institute has possessed certain advantages, project practice teaching mode of "trinity", including teaching, practice and creation is built in basic skills training, professional (play) training and comprehensive practice innovation, which perfects the training system of practice teaching innovation ability of three levels; the cultured students basically possess the needed knowledge, abilities and qualities that adapt life-long education and social development and change. Take "project teaching" as orientation, teachers and students create works together to lead teaching, which not only expands the students' comprehensive qualities but also enhances the students' professional practice ability. At the same time, positively carry out the exploration and cultivation of top-notch innovative personnel, and constantly quicken the construction of innovative talent training system, which is suitable for the

comprehensive arts universities.

However, for a long time, the development of dancology of Xinjiang Arts Institute is still faced with many issues and difficulties, which are mainly shown in following aspects. Firstly, the hierarchical structure of dancology is unreasonable; secondly, the major has an unbalanced development; thirdly, the conditions of school operation are to be improved; fourthly, dancology gives first place to master, there is no doctor's degree yet, the structure of teaching staff is to be improved and so on. The reasons are as follows after analyzing: firstly, there is a big gap between arts universities in every province in terms of expenditure and appropriation because of the unbalance of domestic economic development in China, especially there is a larger difference in eastern developed regions and western developing regions; secondly, the comprehensive conditions of dancology of Arts University, which has difficulty in introducing doctors and other high-level personnel, have some disparities comparing with inland colleges and universities; thirdly, strengthen the academic communication, especially the enhancement of art communication and cooperation among domestic and foreign art academies, fully take advantages of geographic advantages, multi-culture advantages, intensify the construction of dancology and make a contribution to human civilization and social development as well as enhance good neighborly and friendly relations.

Conclusion

With the promotion of the national soft power, the cultural and art career of the Autonomous Region is developing rapidly, we believe that Autonomous Region Party Committee and government will increase

the support and the above-mentioned issues will be solved in the near future. In a word, we hope to together carry forward the theme consciousness and independent spirit of art creation and art education with international and domestic dance counterparts. Make efforts to dancology construction in respective fields, establish the subject consciousness and culture coordinate of China dancology in global vision, take the realization of epochal inheritance and promotion of

China cultural spirit as own duty, develop and expand the China spirit in world dance art structure and achieve the innovative inheritance and creative conversion of excellent traditional dance. Insist on motivating the innovation vigor of China traditional dance art in contemporary language environment, stimulating the excitement of dance art education tradition in modern education system and moistening the dance art until when it influences the world.

ДАНСОЛОГИЯНЫҢ ҚАЛЫПТАСТЫРУ ЖӘНЕ ДАМУЫНЫҢ РЕФЛЕКСИЯСЫ – ДАНСОЛОГИЯНЫҢ ШЫҢЖАҢ ӨНЕР ИНСТИТУТЫ МЫСАЛЫНДА

Талат Турди
Шыңжаң өнер институты, Үрімші, Қытай

Аңдатпа

Мақалада Шыңжаң Өнер институтының мысалында «дансологияның» танымы және құрылуының жолдары және дамуы қарастырылған. Автор институт құрылғаннан бастап осы мамандық бойынша әртүрлі деңгейдегі кадр дайындау тарихынан келтіреді. Қытайдың ұлттық білім беру министрлігі дайындаған білім беру саласын қалыптастыру мен реформалаудың орташа және ұзақ мерзімді жоспары (2010-2020жж.) басымдық міндеттерге ие болып қала береді, биді оқытуда практикалық кеңістік және диверсификация жағдайындағы шеберлікті жетілдіру мақсатында талданады. Мәдениеттің пәндік саналылығы мен үйлесімділік жағынан автор жаһандық көзқарастық тарапынан талдау жүргізген.

Тірек сөздер: Қытай, өнер институты, би, дансология, білім беру бағдарламасы.

РЕФЛЕКСИЯ ФОРМИРОВАНИЯ И РАЗВИТИЯ ТАНЦОЛОГИИ – НА ПРИМЕРЕ ДАНСОЛОГИИ СИНЬЦЗЯНСКОГО ИНСТИТУТА ИСКУССТВ

Талат Турди
Синьцзянский Институт искусств, Урумчи, Китай

Аннотация

В статье рассматриваются пути понимания и построения «дансологии» и развития на примере Синьцзянского Института Искусства. Автор приводит из истории разных уровней подготовки кадров по специальности танцев в этом институте со дня ее образования. Среднесрочный и долгосрочный план реформы образования и развития в сфере образования (2010-2020 годы), изданный Национальным Министерством образования Китая остаются важными приоритетными задачами. Анализируется также пространство практического преподавания танца и цели усовершенствования мастерства в условиях диверсификации. Приложение усилий к построению дансологии в соответствующих областях, установление предметного сознания и координация культуры автором рассмотрены в глобальном видении.

Ключевые слова: Китай, институт искусств, танец, дансология, образовательные программы.

Author's data: Talat Turdi – Doctor PhD, Professor, President of Xinjiang Arts Institute, Urumqi, China

Автор жайлы мәлімет: Талат Турди -PhD докторы, профессор, Шыңжаң өнер институты, Үрімші, Қытай.

Сведение об авторе: Доктор PhD, профессор, Президент Синьцзянского Института искусств. Урумчи, Китай.