

# A Study on the Balance of Emotions and Techniques in Modern Piano Performance

Lv Xinkai

Shandong Normal University, Jinan, China

**Keywords:** Piano performance; Emotions; Skills; balance

**Abstract:** The balance between emotions and skills is crucial in piano performance. In the process of modern piano performance, performers not only need to deeply explore the content of musical works, but also fully consider the influence of their own emotional factors on the overall emotional expression of the works, in order to ensure the artistic value of piano works. In the process of modern piano performance, performers need to have good control over their psychological state and take necessary measures to ensure a balance between emotions and skills during the piano performance. This article mainly analyzes the balance between emotions and techniques in modern piano performance, and proposes training points in the hope of helping modern piano players improve their performance level.

## 1. Introduction

In the process of piano performance, performers need to control their performance state reasonably, while improving the expressive power of musical works, fully considering the emotional factors contained in different periods of musical works, in order to better display the emotions contained in piano works, so that performers and listeners can fully feel the charm of musical works. At the same time, during piano performance, performers also need to continuously improve their professional skills and literacy, and achieve a balance between emotional and technical aspects of music works by reasonably controlling their psychological state. In order to help more piano players better grasp the balance of emotions and skills, it is necessary to conduct relevant research[1].

## 2. The Importance of Balancing Emotions and Skills in Piano Performance

### 2.1 Enhance the expressive power of works

In the process of piano performance, emotions are intangible and can touch the depths of the audience's heart. They can affect the audience's understanding of the work and its performance effect. During piano performance, emotions can be expressed through actions, expressions, music, and other forms, as well as through performance techniques. The combination of the two can complement each other. In the process of piano performance, emotions and techniques are interrelated and mutually influential[2].

When the performer fails to combine emotions and techniques during the playing process, it can affect the effectiveness of piano performance, resulting in a lack of rich expressive power in the work. When performers focus on balancing emotions and techniques during piano performance, they can improve the piano performance while ensuring the quality of performance.

### 2.2 Creating a fuller musical image

In piano performance, based on accurately grasping the style and content of the work, the performer needs to combine their own emotional experience to perform, and integrate their music ideas and understanding of the work into the performance, shaping a more rounded musical image.

During the performance process, the performer not only needs to pay attention to their understanding of the work, but also needs to pay attention to the balance between emotions and

techniques, shaping a more full-bodied and three-dimensional musical image.

In piano performance, the performer needs to combine emotions and techniques in order to express the artistic conception, connotation, and other aspects of the work, and to express the emotions possessed by the performer themselves. In specific performance, the performer needs to analyze and comprehend the work based on a deep understanding of the work[3].

### 2.3 Displaying the Artistic Charm of Piano Works

The artistic charm of piano music lies in conveying the author's inner emotions to the audience through the performer's performance, bringing them a beautiful enjoyment. Piano works are the spiritual nourishment of piano performers. When performing a piece, the performer should be able to combine their emotions and skills to present the work in its entirety. The emotional factors in piano music are shown in Table 1[4].

Table 1 Piano Emotional Factors

The emotional factors of creators	Mainly refers to the emotions contained in the creator's work
The emotional factors of performers	It mainly refers to the emotional understanding of the content of the work by the performer during performance

In piano performance, performers need to have a deep understanding of the composer, better grasp the emotions contained in the work, and convey these emotions to the audience through performance, so that the audience can experience the artistic charm of it. For example, when Bach created "Prelude and Fugue in C Major", he created a piece of music based on the religious theme of the time, with the theme of "love". Through understanding and analyzing the composer's musical life trajectory, it can be found that the composer's heart is filled with longing and longing for the beauty of love, while also mixed with some emotions about the unpleasant things in secular life. Therefore, Bach used a large number of beautiful and lyrical melodies with strong religious connotations to express his longing for the beauty of love in his creation of the Prelude and Fugue in C major. At the same time, piano performance not only requires the performer to have a solid foundation in performance and music theory knowledge, but also requires the performer to be proficient in piano performance skills. The main factors of piano performance skills are shown in Table 2. Among them, speed and force are one of the elements that best reflect the emotional expression and artistic charm of piano music works, and they are also important factors for pianists to present the emotional expression and artistic charm contained in piano works more perfectly[5-6].

Table 2 Piano Technique Factors

Speed factor	Mainly refers to the control technique of the performer's playing speed during performance
Strength factor	Mainly refers to the control technique of the performer's playing force during performance

## 3. Suggestions and training points for balancing emotions and skills

### 3.1 Suggestions for balancing emotions and skills

#### 3.1.1 Fully understand the content of the work

Performers need to have a thorough understanding of the content of the work. In the process of modern piano performance, performers need to have a full understanding of the content and significance of the work. Only in this way can they use skills reasonably to express the connotation of the work during the performance. During the performance, the performer needs to understand what kind of emotion the piece is intended to express. At the same time, performers also need to understand the historical background of the music and the mainstream sentiment of the society at that time, in order to better appreciate the emotional color of the work and understand the overall tone of the work. For example, during performance, the performer needs to delve deeper into the

content of the piece in order to fully express the author's inner emotions during the performance. For example, when playing "Night Thoughts", the performer not only needs to understand that the piece is meant to express homesickness, but also needs to understand that the piece is meant to express longing for family. Only in this way can one fully utilize their technical advantages during the performance process and fully express the emotions of the music[7-8].

### **3.1.2 Improve one's overall performance quality level**

In the process of modern piano performance, performers not only need to master playing skills and music rhythm, but also need to have good psychological qualities and good music perception ability. In the process of modern piano performance, performers need to have good control over their own psychological state. For example, when playing the piece "Deep Night", the performer not only needs to master the piano playing skills, but also needs to have a deep understanding of the music content. At the same time, it is necessary to continuously improve one's own music perception ability and music expression ability[9].

### **3.1.3 Improving one's own psychological quality**

In modern piano performance, performers must possess good psychological qualities in order to fully utilize their technical advantages during the performance process. Firstly, sufficient preparation work needs to be done before performance, including understanding the background information of the relevant music, the author's life, and the creative background. Secondly, performers also need to adjust their own mentality. Finally, during the performance process, the performer needs to fully utilize their playing ability[10].

### **3.1.4 Improve one's own music perception ability**

In the process of modern piano performance, performers need to understand the content of the repertoire through listening. Because only by listening to music can we gain a deeper understanding of the emotions contained in musical works. During the performance process, the performer needs to feel and experience the content of the music based on understanding it, only in this way can the connotation of the work be fully expressed. Only by watching more can one better stimulate their thinking about the content of the work, and better express their understanding and feelings about the work.

Through contemplation, performers can better grasp the content and connotation of the work. For example, when playing the piece "Deep Night", the performer needs to have a deep understanding of the content of the piece, and at the same time, they need to think more about the work in order to better grasp the emotional changes of the piece.

### **3.1.5 Emphasize the cultivation of one's own emotional expression ability**

Emotional expression ability is an important performance of piano performers during the piano performance process, and it is also an important guarantee for better dissemination of musical works. Modern pianists not only need to have a full understanding of the content and significance of their works, but also need to focus on cultivating their own emotional expression abilities. Modern pianists not only need to convey the content of their works to the audience when performing music, but also need to convey their feelings and understanding of the music to the audience. Modern pianists not only need to possess playing skills, but also need to focus on cultivating their emotional expression abilities during piano performance, so that the audience can feel the emotions of the work during the performance. For example, when playing "Moonlight", the performer needs to fully express their understanding of the music, while also allowing the audience to feel the emotions contained in the music. Only in this way can music works be better passed down.

## **3.2 Key points of performance training**

In the process of piano performance, the performer not only needs to deeply explore the content of the music, but also needs to express the emotions and feelings expressed by the music through their own performance skills, in order to maximize the performer's understanding of the work

during the playing process, and fully realize the artistic value of the music work. In the process of modern piano performance, performers need to have a deep understanding of the music and master effective performance techniques in order to better perform their works. However, while the performer has a profound understanding of the music, they also need to balance their emotions and skills. In the actual piano performance process, performers need to grasp emotions on the basis of fully mastering skills, in order to truly achieve a balance between emotions and skills.

#### 4. Conclusion

During piano performance, the performer needs to balance the emotional and technical factors of the work. While emotional processing is carried out on the work, the technical factors are fully integrated into the work to ensure that the piano performance can present complete artistic value. In order to achieve a more balanced emotional and technical performance, performers not only need to delve deeper into the content of the work, but also need to have good control over their psychological state and comprehensively improve their musical literacy during the performance process. Only in this way can the emotions expressed in the work be fully integrated into the piano performance, thereby enhancing the artistic value of the work.

#### References

- [1] Fan Kunming. A Study on the Appreciation and Creative Characteristics of Modern Piano Music - Taking "24 Left-handed Piano Etudes by Cherny (Wei)" as an Example [J]. *News enthusiasts*, 2023 (3): 119
- [2] Hu Qiaoxin. Proud Winter Frost, Linghan Blooming in Bloom - The Musical Characteristics and Performance of Piano Music "Plum Blossom Three Alleies". *Musical Instruments*, 2023 (5): 46-49
- [3] Sun Wen. The Countryside Feelings Flowing from Fingertips: A Study on the Performance and Emotional Expression of the Chinese Piano Music "Numa Ami". *The Voice of the Yellow River*, 2023 (9): 110-113
- [4] Lin Weirui. The influence of touch key techniques on piano timbre and its correlation with the performance of performers. *Journal of Heihe University*, 2023,14 (6): 132-135
- [5] Han Bingyu. Beethoven's Sonata "Dawn": Analysis of the Form and Performance Emotional Techniques in the First Movement. *Drama House*, 2023 (19): 119-121
- [6] Zhou Changyin. Still Water Flows Deep, Combining Rigidity and Softness - Performance Techniques and Musical Analysis of Liszt's Piano Etude "Sigh". *The Voice of the Yellow River*, 2023 (14): 168-171
- [7] Cai Ruchen. Exploring the Musical Characteristics and Performance Techniques of Liszt's Piano Adaptation "The Joker". *Shen Hua*, 2023 (24): 101-103
- [8] Ma Yu. Analysis of Key Touching Techniques and Sound Effects in Piano Performance [J]. *Drama House*, 2023 (25): 70-72
- [9] Mai Qixuan, Zhang Tingting. Analysis of Performance Techniques in Prokofiev's Piano Sonata No. 2 in D Minor [J]. *Music World*, 2023 (5): 62-65
- [10] Du Yao. The Techniques and Emotional Experience of Piano Accompaniment in Classical Dance Body Rhyme Teaching [J]. *Journal of Tonghua Normal University*, 2023, 44 (11): 135-139