Yunnan Contemporary Higher Vocal Education

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Abstract: This article is based on the contemporary Chinese, from 1949 to the 21st century, and the development of higher vocal education in Yunnan in the past 70 years. It is divided into three parts: the founding of the People’s Republic of China, the reform and opening up, and the beginning of the 21st century. Then it sorts out the historical track of vocal music education in colleges and universities, as well as the vocal music education experts who promote its development.

Recovery and Development After the Founding of the People’s Republic of China

At the end of 1949, Yunnan was peacefully liberated. And the Ministry of Culture and Education of the Southwest Military and Political Committee informed that the Kunming Normal University was renamed Kunming Normal College (renamed Yunnan Normal University on April 11, 1984). The party and the government paid great attention to the construction and development of Yunnan’s cultural and educational undertakings. With the gradual recovery of the economy and the increasingly stable society, art education has become more and more concerned by the primary and secondary schools in the province. The Kunming Teachers College, which has been adhering to the spirit of the Southwest United University, has taken the lead in opening up art education. In 1950, Kunming Normal College established music. The elective course is taught by the vocal music singer and the vocal educator Fang Yu, who is rich in vocal music. The students in the whole school can choose to take lectures. A large number of students have systematically studied and not only greatly improved the singing level and artistic accomplishment has become the elite of the college. They have established a singing team, often carrying out music activities, enriching the artistic atmosphere of the school. They have accumulated rich educational achievements and experience over the past year. It also makes leaders and teachers gradually recognize the necessity of art education. In 1951, Kunming Teachers College officially established the Ministry of Art, and hired Professor Liao Xinxue, who returned from France to serve as the director. Under the leadership of Director Liao, the people of lofty ideals in the Yunnan Education and Literature and Art circles jointly wrote, rehearsed and performed the first a multi-faceted fairy tale song and dance drama The God of Spring in the founding of new China. The drama wrote by Zeng Xianghua, who graduated from the Central Conservatory of Music, the first batch of Yunnan student (transferred to Kunming after the independent screenwriter). The performance was so successful that it caused a sensation in Kunming city, and was widely praised by the audience.

In 1952, Kunming Teachers College revoked the Ministry of Art, changed the art department, and officially listed music education as professional education, which means that Yunnan’s first higher art education entity was established. At the beginning of the establishment of the art department, the school system was tentatively scheduled for one year and Fangyu taught vocal music for students. In the past few years, the students who have been trained have become the backbone of the cultural education and promoted the development of Yunnan vocal music education.

On September 24, 1958, in view of the development of Yunnan’s cultural and educational undertakings and the urgent development of national folk art, a higher art school was established — Yunnan Art College. Several cultural and educational departments have successively selected a
batch of Professors and experts of experience, the vocal teaching and research section was led by Prof. Fang Yu and Professor Yu Qun, and together with Zhang Shuguang, Yang Xiangcheng, Yang Ge, Fang Yongshu and Tian Zhizhou, several teachers taught vocal music. Since then, Yunnan’s higher vocal education system has gradually formed.

Tian Zhizhou (male, from Changsha, Hunan) is a professor of vocal music at the Yunnan Academy of Arts, a member of the Chinese Musicians Association, a council member of the Chinese Minority Vocal Music Society, and an executive director of the Yunnan Association of Old Professors. After graduating from the Department of Vocal Music of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in 1960, he worked in the Department of Music of the Yunnan Academy of Art and the Department of Art of the Kunming Teachers College. He trained professor Wu Hongmei, a master’s tutor at the School of Music of Yunnan Art College, and a dean of the School of Music, Yunnan Normal University, a master tutor Professor He Shu, Tang Li (Yunnan Academy of Arts and Music School, master tutor), Dali State Song and Dance Theatre, first-class solo actor Ma Yongkang, etc., are now active in Yunnan and even the whole country. They still stand the stage podium. In 1978, the Yunnan Provincial Department of Culture and the Yunnan Musicians Association hosted a solo concert for Tian Zhizhou and Du Lihua. Since the founding of the People’s Republic of China, Yunnan musicians have held their first solo concerts, which represent the historical stage of Yunnan. It represents the historical stage of Yunnan vocal singing level. In 1989, Ma Yongkang, a student who was instructed by Professor Tian Zhizhou, held the first vocal music concert of ethnic art talents in Yunnan since the founding of the country, which caused a sensation. Professor Tian Zhizhou is the leading figure in the vocal arts education in Yunnan. During his tenure as the head of the department, he trained young backbone teachers to further study in the Central Conservatory of Music, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, and Sichuan Conservatory of Music. With the return of these young teachers, the most advanced teaching concepts and teaching achievements of China at that time were also brought back to Yunnan, which laid a solid foundation for the later Yunnan vocal education.

Yu Qun (female, from Kunming), professor of vocal music at Yunnan Institute of Art, member of Chinese Musicians Association, member of Chinese Minority Acoustic Society, graduated from the Shanghai Conservatory of Music in 1959 with outstanding performance, and then transferred to the Music Department of Yunnan Arts Institute. Worked as the director of the vocal teaching and research section, starring in Sea Fishing Songs, Marriage and many other operas. After 30 years of teaching, she has cultivated a large number of vocal backbones on the front line of Yunnan literature and art education, such as Professor Lin Tong, a soprano singer at Yunnan Art College, and Professor Ye Mingju, a soprano singer at Yunnan Art College.

The Decade of the Cultural Revolution to the Vigorous Development of Reform and Opening up.

In 1962, influenced by the Eighth Characters of the Eighth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, the number of colleges and universities in Yunnan Province was reduced from 18 to 6. The Music and Fine Arts Department of Yunnan Art Institute was merged into Kunming Teachers College and changed to music and art. They went to the countryside to participate in production and worked while creating and performing. After smashing the “Gang of Four” in 1977, the college entrance examination system was restored, and thousands of students passed the college entrance examination into the higher education hall. Yunnan Institute of Art The faculty and staff also actively sought to restore the work of the college. After the approval of the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education, the Yunnan Academy of Art was officially restored in June 1978. On August 1, 1980, the Yunnan Art Institute officially separated from the Kunming Teachers College and independently sponsored the school. The music professional teachers and students of the former Kunming Teachers College Art Department officially merged into the music department of Yunnan Art College. In 1986, with the needs of social development, the Yunnan Academy of Arts established the Department of Music Education, and the vocal teacher team has grown to become the backbone of Yunnan's higher vocal education.
Kang Jianzhong(male, from Qinyuan, Shanxi), vocal professor, master tutor, director of China Choral Association, member of Yunnan Arts Education Committee, vice president of Yunnan Choir Association, enjoys the Yunnan Provincial Government subsidy. In 1982, he graduated from the Music Department of Yunnan Arts College with honors and stayed on as a teacher. He served as deputy director of the Music Education Department and dean of the WenHua College of Yunnan Art College. Professor Kang Jianzhong pays attention to the combination of national vocal music and Bel canto singing. He believes that the open channel and smooth atmosphere are the basis of singing. The singing art road has won numerous awards. The compilation of *Yunnan National Vocal Music Works* has filled the Blank of Nine-spectrum teaching materials of Yunnan national vocal music works. The creation of *Wang Langpo, I love you Yunnan Cloud, Song of the Naxi people* and other more than ten vocal works won national and provincial awards, from the 30 years of teaching, cultivated a lot of excellent vocal music Talents, such as Deng Qiqi, who won the CCTV National Youth Singer TV Grand Prix, Li Huaixiu and Li Huaiyu and Dai Mei, who won the silver medal in the national minority professional singer competition, also has famous singers and education active on the vocal stage and the stage. In recognition of Professor Kang Jianzhong's outstanding contribution to the education of Yunnan vocal music, Professor Kang was awarded the “Yunnan Literature and Art Contribution Award” by Yunnan Province in 2006, and was named “Yunnan Provincial University Famous Teacher” by the Yunnan Provincial Department of Education in 2008.

Bai Dingrong, a soprano singer, a professor of vocal music at the Yunnan Academy of Art, a member of the “Jiu San Society”, a member of the Chinese Musicians Association, graduated from the vocal music department of the Sichuan Conservatory of Music in 1967, and was specially recruited to the Kunming Military Region National Defense Song and Dance Troupe of the People’s Liberation Army as a solo actor. His singing used the singing style of the combination of folk and beauty, scientifically interprets a variety of styles of vocal music, participated in many major performances, and won numerous awards. In the 1980s and 1980s, he transferred to the vocal music department of Yunnan Art College. With many years of vocal singing practice, she summarized a set of unique and effective vocal music teaching methods, teaching students in accordance with their aptitude, tailoring, step by step, focusing on the combination of classroom teaching and stage practice, publishing a number of related academic papers, and cultivating a large number of vocal talents, and successively won the Yunnan Provincial College Work Committee. The Provincial Education Commission awarded the title of “Advanced Workers in Moral Education in Colleges and Universities in Yunnan Province”. On September 9, 2013, “Professor Bai Dingrong’s 50th Anniversary Teacher and Student Concert” was successfully held. Professors Zhou Yanqing, Xu Xiaoaling, Zhang Jiying and Dharma Lu Zhuo and Li Jianying sang on stage to show the essence of Professor Bai’s vocal art teaching, and finally the music. Producer, Dean of Yunnan Institute of the Arts School of Music and Baiding Rong Wang Hongxing jointly sang *I like the snow from heaven* on the same stage, the entire concert to a climax. Professor Bai Dingrong has used his profound reading and rich accumulation for half a century, and has developed a unique art. He has accumulated rich teaching experience and used notes to express the years and art.

**The Rapid Development of the Early 21st Century**

Since the 21st century, Yunnan’s higher vocal education has developed rapidly, and the provincial capitals and prefectures and universities have blossomed. The vocal performance major and the musicology (teacher education) major of the Yunnan Academy of Fine Arts, the music department of Yunnan Normal University, the prefecture teacher’s college and the comprehensive university go hand in hand, which has created the rapid development of Yunnan vocal singing education.

**Yunnan Arts Institute, vocal performance.** The Music Performance Department of Yunnan Academy of Fine Arts was founded in 1959. It is the leading specialty of the Conservatory of Music. In 2007, it began to recruit masters in vocal performances. In 2009, he obtained the master's degree in art. In the same year, he was listed as a doctoral unit in Yunnan Province. The singing
performance professional cultivates the knowledge and ability of the beautiful, national and popular singing majors, and has trained a large number of outstanding vocal performance talents for the society, which has played an active leading role in promoting the development of the province's higher vocal performances.

Li Jianying (female, Bai nationality), soprano singer, deputy dean of the School of Music of Yunnan Art College, professor of vocal singing, master's tutor, director of Yunnan Musician Association, director of Yunnan National Culture and Art Research Association. She graduated from Yunnan Art College in 1997. In the following three years at the China Conservatory of Music, she studied vocal music with two famous vocal educators, Jin Tieli and Ma Qiquhua. She was invited to participate in CCTV’s large-scale literary evening, representing Switzerland, France, Austria, Russia, Nepal and other countries visited the show, filmed a number of music videos, won the “Top Ten” title of the “Golden Prize” national singing method issued by the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television, and the special prize of the Chinese vocal "Peacock Award" Yunnan Division Teacher Group. Multiple monographs and academic journal articles.

Zi Zhouyun, a tenor singer, deputy dean of the School of Music of Yunnan Art College, professor of vocal singing, master tutor, graduated from the Music Department of Yunnan Art College in 1987 and taught in the school. He graduated in Shanghai in July 1998. The Department of Art of Jiaotong University has been engaged in college music teaching and research for 30 years. It has trained a large number of young singing talents who have certain influence in the whole country and the whole province, and made outstanding contributions to the development of Yunnan vocal education. He won the second prize of the teaching achievements of the Yunnan Provincial Government, the Yunnan Youth Actors Competition “Yuhua Award” and many other awards, presided over the topic, and published more than 20 academic papers.

Wang Xiaokang, a tenor singer, professional professor of vocal singing, master tutor, director of vocal music department of Yunnan Academy of Fine Arts, member of Chinese Musicians Association, won the first “King and queen of singers” contest in Yunnan Province, the title of “King of singers” In Yunnan Province, the “Professional Singer TV Grand Prix”, the Bel Canto Gold Award, and many other vocal competition awards, published many papers on vocal professional direction.

Yunnan Arts Institute, Musicology (Teacher Education). In 1985, the Yunnan Academy of Art established the Department of Music Education. In January 2002, after the original music department and music education department was reorganized into a music school, it was rapidly developed. For the province and other provinces and cities, the dean of the Qujing Nomal University was delivered. Professor Zhang Hongwei, Associate Dean Ren Xiulei, Associate Dean Sun Zuhong, Professor Zhao Quansheng, Dean of Dali University Art School, Associate Professor Zhang Tao, Professor Zhu Lin, Dean of School of Music, Yuxi Nomal University, Prof. Li Lifen, Dean of Kunming University of Music, Baoshan Associate Professor Li Yongyun, Dean of the College of Art, Vice Chairman Luo Zhangbin of Yunnan Musicians Association, and other important leaders and backbones of Yunnan universities and music and art departments.

Yang Lifei, a mezzo-soprano singer, a professor of vocal music at Yunnan Institute of Art, a master tutor, deputy director of the Music Education Department of Yunnan Art College, member of Yunnan Musicians Association, graduated from the Music Department of Yunnan Art Institute in 1986, and stayed in vocal music. In the school, he won the first prize of the music education professional vocal contest of the “Honghe Cup” colleges and universities in 1999, and published more than 20 papers to guide students to score good results in the major vocal competitions across the country.

Zhang Jiying, a lyrical soprano singer, a professor of vocal singing at the Yunnan Academy of Art, a master’s tutor, a member of the Chinese Musicians Association, graduated from the Music Department of the Yunnan Arts Institute in 1986, and successfully performed solo concerts in 1996 and 2004. The method of singing and teaching has a relatively rich accumulation of the three singing methods of Bel Canto, Nation and Pop, guiding students to win national vocal competition.
awards, publishing monographs, singing CDs, essays and many other teaching and research projects.

**College of Art, Yunnan Normal University.** Yunnan Normal University was formerly known as the National Southwestern United University Teachers College in 1938. After the return of the Southwest Union University in 1946, the Normal University of Kunming established the National Kunming Normal College. In 1950, it went to the National Institute of Kunming Normal College and in 1984 changed its name to Yunnan Normal University. In June 1999, the School of Art of Yunnan Normal University resumed reorganization, in order to cultivate music professional talents who can be qualified for school music classroom teaching, guide off-campus art activities and campus culture construction, and strong artistic performance. Strong music performance skills, the development of morality, intelligence, beauty and all-round development, the goal of music performance talents engaged in music performance teaching in professional art schools and music culture institutions.

Guo Yafei, a tenor singer, the dean of the Art College of Yunnan Normal University, professor of vocal music, master tutor, graduated from Southwest University Music College, member of Yunnan Provincial CPPCC, vice chairman of China Vocal Music Association, vice chairman of Yunnan Musicians Association, He has won the third prize of the National Excellent Teacher Appraisal, the National TV Singer Contest Silver Award, the Chinese National Song Contest Gold Award and other awards. He has taught for many years and has taught the students Tao Li.

He Shu, soprano singer, national first-class performer, deputy dean of the Art College of Yunnan Normal University, master tutor, member of the Yunnan Provincial Political Consultative Conference, vice chairman of the Yunnan Provincial Musicians Association, has twice won the “Five - One the Engineering Award” of the Central Propaganda Department”, the National Radio New Song Excellent Works Gold Award, the National Opera Show Second Prize, won the title of “Yunnan Provincial Youth Performing Artist” awarded by the Yunnan Provincial Department of Culture.

**The Department of Music in Nomal University of districts and autonomous prefectures.** The Qujing Nomal University can be traced back to the “Teacher Training Institute” which was first established in 1907. In 2000, approved by the Ministry of Education, Qujing Teachers College, Qujing College of Education, Qujing Normal School merged to form Qujing Nomal University, and the Academy of Music and Dance was established in 2008. The Academy and the Academy adhere to the school-oriented direction of “close to the needs of local economic and social development and cultivate high-quality applied talents”, and have trained a number of outstanding graduates such as Chen Jinsong and Gao Shuqin. In 2015, the music and dance school of Qujing Normal University brought together famous provincial and foreign scholars. The screenwriter, composer, director, singer, together with more than 200 teachers and students, co-created the large-scale national opera *The Wave Still as Past* which was successfully premiered at the Source of Pearl River Theatre and was a great success. It is the first large-scale opera independently created and rehearsed by colleges and universities in Yunnan Province. It greatly promoted the diversified development of Yunnan's higher vocal education.

In addition, the Music School of Yuxi Normal University, the Music Department of Chuxiong Normal University, the Art Department of Lijiang Teachers College, the Art Department of Dianxi Science and Technology Normal University, and the Art Department of Dehong Teachers College, all vocal and vocal in their respective regions. These universities and colleges contribute to the development of a common vocal education.

**Comprehensive College Music Department.** The Music Department of Yunnan University for Nationalities was founded in 1951. At this stage, vocal education is performed at the national level, actor, there are Ma Wei (master tutor, soprano singer), He Qingguo ( Naxi coloratura), deputy dean of the art school, and soprano singer Zhang Zonghong and other teachers. With the characteristics and advantages of national art, they must adhere to the training mode of combining local characteristic education with modern education, and create a compound talent that can meet the needs of society.
The Department of Music, School of Art and Design, Yunnan University, was reorganized in May 2002 on the basis of the School of Art of Yunnan University. Grasping the direction of mainstream art research, strengthening the investigation and study of ethnic characteristics, exploring and cultivating students’ creativity, combining theoretical education with practical teaching, and cultivating high-level music talents with comprehensive development of morality, intelligence, and beauty. The college has long hired Yunnan Art College and Yunnan Province. Excellent teachers and actors from the theater and other institutions.

The Music Department of Dali University Art College, formerly known as the Xiaguan Teachers College" established in 1978, was renamed as Dali Teachers College in 1992, and was promoted to Dali University in 2001. In 2015, it was upgraded to Dali University. The music department was formed in 1984. Under the leadership of Dean of the Art School of Dali University, Professor Zhao Quansheng and Yang Xiu, who is the director of the vocal teaching and research section of the School of Art of Dali University, the vocal music major has won the second national art exhibition, 2 second prizes of the professional group, The Young Singer Grand Prix Silver Award in Yunnan Province, the National Peacock Awards of the Higher School of Art, the Peacock Award, the first prize of the popular singing method in Yunnan, and many other awards.

Baoshan College of Art, formerly known as Baoshan Normal School founded in 1905, was promoted to Baoshan University in 2009. Its national vocal talents are cultivated by the School of Art. The national vocal music is taught by the dean of the Art School of Baoshan College and the professor of vocal singing. Under the leadership, the students were awarded the solo gold and silver awards in the Yunnan University Students’ Professional Skills Competition and the Literary Activity Exhibition. The first National High School Art Vocal Competition, Yunnan Division I, II and III Awards, 2008 Italian Bellini International Vocal Music Multiple prizes such as the Bronze Awards.

Summary

After nearly 70 years of wind, frost, snow and snow, after the founding of the country, it has experienced the ruin of the Cultural Revolution, and ushered in the spring of high-speed development of Yunnan’s higher vocal education until the 1920s. In the explosion of all-round development and growth, these are based on the vocal music singers and educators of the past generations, and the vocal education of Yunnan’s higher vocal education will be more brilliant tomorrow.

Acknowledgements

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References


