

A Brief Discussion on the Basic Techniques in University Piano Playing Teaching

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Abstract:

In recent years, with the deepening of the new curriculum reform and comprehensive education, modern education and teaching have paid more attention to cultivating and improving students' comprehensive level and ability, aiming to promote students' diverse, comprehensive, and personalized development and growth. As an important component and key element of the music education system, piano teaching aims to cultivate and enhance students' artistic appreciation ability, aesthetic taste, music practice ability, and music comprehensive level, which is of great significance for promoting students' comprehensive growth. However, teaching practice has shown that there are still some problems to be solved in the process of teaching piano playing in universities. Therefore, teachers should have a clear understanding of the existing problems in piano playing teaching and propose targeted solutions. They should provide high-quality and efficient explanations of the basic piano playing techniques to enhance students' piano playing skills and overall level. Based on this, this article explores the application of basic techniques such as piano fingering, rhythm, and expressiveness in practical teaching, combined with case analysis and targeted training strategies, to propose effective ways to improve piano playing skills, in order to provide useful references for subsequent university piano playing teaching.

Keywords:

University Piano, Playing Teaching, Basic Skills, Teaching Path, Analysis and Research

1. Introduction

In the university music education system, piano playing, as an important foundational course, is of great significance for cultivating and enhancing students' comprehensive music abilities. Practical experience and research have shown that mastering the basic skills of piano playing not only helps improve students' piano playing level and music comprehensive ability, but also effectively cultivates and enhances students' music perception ability and aesthetic taste, which is conducive to enhancing students' satisfaction, confidence, and musical expression. Therefore, university piano playing teaching teachers should actively explore effective teaching paths for basic piano playing skills through diverse methods, in order to create high-

quality and efficient classrooms, improve the effectiveness of piano playing teaching, and help students develop and grow comprehensively. [1]

2. Common Problems and Analysis of Reasons in University Piano Playing Teaching

Through a thorough and comprehensive study and analysis of the entire process and effectiveness of university piano playing teaching in recent years, it is not difficult to find that although this basic course has achieved initial results, there are still some problems that urgently need to be solved. For example, students may have irregular hand shapes, incorrect finger techniques, weak sense of rhythm, and insufficient expressiveness. These problems often arise due to students' insufficient mastery of basic skills, weak understanding and perception of piano music, and teachers' insufficient emphasis on teaching basic skills. Therefore, in order to fundamentally and comprehensively solve these problems, teachers need to strengthen guidance and targeted training on students' basic skills, while emphasizing the combination of theory and practice in teaching methods.

3. Guiding Principles and Strategies for Basic Piano Playing Skills

3.1. Posture placement

The correct sitting posture and finger posture are the foundation of piano playing. Teachers need to guide students to develop correct sitting habits, ensuring that their arms, wrists, and fingers are relaxed in order to better utilize the flexibility and strength of their fingers. For example, teachers should focus on guiding students to master the correct hand shape, such as finger curvature, wrist position, etc., to help students better control finger strength and tone.

3.2. Finger usage

The use of finger techniques is one of the key skills in piano playing. Teachers need to teach students to develop correct finger techniques, such as five finger exercises, scale exercises, etc., in order to comprehensively improve students' finger flexibility and accuracy to the maximum extent possible, ensuring that students can use finger techniques to generate different tones and expressions. At the same time, teachers should adopt personalized and layered teaching strategies for different types of students to fully meet their individual learning and growth needs.

In piano playing teaching, finger techniques can be divided into three categories: first, legato. Keep your fingers pressed against the keys and achieve the coherence of notes through the rotation of your wrist; Secondly, interruption. Fingers independently press keys and quickly leave, achieving clear separation of notes; Thirdly, skipping. Fingers quickly jump from one note to another, requiring swift and accurate movements.

3.3. Rhythm cultivation

Rhythm sense is one of the important modules in piano playing. Teachers can help students establish a stable sense of rhythm through rhythm training, beat practice, and other methods. At the same time, guide students to combine their sense of rhythm with musical emotions to effectively improve their musical expression and performance level.

3.4. Wrist movements

Wrist movements are one of the easily overlooked techniques in piano playing. Correct wrist movements can help students better control tone and rhythm. During the teaching process, teachers should focus on guiding students to master correct wrist movement techniques, such as lifting and lowering the wrist.

The touch methods can be roughly divided into three categories: first, wrist movements. By rotating and adjusting the wrist, achieve changes in timbre; Secondly, touch the key with your fingertips. Using fingertips to touch keys, the sound is soft and expressive; Thirdly, touch the keys with fingertips. Using fingertips to touch keys, the sound is bright and clear.

3.5. Expressive power

Expressiveness is the essence of piano playing art, involving the mastery of various aspects such as timbre, speed, and strength. In the process of teaching piano playing in universities, teachers should pay attention to cultivating and enhancing students' music sensitivity, appreciation ability, and musical expression. They should encourage and guide students to integrate their personal emotions into the performance, in order to give piano music vitality, effectively improve the artistic value and emotional appeal of music.

3.6. Chords and Harmony Applications

On the one hand, chord recognition. Master the composition and recognition methods of commonly used chords; On the other hand, the use of harmony. Learn how to use harmony in playing to enrich the layers of music.

4. Analysis of Playing Techniques in University Piano Teaching

4.1. Landing and Playing Techniques

In order to fundamentally improve the effectiveness of teaching basic piano playing skills and enhance students' piano playing skills and levels, teachers should elaborate and explain the techniques of rising and falling to students in the early stages of teaching. Specifically, if there are two note lines, it represents the rise and fall of the note. At this point, students should pay attention to the force of the arm's fall to ensure a gentle movement. When playing at the next beat, they should then lift their arm up. Teachers can help students thoroughly and comprehensively master the techniques of rising and falling piano pieces through basic piano practice, ensuring that students can flexibly and freely control the ease of their wrists and bodies during piano playing, in order to meet the basic requirements of piano performance, effectively enhance students' piano playing temperament and softness, and improve their musical expression and playing level.

4.2. Rolling playing technique

In the rolling playing technique of the piano, the inward rotation of the hand is the core module of training and learning. Teaching practice has shown that cultivating and enhancing students' piano rolling skills is of great significance for improving their piano performance level and music comprehensive ability. In the actual teaching process, teachers need to guide students to form the correct rolling playing method and correct the correct position of students' fingers and wrists during playing through

personal demonstration, targeted guidance, graphics, videos, and other methods. Meanwhile, teachers can enhance students' piano rolling ability by practicing corresponding piano scores. For example, when playing the high notes of piano music, teachers can guide students to flip their palms upwards and use their thumbs and little fingers to play piano keys. Tracing back to the origin, the focus of piano rolling playing technique lies in the left little finger. Teachers can comprehensively improve the flexibility and initiative of students' left little finger through corresponding guidance and practice, in order to form continuous high-speed rolling. In addition, teachers should also focus on cultivating and enhancing students' music perception ability and sense of rhythm and beat in the teaching process of rolling playing techniques, coordinating multiple parts of students, and ensuring that the piano pieces played by students are more charming and aesthetically pleasing.

4.3. Stick key playing technique

In comparison, the technique of key sticking is the most practical, but its teaching and learning difficulty is also more complex. Tracing back to its roots, compared with the technique of rising and falling, the technique of sticking keys runs through the entire process of learning basic piano playing skills and is applied in the process of playing piano pieces at all levels. At the beginning of students' piano learning, teachers can guide them to lift their hands for piano practice, providing favorable conditions for later piano performance. However, when students have high proficiency in piano playing, raising their fingers can have a certain impact on the continuity of piano performance and have a limiting effect on their piano playing skills. In view of this, when elaborating on the teaching of key sticking techniques, teachers can guide students to practice finger raising before playing, and in the middle of practice, guide students to quickly play piano keys. Furthermore, by using the power of fingers to compensate for the uneven force exerted by students during playing, we aim to comprehensively improve their piano playing skills and abilities.

5. Effective Teaching Path for Basic Skills in College Piano Playing Teaching

5.1. Choose teaching methods that are suitable for students

Due to the different living and learning environments of students, there are inevitable individual differences in their basic piano playing abilities, learning abilities, music perception abilities, and playing conditions. Therefore, in order to comprehensively strengthen the effectiveness of teaching basic piano playing skills, teachers should choose appropriate classroom teaching methods based on students' actual situations and piano playing abilities, and carry out personalized and layered teaching activities.

Firstly, for students with poor comprehensive piano skills and weak music perception abilities, teachers should actively explore interesting teaching points for basic piano playing techniques, in order to comprehensively stimulate students' exploration of unknown psychology and learning autonomy. At the same time, teachers should teach students with sufficient patience and tolerance. Based on the content of graphics, videos, multimedia courseware, and textbooks, they should elaborate on basic skills to students through personal demonstrations and other methods, in order to cultivate students' confidence in piano playing and encourage them to actively participate in the teaching activities of basic piano playing skills. For

students with relatively strong music perception ability and basic level, teachers can guide them to think about how to more coherently match hand movements, finger techniques, wrist movements, and how to complete high-quality and efficient piano exercises. Encourage students to explore and summarize basic piano playing skills and experience on their own; Secondly, teachers can also choose songs that students are more interested in for practice. For example, “The Dream of Venus”, “Wedding in a Dream”, “Take My Hand”, etc., and lead students to deeply understand the deep connotations, practical significance, and artistic aesthetics of piano music, in order to improve the fun and effectiveness of piano playing teaching; Finally, teachers should conduct a comprehensive analysis of students’ entire practice process and piano performance effects, provide targeted guidance, help students clarify their own shortcomings, and make effective corrections, thereby comprehensively improving students’ music comprehensive ability and level.

5.2. Pay attention to cultivating students' piano playing emotions

Emotions are an effective carrier and way to improve piano performance and convey emotional language in music. In view of this, teachers should attach great importance to cultivating students’ piano playing emotions, comprehensively enhancing their subjective cognitive abilities, and promoting better stage effects and expressive power in piano performance. Specifically, the different styles of playing music require the performer to present different emotions. For example, a light hearted piece of music requires the performer to relax their fingers and play along with the melody of the piece. During this process, the player’s emotions should be relaxed and light hearted; Passionate music requires performers to strengthen their fingers and wrists to fully present the rhythm and beat of the music. During this process, the performer’s emotions should be high and intense. Only in this way can the expression of piano repertoire be improved through playing skills, and can it fully evoke emotional resonance among listeners.

5.3. Guide students to perform piano independently

On the one hand, teachers can strengthen practical teaching. Tracing back to its roots, piano playing is a highly practical subject, and teachers can arrange for students to participate in various performance competitions, allowing them to continuously improve their playing skills and expression through practice; On the other hand, teachers can encourage students to engage in interactive learning. Teachers can use group discussions and mutual evaluations to enable students to learn, communicate, and grow together through interaction, in order to help students master piano playing skills more thoroughly and comprehensively, and improve their piano playing skills.

5.4. Comprehensively cultivate students' comprehensive qualities

Firstly, teachers can broaden students’ musical horizons and knowledge through music appreciation, music theory courses, and other means; Secondly, teachers can scientifically and reasonably utilize modern audio-visual equipment such as digital teaching resources and virtual reality technology to provide students with more rich and vivid learning experiences; Again, implement diversified evaluation. Teachers should evaluate students based on various factors such as their skill level, learning attitude, improvisation ability, and innovation ability, in order to encourage their comprehensive development; Finally, teachers can rely on the Internet platform and computer technology to collect pictures and videos of famous pianists, and lead

students to jointly analyze their fingering, hand shape, wrist movements, elbow movements, sitting posture, and placement posture, so as to comprehensively strengthen the teaching effectiveness of basic piano playing skills and improve students' piano performance level and comprehensive quality.

6. Conclusions

In summary, the basic skills of piano playing are a key module in university piano teaching. Teachers should have a clear understanding of the key points of teaching piano playing skills, thoroughly grasp the existing problems in classroom teaching, and propose targeted solutions to comprehensively improve students' piano playing skills and abilities, enhance their comprehensive music abilities and levels, and provide favorable conditions for their subsequent learning and future development.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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