A Brief Discussion on the Definition of the Stage Space of Chinese Contemporary Small Theater—Taking the Pioneer Drama as an Example

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Keywords: Small Theater, Pioneer, "Defamiliarization" Effect

Abstract. In the early 1980s, under the dual background of the drama crisis and the exploration of new theoretical aesthetics, there was an innovative drama model with new features—the Chinese contemporary small theater drama, and the contemporary Chinese small theater drama stage art as a fresh power, it has carried out all-round rebellion against the traditional theater drama, abandoned the traditional mirror-style stage model in space, reconstructed the theater's activity viewing space, and changed the stage art into theater art, creating a brand new Viewing relationship. This paper will mainly explore the definition of the art space of the Chinese contemporary small theater drama stage.

1. Introduction

With the tide of China's reform and opening up, various western theories of drama theory and creative methods have flooded into China. Some rich and varied theatrical works provide the creativity and creativity of the small theater drama stage art design, providing a colorful and expansive creation space. At the same time, these new forms of stage art have created a new vision for the audience. The small theater drama stage art in a new perspective, with its time structure and spatial structure, especially in the stage space scene modeling, the rise of small theater drama, the stage art design is also unique. The first avant-garde drama, "Absolute Signal", which was staged in Beijing in 1982, designed three three-dimensional small platforms, which surrounded the three audiences and brought the actors and audiences closer. It took the most crucial step in the practice of the contemporary Chinese small theater practice, making the small theater pioneer drama possible. Its performance is different from that of the traditional big theater. It replaces the framed stage with a scatter-like stage. The stage is in front of the audience and the front is the audience area. The audience can observe the changes of the actors on the stage.

2. Differentiate the Small Theater Stage "Space"

The difference between the small theater and the big theater is intuitively expressed in the “big” and “small” of the spatial structure. The concept of space narrative in the theory of drama makes "space" an important part of the stage art of the small theater. While we understand the characteristics and expressions of the space design of the theater stage, we must distinguish between the definition of "space" and the concept of "theatrical stage art space".

We are no stranger to "space", which is often mentioned in modern life, and we also live in different living spaces every day, such as public spaces (shopping malls, plazas, etc.) as well as collective space and privacy, space and more. But for the concept of "space", the philosophical interpretation is a manifestation of the material movement expressed by length, width and height, with objectivity and infinity. Space means no occupation in scope, but it can develop.

The concept of the theater stage art space is different from the space concept in the general sense, but they are inextricably linked. The “space” we usually understand refers to the length, width, height and size of building and theater buildings. The space part of the theater stage art has nothing to do with the specific dimensions of length, width and height. It refers more to the virtual part of the stage...
performance area and the performance area, and only relates to the extended space area for the performance action. In a certain space, there is any kind of thing under the sun, and there are also scenes on the stage and the characters in the stage.

3. Introduce the Definition of Stage Art Space

"Stage space" refers to all forms of theatrical performance space. It is one of the main features of the art form of stage art design. No matter in the traditional stage art design or the modern stage art design, the dancers must consider how to be reasonable. Make full use of and plan the extreme expression of the stage space. The stage art space design refers to the place where the theatrical art takes place and performs and the drama space of the drama art. The stage art space is designed in a specific three-dimensional material space and a closed limited space. Through various means of plastic art, various forms of theatrical performances are used to create different visual effects and sensory feelings on the stage. The stage space shows an infinite living space.

The small theater stage art space design breaks the traditional theater stage art space design. "Space" is also a pivotal concept in the art of drama. It is also one of the unique characteristics of stage art design. It mainly contains two aspects. One is the real "physical space" for the specific life of theatrical performance. The scope of space; the second is the "drama space" built on the physical space, that is, a space-time structure from a specific dramatic situation. The drama space also includes the theater space, the inner drama space, and the external drama space. Because drama is a comprehensive art of time and space, drama is subject to time and space. The embodiment of drama art often interacts with time, space and body. Therefore, the study of exploring the performance of the small theater drama stage art space often starts from the perspective of the "small" physical space of the small theater drama.

4. Introduce the Aesthetic Characteristics of the Stage Space of the Small Theater

"Unconventional" is an important small theater drama practitioner Wang Xiaoying pointed out that the aesthetic characteristics of the theater stage art space interpretation are mainly manifested in three aspects: First, "the 'sharing' feature of the theatrical performance in a small theater Highlighted in the space, in the whole performance, the boundaries between the audience area and the performance area are blurred, so that "you have me, I have you"; second, the theater has different forms, "unconventional" structure space The potential is “the spatial basis for each of the specific contemporary small theater theatrical performances to form their own artistic personality”; the third is to explore the spatial potential of the "unconventional” structure, which leads to the flow of the theater stage space. The art of theatrical performance finally reached the ideal realm of 'co-creation' and 'common enjoyment'. In Wang Xiaoying's view, the performance of the theater is more intimate, which is the space of the "unconventional" structure of the small theater. And the shared space is very easy to produce a shared experience.[2] (Reciting "The Interview of the Theory of Drama in Contemporary Small Theater", Ji Xian, Contemporary Drama Academic Journal, 2005)

At present, people's interest in small theater dramas is becoming more and more intense. The "black box" small theater specializing in small theater dramas has appeared in some large and medium cities across the country. The structural features of these small theaters are completely different from those of the Grand Theatre. The small theater stage art design is to complete the revolution of contemporary drama art through the adjustment of the "physical space" of the stage space and the reform of the drama concept. This article uses "physical space." The viewing space, the stage scenery space, and the stage time and space are transformed into several aspects to explain the interpretation of the small theater drama stage art space.

The theater "small" and "black" are the biggest spatial features of the small theater stage art space design, commonly known as "blackbox" and, empty". The famous British drama master Brooke said:
"It can choose any space and call it an empty stage. If a person walks through this space: while watching others, this is enough to form a drama. "This is enough to prove the theater. The space is empty and free of objects. There are no common fixed stage installations and audience seats. The spatial processing relationship between the observation and the performance can be freely and flexibly combined and constructed according to the different needs of the scenario. The stage artist can create a variety of viewing space patterns and setting patterns in the empty theater space according to the content, style and unique stage concept of the drama.

Although the small theater is not as complicated as the stage equipment of the Grand Theater, the three physical characteristics of "small", "black" and "empty" break the pattern of the traditional stage installation, and the new physical space is reconstructed and constructed. A new: viewing relationship and setting pattern.

5. Introduce the Physical Characteristics of the Small Theater Stage Art Space

The theater "small and "black" are the biggest space features of the small theater stage art space design, commonly known as "blackbox" and also empty" The famous British drama master Breoke claimed:"I can choose any space and call it is an empty stage. If one walks through this space with the attention and attention of others, this is enough to constitute a drama. "This is enough to prove that the theater space is empty and nothing and there is no common fixed stage installation And audience seats, so that the spatial processing relationship between viewing and acting: can be freely and flexibly combined and structured according to the different needs of the plot scenario. And the stage artist can according to the content, style characteristics of the play and its own unique stage Conceived and created various foriis of viewing space and scenery in the empty theater space.

Although a small theater is not as complicated as astageinstallàation, the three physical characteristics of "small", "black", and "empty" have broken the structure or traditional stage installations, allowing the new physical ; space to be reconstructed and constructed. A new Viewing relationship and set pattern.

The space of the small theater drama is also a physical attribute. The combination of viewing" under the traditional stage and" performance" on the stage, and the narrowing of the viewing distance, has created a more equal platform for viewing and communicating. The original you play me and I see". Some small theater drama works are not just simply coexistence or sharing space, but make the audience and actors co-exist in a theater space. The most critical step in the practice and performance of contemporary Chinese small theaters has made it possible for pioneering theaters in small theaters. Although the performance: of "Absolute Signal" is different from traditional theater performances, it replaces the frame-style with a scatter-type stage. The stage, left, right and front of the stage are all: audience areas, very close to the performance area, so the audience can observe any subtle changes and expressions during the performance of the actor, and the lights, sounds, music, etc. used by the director, let the audience In reality, imagination, memory and other three different time and space, the characters are fully aware of the changes in the drama situation and the multiple performances due to these: means.

The unity of "viewing" and "acting" and identification" space will definitely reduce the aesthetic distance of viewing and performing. Those called "aesthetic distance" refers to the spatial morphology between the performing actors and the audience. Physical distance. ("The growth and decline of viewing distance and the reorganization of aesthetic space. A brief discussion on the dramatic perspectives of the three major western dramatists in the 20th century" Yan Lifeng Theatre Art 2002) It can be more real, observe and feel each other's performance and reactions delicately, making the communication between the actors and the audience more real.

The study of the aesthetic distance of the stage art space of Chinese contemporary small theater can be studied from two aspects: psychological distance and physical distance. Whether it is the change of
psychological distance or physical distance in the theater space, it is the most striking feature of the small theater drama performance effect.

First, the change in the physical distance of the viewing space strengthens the communication characteristics between the actors and the audience, the division of the performance area and the audience area is reduced, and the physical distance between people is also reduced. This is sufficient to explain the outside of the theater environment. The shrinking of the carrier will inevitably bring the internal viewing distance closer, and it also further shows that the art of dramatic performance is a kind of "shared" art. In Chinese contemporary small theater the emphasis is on the intimate "coexistence" of the audience and actors, but this kind of the sharing of art refers not only to coexistence or co-occupancy of the theater, but also to the internal structure of the theater. The small theater plays get rid of the shackles of the frame type stage, and based on the external space of the "small" theater, set the viewing distance on its own. Create a new theater space. Of course, this irrational distance is not set arbitrarily. It must be based on the needs of the plot and the psychological needs of the audience. Therefore, when we design and observe the physical distance, the actors and the audience perform Interactive communication should be fully grasped.

Acknowledgement

Fund Project: This article is one of the achievements of the Chongqing Municipal Education Commission's Humanities and Social Science Research Project, "The Deduction and Inheritance of the New Era Small Theater Theatre Stage Space in the Traditional Stage Art Space" (project number: 18SKGH205).

References


