



A Brief Analysis of Brahms Violin Concerto in D Major, Op.77

Fong Fiona Fong

Midwestern University, Missouri, USA

DOI: 10.32629/asc.v4i2.1459

Abstract: Brahms is a giant in the era of romantic music, his works contain complex and delicate ideological changes in the hearts of the characters. His creative inspiration is deeply influenced by Schumann and other musicians, and the musical language expression in his works is sometimes tactful and sometimes obscure. Brahms has composed a large number of musical works throughout his life, including a large number of orchestral works, piano ensemble works, string ensemble works, solo piano songs, piano four-hand joint play, vocal duets, chorus, and solo works. Brahms's violin concerto consists of three movements, including the moderate Allegro in the first movement, the flexibility in the second movement, and the lively Allegro in the third movement. The first movement uses a 3/4 beat rhythm, a sonata style, the second movement uses a 2/4 rhythm, three paragraphs, and the third movement is also called the game-style Allegro, as the name suggests, is very fun, like a game. It uses a 2/4 beat rhythm, with an irregular rondo style. This article aims to help learners to understand its writing background and writing connotation of the Brahms Violin Concerto in depth, and to truly help them restore a series of problems such as the deep promotion of the composer's creation process and the origin of inspiration.

Keywords: Brahms, romantic music period, emotional tone, Western classical music

1. Introduction

Brahms and Beethoven, Bach history are called the "3B" in the history of German music, it is a landmark figure of Western classical music. Brahms is in the age of romantic music, but his work is based on classical music, especially using Beethoven's works as an idol. Based on traditional German classical music, with their own romantic style and tenderness, Brahms forming his own unique characteristics of works. One could say that Brahms incorporated his own emotions, the melody is graceful and delicate, and the harmony is changeable, Although being used in the framework of classical music, it has his own unique insights by comparing Brahms's clever and pastoral style with Beethoven's strong and majestic music.

Except for Brahms' meticulous, reserved but dignified personality, historians have also recorded his sources of inspiration. In addition to our love for a better life and our Hungarian national style, as well as our reverence for the country, his creative inspiration comes from his goddess in his heart, the person who gave him the most in life, his teacher Clara. The story of the three of them is widely circulated, Brahms wrote several handwritten letters to Clara like this: "I am inspired by my admiration and love for you, and all my feelings for you can only be expressed through music."

Based on the collection of these historical materials, it is not difficult to understand why Brahms wrote so many emotional works. It is because of his love for the goddess Clara and their pure spiritual connection that Brahms created many popular works. Let us feel the hardships, depth, and lifelong love and pursuit of Brahms in his works while playing his works. From a 20-year-old man to an elderly unmarried man, he is ashamed to express his love for the goddess, deeply buried in his heart. This complex emotion is fully integrated into Brahms's works.

2. Research background

2.1 Music characteristics of the classical music period

Classical music period refers to from the death of Bach in 1750 to Beethoven died in 1827 this period, divided into two parts of Pre-classicism and Vienna period, with the rise of the Vienna music, led by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, the three of them are known as Vienna three personages is also the main representative of the classical music period.

The music of this period is characterized by the main tone music, and the musical language is concise, simple, with clear and balanced image results, and the musical conflict is more deepened. Paragraph and movements rise to important factors in the composition, tone and harmonic arrangements have obvious abatons, and harmonies are more concise. From the short musical motivation to expand the rich musical ideas, Musical Instruments to learn from singing, such as Paganini's works, release human nature, the work is larger, exaggerated performance, dazzling chapters are more common, people-oriented, instrumental music in different images of singing way like singers. For example, many of Paganini's works are processed

and adapted from the opera arias, adding all the brilliant chapters, showing the violin's superb playing skills and personalized emotional expression.

Classical music than romantic works, always give a person with solemn, rigid, stubborn feeling, although more baroque music, with the evolution of the expansion of the theme, but more romantic music, harmony or I, IV, V, I, few II, III, VI, VII, chord, which is the opposite of romantic music, romantic music so irregular secondary chords and secondary chords, eleven chord, thirteen chord, always reflect romance and freedom. In the framework of the music, the music of the classical period appears more strictly in the frame of the main part, the secondary part, the main part and the frame of three or four movements, while the music of the Romantic period is much more free, and the frame is very casual and casual. Brahms is precisely the frame and chord texture of the old classical music period, But at the same time, knead into the romance, There will be seven chords, seven chords, thirteen chords, And the use of the main and secondary levels of chord constant transformation and interspersed, The continuation of the "Beethoven's" serious music, And with the harmony characteristics of the romantic period, , German folk and country music, In contrast to the classical music genre, More "human touch", Closer to popular life, But at the same time, most of the patriotic feelings, So while giving a sense of Brahms romance, You can also feel the solemnity of German music. Brahms created a lot of Hungarian ethnic music throughout his life, so in these music, we can also feel the magnificent Hungarian national spirit.

2.2 Music characteristics of the romantic music period

Romantic music period refers to from after the death of Beethoven to Chopin, Debussy, Shanghai Music Press, Music Research Institute 1988-8 Schumann, Schubert, Liszt musicians works of this music period, from listening to their music, we can be very intuitive found all kinds of irregular chords, irregular paragraph frame, very along with the gender, want to how to express the how to express emotion, without any constraint. During this period, various countries had representatives, with Poland being the most famous for Chopin's music, France for Debussy and Liszt, and for Tchaikovsky in Russia. Brahms is also a figure in the era of romance, but Brahms follows the creation characteristics of the classical music period, takes Beethoven's works as his creation benchmark, and creates his own music in strict accordance with the creation requirements of the classical music school, symphony, concertos, sonatas, all so. But because he is in the romantic music era, Brahms music is more or less will receive the influence of contemporary music culture, in the classical framework, added into the romantic factors, harmony in addition to classical music I, IV, I type, V, I also added II, I, III, VI, VII these seven chord, eleven, thirteen chords. This is one of the reasons why Brahms's work is difficult to understand, being rigorous, introverted, but varied and unpredictable.

Music in the period of romantic music has many characteristics. First of all, it is national and popular. For example, in this period, there are some representative figures to be found in each country, who are all faithful contributors to the national music. For example, Tchaikovsky's music has a strong traditional Russian music style, and the tone is also the Russian harmony minor and harmony major interspersed as the main line of composition. For another example, Chopin's works take his own Polish music traditional style and tone as the source of creation. For another example, Liszt, Debussy, Paganini and other famous composers of this period were all loyal people who defend their own music. This love for their motherland and hatred of foreign enemies is an indispensable and important factor in the formation of romantic music style. Secondly, the music of the romantic period is lyrical and dreamy. For example, Chopin is known as the "piano poet". The romantic atmosphere brought in his works makes people think of the beautiful pastoral scenery of Poland. For another example, Debussy's works often describe a scene or people, things. He is the representative of abstract music in this period. His works sound like abstract pictures, like his "Cloud" has an erratic, but quiet and comfortable feeling.

2.3 Brahms' importance in the romantic music period

Brahms was in the period of romantic music, but strictly enforced the rules of the classical music period and defended the "spokesperson" of classical music. In his work, we can see the rigor of classical music, the classical music framework, and Brahms followed Beethoven's example, and also wrote nine symphonies. In his symphony, we can feel just as majestic as Beethoven, so later generations have positioned Brahms as a representative figure of the classical music period.

When Brahms was 20, he visited the Schumann, who were already famous at the time, and opened the door to Clara. After listening to Brahms, she was busy and told him that She thought Brahms was the most Beethoven-like person. This shows how much of the classical music representative of Beethoven's influence on Brahms.

Compared with his contemporaries, Brahms has a strong contrast, and runs counter, retro flavor. In the music magazine at the time, he denounced Liszt and others for not following the principle of classical music creation and revising the composition framework without authorization. It shows how much Brahms loved the musical style of the classical music period.

Brahms is so love the creation of classical music, and he received music education in childhood is directly related, his

teacher in strict accordance with the way of classical music to Beethoven, Mozart, Haydn and other classical music giant works church to little Brahms, let Brahms took root in the heart, planted a love the seeds of classical music.

Brahms was the last person of classical music, and after Bach and Beethoven, he also called them his nominal teachers, as an example he followed. Although very romantic in the time when Brahms lived, he persistently embraced classical music. He is a defender who combines the essence of the classical period music in one body, pushing the music creation of the classical music period to the peak. Although not as magnificent as Beethoven, he has added the Brahms pastoral style and folk music, but he is the last integrator of the classical music. So Brahms played an irreplaceable place in the classical music period.[1]

2.4 An introduction to the Brahms violin concerto in D Major

In his life, Brahms has only created one violin concerto song, the eternal classic Violin Concerto in D Major, also imitating Beethoven's violin concerto with the same name, and the structure, musical passages and chapters are very similar. The difference is that his parents divorced and grew up in the slums, and his mother was 19 years older than his father, and in that of Clara, a goddess 10 years older, and in his romantic days. These many factors make Brahms' violin concerto contain people who want to express love, but dare not express, introverted, inferiority, strong inner conflicts, creating such a character struggling in music. Because he often heard his mother sing pastoral folk songs and her endless love for her, and make his works are full of the color of pastoral folk songs and the hope for life.

Brahms's Violin Concerto in D Major is divided into three movements. The first part, the mediocre allegro, with a stormy beginning, has the momentum of Beethoven's works.



Figure 1. The first part

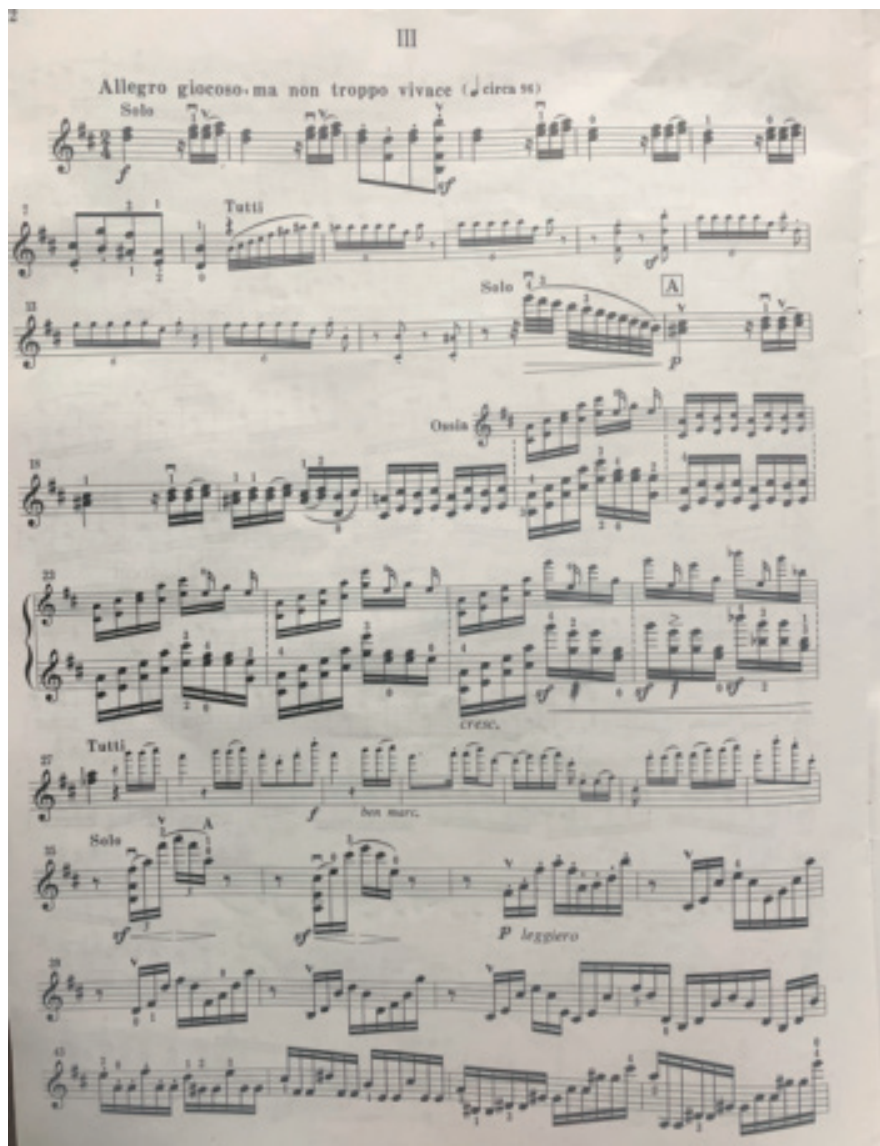


Figure 3. The third part

3. Research design

3.1 Research objectives

The research goal of this paper is to analyze the violin concerto, let readers and players more clearly understand and can feel each part of the work to express the central ideas, connotation, the composer's emotional expression and the story behind him, make the readers and players better grasp the Brahms composition style: melancholy, inside collect, composed, rigorous, suppress self, occasionally burst out, but immediately restrain himself, back to calm.

3.2 Research content

3.2.1 First movement of the Brahms violin concerto in D major

In the first movement of the storm, we can feel the composer's anger and excitement, minor chord and secondary secondary chord interaction, can let us deeply feel the composer's inner intense, restless feeling, from the beginning to the eighth line to gradually restore calm, and in the penultimate line of the last bar to completely calm down, found the release and breakthrough, with pastoral soothing melody, the author exhausted after catharsis, as if into the world, find the inner peace.

This Figure from 347 bars to 362 bars, is another climax in the first movement, or another emotional vortex, this paragraph is to wander the melody, but each melody is accompanied by above or below the children after alternating before and

after, and the first sound between the continuous seven degrees.[2] Such earning peace and endless restlessness brings our thoughts back to the composer's local situation, making us deeply realize the strong uneasiness that the composer cannot describe in words.

3.2.2 The Brahms violin concerto in D major, movement 2

Brahms D major violin concerto of the second movement is the adagio part of the whole work, the melody ups and downs, silk feeling refreshing, compared with the second movement of other composer violin concerto, Brahms violin concerto second movement no Beethoven violin concerto composed, but contemporary with the second movement, dramatic and exaggerated melody, high pitch, will often use high octave 10 more on a string.

3.2.3 The Brahms violin concerto in D major in the third movement

The third movement seems to be from the second movement of the lingering depression told back to reality, positive, endeavour, and like a competition, said he is a competition, because most of the movement is using the double tone writing, especially the beginning of the theme, with three degrees of double tone as the theme, like two competitors together, and like two warriors, finally reached the other side of the victory together.

4. Application and performance of complex harmonic functions

In Brahms the violin concerto, we can see a lot of harmony harmony effect, this is more common throughout the romantic period, and for Brahms such a childhood living in huge family conflicts and later adult common from love object for love, cause and cause the Brahms heart extreme imbalance, from his heart in the emotional outbreak, is a vent, strong dissatisfaction with his life, the bumpy fate of complaint.[3]

The Brahms Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 77 is a represent of Brahms' life, his only violin concerto, works magnificent, thoughtful thinking, emotional change complex with complex harmony and ups and downs, the first movement vice theme pastoral style pure and fresh and elegant refreshing, let a person cannot forget for a long time. The second movement is also composed with the tune of German folk songs. The second movement of a violin concerto can fall into the dream Garden of Eden, which is reluctant to leave again. This music that extends to heaven is too beautiful to extricate itself. The third movement with three degrees double tone as the theme of the theme slightly fighting feeling, is also the modern music media, when choosing scene music often quoted to the opening song, because its passionate melody, sound spirit, will hesitate in the people with the greatest spirit, encourage people to continue to work hard, not by heart. Brahms, this violin concerto is one of the world's top ten violin concerto, its skill difficulty in the violin concerto and Tchaikovsky violin concerto technical difficulty can be compared, is every violin player must practice repertoire, also symbolizes the violin player playing skills reached the peak of the height.

References

- [1] Li Ziyuan. Analysis of Brahms' second Rhapsody in g Minor works Analysis and playing skills [J]. House of Drama. 2023; (22): 71-73.
- [2] Leng Jia. Analysis of the performance of Brahms' Rhapsody in E Major [J]. Art Grand View. 2023; (22): 55-57.
- [3] Yang Yaqi. The musical context of Brahms' Panini (two volumes) [J]. Art. 2023; (14): 37-40.