

# Research on Professional Quality and Application of Skills in Rehearsal of Choral Conductor

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**Abstract:** With the development of choral cause in our country, the demand for choral command is higher and higher, thus the study on its professional quality becomes particularly important. This study mainly conducts an in-depth analysis of the professional qualities required for choral conductors from five aspects: choral art, music psychology, singing skills, conducting techniques, and image and mental qualities. At the same time, this study also focuses on the application of skills in rehearsal, such as control of intonation, form expression, vocal music teaching, and guidance to chorus members. The research shows that these professional qualities and skills are important factors affecting the overall performance of the chorus team, and the conductor needs to master these skills and apply them flexibly in practice to improve the overall artistic level of the chorus team. This study provides practical guidance and theoretical reference for those who are interested in choral conducting, and also provides a new research perspective for current choral education.

**Keywords:** choral conducting, professional quality, rehearsal skills, music psychology, morphological expression

## Introduction

In our country, choral activities have been widely penetrated into all kinds of cultural and artistic practices, and are deeply loved by the majority of music lovers. The professional quality and skills of the conductors who control this music collective have undoubtedly become the key factors that determine the artistic presentation quality of the chorus group. In recent years, with the flourishing of the choral cause in our country, choral conducting needs to show a higher commanding height under the dual requirements of technical theory and practical operation, which has gradually aroused the academic circle's high attention to the professional quality and application of skills that choral conducting should have. The traditional requirements of conducting quality only stay in the level of music theory, musical sense and conducting technology, but it fails to cover the research of singing skills, psychological control, artistic understanding, stage image and other multiple qualities in an all-round way. Therefore, this study attempts to conduct a comprehensive theoretical discussion and practical analysis of the professional quality of chorus conductors, aiming at providing quantifiable and operable quality indicators to promote the standardization and standardization of chorus conductors. At the same time, the application of skills in rehearsal, which is rarely touched in the current research, is also deeply studied, aiming at establishing a more complete choral conducting skill system. On this basis, this study will also deeply explore the skills application of chorus conductors in actual rehearsal, hoping to help improve the artistic quality and comprehensive strength of chorus practice.

## 1. Professional qualities that chorus conductors should possess

### 1.1 Understanding and application of choral art

The ability of the choral conductor to understand and apply the choral art is an important part of his professional

quality<sup>[1]</sup>. Choral art involves not only the interpretation of musical works, but also a deep understanding of the style and historical background of choral works. Conductors need to master the characteristics of choral works of different styles and understand the forms of musical expression of each music school and era to guide the choir to accurately present the connotation of the works. This requires the conductor to be able to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the work, including melody lines, harmonic structures and rhythmic changes, and formulate a corresponding artistic expression plan according to the characteristics of the work. In application, the conductor needs to translate his understanding into practice, conveying the emotion and force of the work through body language, facial expressions and precise movements of the baton. This process involves not only the execution of musical techniques, but also the guidance and coordination of the chorus members. The conductor needs to adjust his artistic expression according to the actual situation of the choir. Through the deep understanding and flexible application of the choral art, the conductor can effectively improve the overall performance level of the choir and ensure the accurate presentation of its artistic style.

### **1.2 Psychological knowledge of music**

Musical psychological knowledge plays an important role in the professional quality of choral conductors. It not only helps conductors understand the inner emotions of musical works, but also effectively promotes the emotional communication between conductors and choir members. Mastering the principles of music psychology can help the conductor identify and analyze the psychological state of the choir members and provide them with appropriate guidance. In rehearsals, the conductor can stimulate the enthusiasm of the members and improve their sense of involvement and expressiveness with the help of the knowledge of music psychology. The application of music psychology is also reflected in the conductor's understanding and interpretation of different musical styles and emotions. Through profound musical understanding, the conductor can convey the emotional connotation of the work, making the singing more vivid and touching. The choral conductor needs to have a keen musical psychological perception, so as to better coordinate the teamwork, enhance the adjustment ability, and thus improve the artistic level of the overall performance of the chorus. When facing the challenges in rehearsal, the psychological knowledge of music provides theoretical support for the conductor, so that he can cope with the complex performance needs more freely.

### **1.3 Singing skills and conducting techniques**

Singing skills and conducting techniques are important components of chorus conducting and play a core role in the realization of chorus art. Singing skills require the conductor to be familiar with vocal principles, including breath control, timbre adjustment and the ability to switch between high and low tones, so that he can accurately guide the choir members to optimize singing. In terms of conducting skills, the conductor needs to have clear gestures, language and body expression to accurately present the rhythm, dynamics and emotions of the music<sup>[2]</sup>. The conductor should be able to maintain team coordination during rehearsals and performances through eye contact and timely cues. The two complement each other and provide effective support for the complete expression of choral art.

## **2. Application of skills of chorus conductor in rehearsal**

### **2.1 Control intonation skills**

Controlling intonation is a crucial skill for a choral conductor during rehearsal. The mastery of intonation is directly related to the overall performance and vocal quality of the choir. The conductor needs to have keen hearing ability to accurately identify and correct the intonation deviation of the choir members when they sing. This requires the conductor to have a deep understanding of the melody trend of each part and the harmonic relationship between the parts, so as to effectively guide the singer to adjust his own vocalization.

In the actual rehearsal, the conductor can improve the intonation level of the choir in many ways. For example, a piano or other instrument may be used for pitch correction so that the singer can compare and adjust the pitch instantly. Part practice can be used to focus on the intonation of a particular part. Repeat difficult passages in rehearsals to gradually improve the intonation stability of the singer. The precise instruction of individual syllables will also help to improve the overall intonation.

### **2.2 The importance of morphological expression**

As an important skill of the chorus conductor in rehearsal, form expression has a significant impact on the overall performance of the chorus group. In the rehearsal process, the morphological expression of the conductor includes gestures, facial expressions and body posture<sup>[3]</sup>. These visual elements can not only convey the emotion and rhythm of the music, but also focus the attention of the chorus members and enhance their concentration and musical expressiveness. Through morphological expression, the conductor can guide the chorus members to understand the style and emotional expression of the music work more intuitively, thus improving the overall coordination and expressive force of the chorus. The precise application of morphological expression can also supplement the deficiency of verbal instructions, making complex musical guidance more intuitive and effective. In practice, this requires the conductor not only to have a solid knowledge of music theory, but also to constantly improve his artistic expression ability, so as to ensure that every movement can accurately convey the connotation and emotion of the music, so as to better guide the choir to achieve the best performance results. By attaching importance to and applying the skills of form expression, the choral conductor can effectively improve the artistic expression and performance quality of the choir.

### **2.3 Vocal music teaching skills**

Chorus conductor plays a key role in guiding and demonstrating vocal music teaching<sup>[4]</sup>. Effective vocal music teaching techniques include clear vocal instruction and scientific breathing control training, which help choir members master the basic skills of singing. Accurate intonation practice helps to improve the overall harmony level, while emotional expression training enriches the level of interpretation. In rehearsal, the conductor should teach according to the actual situation of the team and adjust the teaching strategy flexibly to ensure that each member can achieve the best singing state and enhance the artistic expression of the chorus performance.

## **3. The application of professional quality and skills of choral conductor in practice**

### **3.1 Problems and challenges in practice**

Choral conductors face many problems and challenges in practice, which directly affect the overall level and artistic performance of choral groups. It is the gap between the professional quality of the conductor and the practical demand. Although some conductors have a solid foundation in music theory, they lack effective communication skills in actual rehearsals and lack a grasp of the psychological state and performance ability of chorus members, leading to low rehearsal efficiency. The composition and overall level of the choir members also pose challenges to the work of the conductor. The poor musical quality of some members and the difficult balance of voices have forced the conductor to devote more attention to specific problems. The comprehensive application of conducting techniques and skills often encountered difficulties in practice. For example, intonation control in rehearsals was easily interfered by the acoustic conditions of the venue and the differences in members' auditory perception. In vocal music teaching, due to the differences in individual timbre of members, how to effectively improve the unity of timbre and singing performance is also a difficult point. In the face of these problems, conductors need to flexibly adjust rehearsal strategies while improving their own professional abilities, coordinate the cooperation among members, and comprehensively deal with the complexity of practice, so as to ensure that the overall performance of the team reaches the expected level.

### **3.2 Flexibly use professional quality and skills to solve practical problems**

In the practice of choral conducting, the flexible use of professional quality and skills is an important means to solve practical problems. In the face of the disunity of intonation of different parts in rehearsal, conductors need to use their deep understanding of choral art, combined with the knowledge of musical psychology, and improve intonation through accurate guidance and feedback. Faced with the lack of emotional expression of chorus members, the conductor can combine morphological expression and vocal teaching skills, and stimulate emotional resonance of members through vivid body language and voice demonstration, so as to improve the overall performance. In the case of complex voice structures or stylistic changes encountered in rehearsals, conductors need to flexibly adjust their conducting techniques to meet the different needs of the choral group and ensure that each voice part is integrated into the overall harmonious atmosphere. This kind of targeted use of professional quality and skills can not only overcome the difficulties in actual rehearsal, but also further improve the overall artistic level of the choir.

### **3.3 In this way, the overall artistic level of the choir can be improved**

The improvement of the overall artistic level of the choral group depends on the effective use of professional quality and skills by the choral conductor. With a deep understanding of choral art, the conductor can design a more expressive music interpretation scheme. The application of music psychological knowledge promotes the tacit understanding and coordination between the conductor and the chorus members, and enhanced the overall expressive force of the chorus. Through exquisite singing skills and conducting techniques, the conductor can effectively guide the chorus members, improve intonation control and the harmony between voice parts. In the face of problems in practice, the conductor flexibly uses professional quality and skills to solve technical problems in rehearsal, and comprehensively improves the artistic performance of the choir and the appeal of the music.

## **4. The influence of the professional quality and rehearsal skills of the chorus conductor on the overall performance of the chorus team**

### **4.1 Influence of choral conductor on overall performance**

The choral conductor has a significant impact on the overall performance of the team, which is directly related to the artistic level of the choir. Choral conductors not only need to have a solid foundation of music theory and superb conducting skills, but also need to have a high degree of artistic perception to accurately interpret the style and emotion of the work. The choral conductor's precise control of intonation determines the harmonious beauty of the entire choral work. The conductor achieves harmony and unity by carefully guiding different voice parts and controlling the overall timbre. Morphological expression, through which conductors convey musical emotions, is an important means. It not only affects the choir's understanding of the work but also directly enhances the audience's audiovisual experience<sup>[5]</sup>. The vocal music teaching ability of the chorus conductor is also indispensable. The conductor needs to instruct the singers in the correct vocal method and timbre control during rehearsal to ensure the accurate presentation of each note in the performance. Through the cultivation of the comprehensive quality of the conductor, the overall performance of the chorus team has been further improved, making the works more appealing and expressive. The professional quality of the choral conductor is closely related to the performance of the chorus, which affects the quality of the choral works and the success of the stage performance.

### **4.2 The influence of rehearsal skills on performance**

The role of rehearsal skills in the overall performance of a choral team is crucial. The use of scientific and reasonable skills in rehearsal can effectively improve the coordination and artistic expression of the team. On the one hand, through the intonation control skills, the conductor can help the choir members to accurately grasp the pitch relationship and avoid the damage of intonation distortion to the overall harmony. Under the guidance of morphological expression, the conductor uses body language to convey emotion and artistic intention, which can strengthen the consensus of team members on musical expression. Vocal music teaching skills provide technical support for rehearsals, helping members to master the correct vocal methods and breath control, so as to improve the texture of the voice and the overall singing level.

The application of techniques in chorus rehearsal can also stimulate the potential of the team, such as optimizing the performance through rhythm training and dynamic control. These techniques pay attention to details and serve the whole, which can enhance the resonance and tacit understanding of the team during running-in and adjustment. Practice has proved that the accurate use of different skills is directly related to the artistic completion of chorus performance, and provides an important guarantee for the perfect presentation of chorus works.

### **4.3 How do professional quality and rehearsal skills work together on performance**

The combination of professional quality and rehearsal skills of a choral conductor is the key factor to improve the overall performance of a choir. In terms of professional quality, the conductor needs to have a deep musical understanding, diversified knowledge of musical psychology and the ability to control singing and conducting skills, which can lay the foundation for the artistic expression of the team. In terms of rehearsal skills, the coordination and artistic expression of the chorus team can be continuously improved through precise control of intonation, optimization of form expression and strengthening vocal music teaching. Professional quality provides direction and support for the application of skills, and

rehearsal skills are an important means to transform the quality into practical results. The two complement each other, and jointly promote the team's improvement in details and overall artistic performance, and finally achieve the unity of artistic and appeal of choral works.

## **5. Conclusion**

Through the in-depth study of the professional qualities required for choral conducting and the skills applied in rehearsal, we learn that choral conducting plays a crucial role in the chorus team. Choral conductors should not only possess professional qualities in choral art, music psychology, singing skills, conducting skills, and image and mental qualities but also master and apply rehearsal skills such as intonation control, morphological expression, and vocal music teaching. Therefore, this study identifies these professional qualities and skills as the key factors affecting the overall performance of the chorus team. Therefore, the majority of chorus conductors should vigorously improve their own professional quality, flexible use of rehearsal skills, in order to improve the artistic level of the entire choir. In addition, this study also provides practical guidelines and theoretical references for those who are interested in choral conducting, and points out a new direction for the current research on choral education.

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