

## **The Analysis of the Influence of Music in Animated Movies**

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*Abstract: In animated movies, music has always played an important role, and animation and music are also complementary. Animation constitutes the form of music, and music adds soul to animation. When the music touches the animation, the combination of the two emits a powerful energy, which is much greater than the effect of the two alone, making the animated film more attractive and firmly grasping the viewer's eye. In 1935, under the painstaking research and elaborate production of the Wan Brothers, "Camel Dance" successfully solved the synthesis of light, shadow and sound, and became the first sound animation in China. In the course of more than 80 years of development, animated music has experienced a period of germination, exploration, prosperity and transformation. Chinese cartoons have also formed their own unique styles at each stage. This paper first classifies the categories of music in animated films, and then explores the role of animated films through the use of music in various excellent animated films.*

*Keywords: Animation; Music; Works.*

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### **1. MUSIC CATEGORY OF ANIMATED FILMS**

When music first appeared in the film, the purpose was only to attract the attention of the audience to the screen. As time goes by, music is used to match the content of the film. In order to express the content in the film, people explore various methods, and the importance of music gradually increases. Music can be divided into the following categories according to different creative purposes:

#### **1.1 Theme song**

The theme song is usually the main piece or song representing a movie. The theme song focuses on expressing the central idea of the film, the personality of the character and the emotion of the story, which is the basic tone in the whole animated film. The main theme of this kind of music can be used throughout the film, usually at the beginning, end or the climax of the film, which plays a role in positioning and guiding the style and theme of this film. As an indispensable part of an animated film, the theme song can quickly bring the audience into the atmosphere of the whole story, while the emotions reach a concentrated sublimation. "When You believe" is the theme song of the 1998 DreamWorks cartoon "The Prince of Egypt". The

film's music plays an important role. This song brings hope to an era, bringing a spiritual home to a group of people who are eager for the future. The Hebrews are no longer afraid of death, but only for the calm and peaceful future life. There is no more oppression in Egypt and there is no more killing. The audience felt the bloody scene and the fearless sacrifice spirit, all for freedom.

### **1.2 Episode**

Episodes usually appear in a certain part of an animated film, sometimes related to the development of the story, but not necessarily the general tone of the whole drama, which expresses emotions and rendering the atmosphere. A reasonable soundtrack must be complementary to the film. It is part of the film and plays an irreplaceable role. "Smallfoot" is an animated film produced by Warner Bros. Film Company in 2018. One of the village chief's rap episodes is interspersed in the movie. Through this rap, the cause of the incident is explained. At first, they only thought that the old patriarch was only stubborn, but later found that he insisted on the responsibility alone, which achieved the effect of the narrative in a short time, and enriched the character of the old patriarch.

### **1.3 Background music**

Background music in the animated film is used as a background to express the environment. It creates a unique background atmosphere for the film, making the environment authentic and reflecting the emotions or thoughts of animated characters. It is divided into dialogue background music and action background music. White background music is the most common one. Its main feature is that the volume is small, so it is not easy to be discovered by the audience; and the action background music is to imitate all kinds of sounds in real life, its tone rhythm is precise, and the plot and the characteristics of the characters are closely matched; the inner feelings and character traits of the protagonist in the play can be conveyed to the audience without words and dialogue. For example, the background music "The Pride Lands" in the Disney animated film "The Lion King" has a melody in the film six times, running through the six most important moments in the life of Simba's life, the melody is slow and heavy. This piece of music closely links the fate of Mufasa and Simba and the ancient land on which they lived.

### **1.4 Character music**

Character music is usually a music that can represent the character in an animated film. It may be specially created for the character, sung by voice actors, or may not be sung by voice actors, but the meaning of the song lyrics is closely related to the role story. It can bring the emotions of the audience into the situation where the character is located, and make the character shape more full. In the "Detective Conan Movie" series, there is a period of familiar character music. Although there are different arrangements, the melody will never change. As long as Conan's appearance, this piece of music will be accompanied by, then the audience will immediately remember the story and collocation lines, which is classic.

## **2. THE ROLE OF MUSIC IN ANIMATED FILMS**

In fact, the success of an animation work, music is a crucial link. Especially in the film, music is a powerful weapon to remind the authenticity and appeal of animation. In making movies, actors can use their own physiological structure to control their own rhythm and plot, and the pictures they shoot naturally and truthfully reflect this rhythm. But unlike movies, animated cartoons have no real actors. So, such an important sense of rhythm is embodied by music tracks. It can be said that the rhythm of animated cartoons is entirely by animated sounds. The role of music in animated movies can be reflected in the following aspects:

### **2.1 Promoting the development of animation plot and narrating plot**

Animated movies are sometimes not very smooth by simply linking up the story with pictures and lines. The emergence of music here can play a role of "lubricant". It can better promote the development of the plot and create an atmosphere of the picture, which can affect the mood of the audience, guide or hint the development and extension of the story. For example, in the animated film *Frozen*, "Let It Go" won the Oscar for the best original song. This song complements the film and the plot, showing Princess Elsa's inner release and liberation, her relaxed and free mood, reflecting the protagonist's inner changes, and paving the way for the next development.

### **2.2 Express the atmosphere of the plot and the emotion**

A good movie often requires a piece of music to perform an emotional rendering. To a large extent, the role of the background music far exceeds the picture itself, giving people an emotional impact. For example, when the plot needs to create an intense atmosphere, the horror environment and the character's psychological portrayal, etc., arrangements of the harmony and sound of the music are all needed, in order to let the music give the audience a sense of immersive hearing. "Because I have you" in *The Tangled* is a slow-moving folk song that incorporates elements of national music, musicals, and pop music. The lyrics describe the mood and emotional changes of the two after the encounter. Rapunzel is optimistic and lively, bravely pursuing what she wants. When the music rings, the dreamy skylights blend with the pure and beautiful love. This song represents hope, dreams and love.

### **2.3 Characterize and shape characters**

Music has a magical energy, which can vividly depict characters with different personalities. The positive tone of the protagonist or the gloomy and low-pitched voice of the villain can bring the audience an intuitive feeling, making the characters in the movie more vivid. *Beauty and the Beast* has an episode "Bell" which is a part of the protagonist's own singing. The Belle completely subverts the basic setting of the Disney princesses who have always admired fancy boys. She is still very diverse, but independent of thought. She loves reading but not arrogant, especially for men. This piece of music shows Belle's strong, confident, hardworking and brave female image.

### **2.4 Enrich the complete plot and increase the sense of three-dimensionality**

Humans are used to feeling objective things from both visual and auditory aspects. Music is auditory art, and pictures are visual art. The combination of music and pictures in a movie can

make the plot more stereoscopic. Music is not only a single, but a full-fledged combination of audio and visual, and can even become an element to promote the development of the plot. The movies express the three-dimensional sense of the story and the sense of substitution of the audience through the sound effect. The sound of the harp in "Big fish Begonia" depicts the scene of the setting sun, and the use of the guzheng can play the sound of the turbulent water. The grasp of these rhythms adjust the feeling of the story.

### **3. CONCLUSIONS**

A good movie is never a single picture. Music is both a foil and an embellishment. The most complementary music never dares to compete for the host, nor is it an embroidered pillow. Music is the most abstract art of all arts, and the information conveyed by this abstract art has a specific source of sound like voices in speech and life, which can let you know what it is, but not show the image of objective things as accurately as visual elements. However, music is the most accurate and effective way to arouse people's psychological reaction, that is, in terms of emotions and feelings. This is also something that other arts can't do, so music is the strongest art in mobilizing people's emotions. The addition of music makes the film no longer monotonous, injects new vitality, and also can continue the life of the film.