

Classical and modern music theory: comparison and interaction

Allayarova Nargiza Narimanovna

Senior lecturer, Urgench State Pedagogical Institute, Uzbekistan

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Abstract: The topic of comparison and interaction between classical and modern music theory is aimed at studying important aspects of musical development. This article discusses the main principles of classical music theory, how they have influenced modern music, and how modern musical styles reinterpret classical traditions. The study analyzes factors such as historical context, musical structures, harmonic and rhythmic aspects, as well as performance styles. The article also provides examples of how modern composers use and reinterpret the classical heritage. As a result, the continuity and renewal processes between classical and modern music theory are emphasized.

Keywords: Classical music theory, modern music theory, music development, historical context, musical structures, harmonic aspects, rhythmic aspects, performance styles, compositional traditions, musical heritage.

Introduction: Music is an integral part of human culture, which has undergone development and change over the centuries. The topic of comparison and interaction between classical music theory and modern music theory represents one of the most interesting aspects of the development of music. While the music of the classical period served as the basis for European music, especially in the 17th-19th centuries, modern music gave rise to new styles, techniques and means of expression in the 20th-21st centuries. Studying the connection between the music of these two periods allows us to understand not only the continuity of musical traditions, but also how they are reshaped based on new conditions and requirements. Classical music theory is mainly based on traditional principles such as the tonal system, harmonic laws, form and structure. These principles have developed over the centuries and have been the main guide for composers in creating musical works. However, modern music theory, while preserving classical traditions, includes new experiments, atonal systems, electronics and various cultural influences. This process demonstrates the dynamic relationship between classical and contemporary music. This article analyzes the main differences between classical and contemporary music theory, their similarities, and how they have influenced

each other. The aim of the study is to reveal the evolution of music theory, its relationship to social, cultural, and technological changes. It examines how classical music has inspired contemporary music and how contemporary musical styles have reinterpreted classical traditions through examples. As a result, it will be possible to gain a deeper understanding of the continuity of musical heritage and how it is preserved in new forms.

A comparative analysis between classical and contemporary music theory aims to identify differences and similarities in their basic principles, styles, and creative approaches. Through this analysis, it is possible to gain a deeper understanding of the continuity and changes between the music of both periods.

In classical music theory, musical works are based on specific forms (e.g., sonata, symphony, fugue) and structures. These forms provide composers with a clear pattern and order in which to compose. Modern music, on the other hand, develops by breaking with or reinterpreting traditional forms. For example, minimalist composers use repetitive patterns and simple structures, which is the opposite of the complexity of classical forms. Classical music is based on a tonal system, and works develop within a specific tonality (such as major or minor). Modern music, on the

other hand, often uses atonal or polytonal systems, which offer the listener a new and unconventional experience. The "12-tone technique" created by composers such as Arnold Schoenberg developed as an alternative to the classical tonal system.

Classical music is usually rhythmic and time-based, with a fixed and precise metric structure (e.g., 4/4 or 3/4). Modern music is rhythmically more free and experimental, using complex and variable rhythms. For example, works such as Igor Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* feature challenging and unconventional rhythmic approaches.

Classical music's performance styles are based on traditional instruments and their technical capabilities. Modern music, on the other hand, makes extensive use of electronic sounds, synthesizers, and computer technology. This has significantly expanded the means of musical expression. In addition, modern music uses traditional instruments in new ways, such as playing stringed instruments in pizzicato or percussive ways.

While classical music is largely based on European culture and traditions, modern music represents the fusion of different cultures. Jazz, rock, world music, and other genres have had a major influence on modern music. This has further enriched music theory and expanded its boundaries.

Modern music does not completely reject classical traditions, but interprets them in new ways. For example, modern composers rework classical works in an electronic or minimalist style. At the same time, some principles of classical music (for example, counterpoint or thematic development) are also reflected in modern music. A comparative analysis of classical and modern music theory reveals both their differences and similarities. Although classical music theory served as the basis for modern music, modern musical styles reinterpret classical traditions in the light of new conditions and requirements. This process shows the continuity of musical heritage and its continuous development.

Literature analysis (review):

In studies on the topic of classical and modern music theory, various literatures and sources provide a wide range of approaches. Through the analysis of this literature, it is possible to form a general idea of the main points of view, methodologies and research results on the topic.

One of the most important sources for studying classical music theory is Heinrich Schenker's "Harmonielehre". This work provides an in-depth analysis of the structure, thematic development, and harmonic regularities of tonal music. Schenker's

approach is still widely used in the analysis of classical music. Arnold Schoenberg's "Theory of Harmony" also covers the basics of the classical tonal system and its influence on modern music.

An important source for studying modern music theory is Paul Griffiths' "Modern Music: A History and Style". This work covers topics such as the main movements of 20th-century music, atonal systems, electronic music, and minimalist styles. It also analyzes the experimental approaches of composers such as John Cage and their contributions to music theory.

Leonard B. Meyer's "Music, the Arts, and Ideas" plays an important role in studying the relationship between classical and modern music. This work provides in-depth analysis of the historical development of musical styles, their cultural context, and their interaction. Meyer believes that musical traditions are constantly reshaped by new circumstances and demands. An important source on the growth of technology in modern music is Robert Rowe's *Interactive Music: Computer Technologies and Musical Expression*. This work provides detailed information on electronic music, computer instruments, and their impact on musical creation.

The analysis of the literature shows that there are different approaches and methodologies in studying the relationship between classical and modern music theory. While classical music theory is based on the tonal system, harmonic laws and traditional forms, modern music theory includes experimentation, atonal systems and technological innovations. The literature shows that the interaction between the music of these two periods ensures the continuity of the musical heritage and its constant development.

DISCUSSION

The topic of comparison and interaction between classical and modern music theory reveals the most important aspects of musical development. In this discussion, it is possible to think more deeply about the main differences, similarities and how they influenced each other.

Classical music theory played an important role in the development of modern music. The tonal system, harmonic laws and traditional forms served as the basis for modern composers. For example, the works of composers such as Ludwig van Beethoven or Johann Sebastian Bach are often reinterpreted in modern music as a source of inspiration. However, in modern music, these traditions are reworked in accordance with new conditions and requirements. For example, minimalist composers simplify the complexity of classical forms and use repetitive patterns and simple structures.

Modern music theory does not reject classical traditions, but reinterprets them. Atonal systems, electronics and experimental styles express the traditional principles of classical music in a new way. For example, Arnold Schoenberg's "12-tone technique" developed as an alternative to the tonal system, but this technique is based on the principles of classical counterpoint and thematic development. Modern composers also rework classical works in electronic or minimalist styles, which creates a new interpretation of the classical heritage.

The development of music theory is closely related to social, cultural and technological changes. While classical music is based on European culture and traditions, modern music represents the fusion of different cultures. Jazz, rock, world music, and other genres have had a major impact on modern music. This has further enriched music theory and expanded its boundaries. For example, composers such as George Gershwin have combined jazz and classical music to create new styles.

In classical music, performance styles are based on traditional musical instruments and their technical capabilities. Modern music, on the other hand, makes extensive use of electronic sounds, synthesizers, and computer technology. This has significantly expanded the means of musical expression. In addition, in modern music, traditional instruments are used in new ways, for example, playing string instruments in pizzicato or percussive methods. This allows for new interpretations of classical traditions.

The connection between classical and modern music theory shows the continuity of musical heritage. Although classical music theory served as the basis for modern music, modern musical styles reinterpret classical traditions based on new conditions and requirements. This process demonstrates the continuity of musical heritage and its continuous development. For example, modern composers rework classical works in electronic or minimalist styles, which creates a new interpretation of the classical heritage.

CONCLUSION

The discussion between classical and modern music theory shows that there is a deep connection between the music of these two periods. Although classical music theory served as the basis for modern music, modern musical styles reinterpret classical traditions based on new conditions and requirements. This process demonstrates the continuity of musical heritage and its continuous development. The evolution of music theory is closely related to social, cultural and technological changes, and musical traditions are constantly preserved in new forms.

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