

# Surveying On Current Erhu Teaching in The No.2 Primary School in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, The People's Republic of China.

Lin Siqi\*
Pranote Meeson

\* Master's degree students Faculty
of Music Bangkok Thonburi University
meesonp@hotmail.com
phone number 0817508565

Received : September 12, 2024 Revised : September 25, 2024 Accepted : November 20, 2024

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding author

## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is to examine the Erhu professional class at Shenyang No. 2 Primary School in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, People's Republic of China. This study employed a qualitative research method, with the main research tools being interviews and observations.

Through interviews with two teachers and five students, as well as direct observation by the researcher, the following conclusions were drawn: 1) Shenyang No. 2 Primary School has invested significantly in music education; 2) The teaching methods and curriculum are comprehensive; and 3) The school has developed specialized teaching materials for the Erhu course and has made notable progress in the quality of instruction.

## Keywords: 🏌

Erhu, Basic music

## Background and research problem

Erhu originated in the Tang Dynasty, with a history of more than 1,000 years. It originated from a minority in the ancient north of China, and was originally called "Ji Qin" and "Xi Qin". The earliest record of Ji Qin is a poem written by Meng Haoran, a poet in the Tang Dynasty, at the Yanrongshan Ren tang Pavilion: "Bamboo attracts Jiqin people, and flowers invite Dyke." Chen Min, a scholar in the Song Dynasty, recorded in his "Le Ji" that "xi Qin Hu Kun is also a day …"

Cen Can, a poet in the Tang Dynasty, wrote, "The China army bought wine and returned to China. The poem "and play him barbarian lutes, guitars, harps" shows that the huqin has been popular since the Tang Dynasty, and it is the general name of Chinese and western silk stringed instruments.

In the Song Dynasty, Chen was a scholar at the end of the Song Dynasty. According to the Records of Shilin Guangji, Ji Qin was originally written by Kang, so it was called Ji Qin. Shen Kuo, a great scholar in the Song Dynasty, recorded in the Music of Bubitan: "During the reign of Xining, Yan Xu, an actor from Jiaofang, played Ji Qin at the palace banquet. When he drinks wine, he can't get rid of it, let alone get rid of it. This shows that in the Northern Song Dynasty, it had a very high-performance level. When Yan Xu played "Ji Qin" for the emperor and his ministers, he still played a string. Since the founding of New China, music education in China has paid great attention to the development of folk music, and erhu music has also made sufficient progress. It can

be said that it has reached a high level and become the most important family musical instrument. Chen, a scholar at the end of the Song Dynasty, recorded in "The Stone Forest" that it was originally written by Kang, so it was called. Shen Kuo, a great scholar in the Song Dynasty, recorded in the Music of Bubitan: "During the reign of Xining, Yan Xu, an actor from Jiaofang, played Ji Qin at the palace banguet. When he drank wine, he couldn't get rid of it, and it was even more difficult to get rid of it, which showed that it had a very high level of performance in the Northern Song Dynasty. When Yan Xu played Ji Qin for the emperor and ministers, he broke one string and still played the song with another. It is impossible without skilled skills. Later, Shen Kuo wrote in "Meng Qian Bi Tan" that "Hu Wei, Qin Jidong, was happy and resentful. Don't shoot the geese in the clouds with a bow. The returning geese don't send them out now. "This shows that there was a tail hugin in the Northern Song Dynasty. According to "Yuan Shi Li Le Zhi", "Hu Qin system, not thinking like fire. The head is taken into account. The two strings are connected by a bow, and the strings of the bow are made of tails. " During the Ming and Qing Dynasties, Hugin had spread all over the country and became the main instrument for accompaniment and ensemble of Chinese operas. (Liu Xiaodong, 2015) In modern times, Hugin was renamed Erhu. For more than half a century, Hu's performance level has entered a period of vigorous development. Mr Liu Tianhua is the founder of modern schools. He learned from the playing skills and techniques of Chinese musical instruments,

boldly and scientifically positioned the erhu as five positions, and invented the erhu kneading string, thus expanding the range of the erhu, enriching the expressive force and establishing new artistic connotations. As a result, Erhu stood out from the accompaniment and became a unique solo instrument, laying the foundation for the concert hall and conservatory of music in the elegant hall. (Tang Xinla, 2002) The number of music art colleges has increased, and a number of professionals have been trained. (Fuyuan, 2017) In addition, art groups, training classes, small-class education and educated people have widely appeared in various places, and the education methods are also blooming, and even countless years of performers have appeared. 2017 Erhu Music Education Exhibition. With the development of erhu music art in China, great achievements have been made in playing skills, works creation, performing talents, erhu education and the production, improvement and perfection of erhu instruments themselves. Erhu has become the most representative instrument in China folk music. In the first half of the 20th century, erhu, as one of the representatives of traditional national musical instruments in China, entered colleges and universities for the first time. Through the continuous efforts and explorations of Liu Tianhua and other generations, not only a large number of outstanding erhu instrumental works have emerged, but also a lot of research has been done in the fields of erhu techniques, erhu teaching methods and erhu teaching materials. The research of these educational theories and practices is a process of deepening the

understanding of traditional music education in China. Erhu is a traditional stringed instrument in China with a history of at least 1000 years. Before modern times, erhu was mostly used to accompany folk operas or instrumental ensemble, and rarely appeared as a solo instrument. At the same time, it was regarded by the ancients as "being addicted to sound and harming morality." It was not until the early 20th century that the position of erhu began to change, from accompaniment instruments to solo instruments, from folk self-reliance and self-entertainment to higher art education, and professional erhu music education was on the right track. And this series of changes can not be separated from Mr. Liu Tianhua's unremitting efforts. Nowadays, erhu has naturally become one of the treasures of China's national musical instruments, enjoying numerous reputations.

As for the teaching of erhu, before Mr. Liu Tianhua, most folk erhu artists taught erhu by oral instruction, and there was no accurate music score, which resulted in the form of "playing with music". Mr. Liu Tianhua was also a witness of this teaching mode when he studied piano in his early years. Then, according to his own learning experience, he took the essence and discarded the dross in the teaching methods of Erhu. According to the situation of each student, teach students in accordance with their aptitude and step by step; Make up your own songs for students to practice. It can be said that the education of erhu has also been standardized.

Nowadays, the purpose of studying the problem is to understand the excellent school methods of Shenyang No.2 Primary School and put them into my school for teaching.

### Purpose of the study

To survey the Present Situation of Erhu Teaching in the No.2 Primary School in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, People's Republic of China

### Research Questions

- 1. Why do you study the current situation?
- 2. How many people are the subjects? How many students?

## Purpose of the study

To survey the Present Situation of Erhu Teaching in no.2 Primary School in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, People's Republic of China

### Research Questions

- 1. Why do you study the current situation?
- 2. How many people are the subjects?

### Research Methodology

The research methodology was qualitative research and Survey

**Sample** Five students from the Shenyang 2 nd primary school selected in order of school number

**Key informants**: Two teachers from the Shenyang 2 nd primary school.

- 1. must be a music major.
- 2. graduated from a prestigious conservatory.
- 3. have at least 10 years of teaching experience

### Scope of the Study

Scope of place: Erhu Teaching in no.2 Primary School in Shenyang, Liaoning Province, People's Republic of China

### Research Findings

Erhu originated in the Tang Dynasty, with a history of more than 1,000 years. It originated from a minority in the ancient north of China, and was originally called "Ji Qin" and "Xi Qin". The earliest record of Ji Qin is a poem written by Meng Haoran, a poet in the Tang Dynasty, at the Yanrongshan Ren tang Pavilion: "Bamboo attracts Jiqin people, and flowers invite Dyke." Chen Min, a scholar in the Song Dynasty, recorded in his "Le Ji" that "xi Qin Hu Kun is also a day …"

Cen Can, a poet in the Tang Dynasty, wrote, "The China army bought wine and returned to China. The poem "and play him barbarian lutes, guitars, harps" shows that the huqin has been popular since the Tang Dynasty, and it is the general name of Chinese and western silk stringed instruments.

In the Song Dynasty, Chen was a scholar at the end of the Song Dynasty. According to the Records of Shilin Guangji, Ji Qin

was originally written by Kang, so it was called Ji Qin. Shen Kuo, a great scholar in the Song Dynasty, recorded in the Music of Bubitan: "During the reign of Xining, Yan Xu, an actor from Jiaofang, played Ji Qin at the palace banquet. When he drinks wine, he can't get rid of it, let alone get rid of it. This shows that in the Northern Song Dynasty, it had a very high-performance level. When Yan Xu played "Ji Qin" for the emperor and his ministers, he still played a string. Since the founding of New China, music education in China has paid great attention to the development of folk music, and erhu music has also made sufficient progress. It can be said that it has reached a high level and become the most important family musical instrument. Chen, a scholar at the end of the Song Dynasty, recorded in "The Stone Forest" that it was originally written by Kang, so it was called. Shen Kuo, a great scholar in the Song Dynasty, recorded in the Music of Bubitan: "During the reign of Xining, Yan Xu, an actor from Jiaofang, played Ji Qin at the palace banquet. When he drank wine, he couldn't get rid of it, and it was even more difficult to get rid of it, which showed that it had a very high level of performance in the Northern Song Dynasty. When Yan Xu played Ji Qin for the emperor and ministers, he broke one string and still played the song with another. It is impossible without skilled skills. Later, Shen Kuo wrote in "Meng Qian Bi Tan" that "Hu Wei, Qin Jidong, was happy and resentful. Don't shoot the geese in the clouds with a bow. The returning geese don't send them out now. "This shows that there was a tail hugin in the Northern Song Dynasty. According to

"Yuan Shi Li Le Zhi", "Hu Qin system, not thinking like fire. The head is taken into account. The two strings are connected by a bow, and the strings of the bow are made of tails. " During the Ming and Qing Dynasties, Hugin had spread all over the country and became the main instrument for accompaniment and ensemble of Chinese operas. (Liu Xiaodong, 2015) In modern times, Hugin was renamed Erhu. For more than half a century, Hu's performance level has entered a period of vigorous development. Mr Liu Tianhua is the founder of modern schools. He learned from the playing skills and techniques of Chinese musical instruments, boldly and scientifically positioned the erhu as five positions, and invented the erhu kneading string, thus expanding the range of the erhu, enriching the expressive force and establishing new artistic connotations. As a result, Erhu stood out from the accompaniment and became a unique solo instrument, laying the foundation for the concert hall and conservatory of music in the elegant hall. (Tang Xinla, 2002) The number of music art colleges has increased, and a number of professionals have been trained. (Fuyuan, 2017) In addition, art groups, training classes, small-class education and educated people have widely appeared in various places, and the education methods are also blooming, and even countless years of performers have appeared. 2017 Erhu Music Education Exhibition. With the development of erhu music art in China, great achievements have been made in playing skills, works creation, performing talents, erhu education and the production, improvement and perfection of erhu instruments themselves. Erhu has become the most representative instrument in China folk music. In the first half of the 20th century, erhu, as one of the representatives of traditional national musical instruments in China, entered colleges and universities for the first time. Through the continuous efforts and explorations of Liu Tianhua and other generations, not only a large number of outstanding erhu instrumental works have emerged, but also a lot of research has been done in the fields of erhu techniques, erhu teaching methods and erhu teaching materials. The research of these educational theories and practices is a process of deepening the understanding of traditional music education in China. Erhu is a traditional stringed instrument in China with a history of at least 1000 years.

#### Conclusion

Through interviews with two teachers and five students, as well as the actual observation of researchers, the following conclusions are drawn: 1) Shenyang No.2 Primary School has invested a lot of teaching funds in music education; 2) The teaching methods and courses are substantial; 3) The school has developed special teaching materials for erhu specialized courses and made remarkable progress in teaching.

#### Discussion

Teaching Erhu, teachers must be proficient, know how to use psychology in teaching, especially for primary school students.

According to the research on teaching Erhu in Shenyang No. 2 Primary School, Liaoning Province, it can be seen that this school's teaching concept is very strong, and the teachers are excellent. When the two concepts are combined, this school should be called the best Erhu school.

#### Recommendations

#### General recommendation

This study can be used for other primary schools to learn erhu courses, and they should all follow the requirements of the new curriculum for comprehensive talent training in order to improve students' overall understanding and professional ability of erhu courses.

#### Recommendation for further research

This study only investigates the advantages of Shenyang No.2 Primary School over other primary schools, but the specific learning methods or operation methods are still unclear. In the future research, we can consider creating a related teaching manual to better help other primary schools learn erhu professional knowledge.

#### Reference

- Chen Saijun. (2015). the enlightenment education of erhu in folk music, quality education Chinese Youth, 21.
- Chen Jiayin, (2007). *children's piano enlightenment teaching*. Shandong Normal University.
- Chen Meizhen. (2014). some misunderstandings in elementary violin teaching. South China University of Technology.
- Dai Fei. (2012). Thoughts on Artistic Conception in Erhu Art. Tianjin Conservatory of Music.
- Dale Carnegie. (2009). *Yuan Ling translation, human weakness*. China Development Press.
- Duan Jinzhong. (2005). Erhu teaching several issues that cannot be ignored [J]. Art Education.
- Feng Changchun. (2008). *Music Aesthetics Foundation. Nanjing Normal University Press*.
- Gao Zhiyi. (2013). the combination of traditional and modern erhu teaching. Yihai, 11.
- Huang Yingyi. (2010). *talk about several problems in erhu teaching*. Art Education, 01.
- Hou Xue. (2013). Erhu teaching solfeggio training research. Shandong Normal University.
- Jia Jiwen. (2009). a new exploration of erhu teaching-learning from Suzuki violin teaching method. Northwest University for Nationalities.

- Li Ran. (2014). on the teaching of musical expression elements in children's piano enlightenment Central Conservatory of Music.
- Li Shuangshuang. (2014). a comparative study of erhu teaching mode. Shanxi University.
- Luhmann. (2014). a brief analysis of several problems in erhu teaching for teenagers. Master's egree thesis of Shanghai Conservatory of Music.
- Li Zhengping. (2011). *Erhu teaching problems and countermeasures*. Journal of xinzhou teacher's university,05.
- Pu Kaiyuan. (2000). psychological principle of inner hearing of music. Symphony, June Vol.19, No.2.
- Qian Zhihe. (1985). *Erhu performance-beat, rhythm*, speed. China Music, 01.
- Sun Yi. (2003). several important links in erhu teaching. Art Journal of Jilin Art Institute.
- Sun Yan. (2011). adult violin enlightenment education. *Tianjin Conservatory of Music*, 2015 Speech at Academic Forum [J], People's Music.
- Yi Zhao. (2014). *children's violin enlightenment teaching research.*Shanghai Normal University.
- Wang Honglei. (2014). *on children's erhu enlightenment teaching*. Northwest Normal University Conservatory of Music, Music Time and Space, 09.
- Wang Zujun. (2014). the specific application of Dalcroze teaching method in children's piano learning [J]. Northern Music.

- Xie Jiaxing. (2011). Yu Wenwu, Music Education and Teaching Method. Higher Education Press.
- Xiang Li. (2002). how to grasp the intonation of Erhu. Small performer, 12.
- Xiaoli Hu. (2010). *children's erhu teaching thinking*. Journal of Tongling University, 05.
- Xing Liyuan. (2005). Erhu performance art of "love" and "rhyme". Shanghai Conservatory of Music.
- Zhao Hanyang. (1986). *children's erhu teaching method*. China Music, 03.
- Zhou Fusan. (2005). *Music Basic Theory Course*, Shandong University Press.

000