Research on the Montage Technique in The Film and Television

Xiaoshu Li

Zhengzhou Institute of Aeronautical Industry Management

Zhengzhou, P.R.China, 450015

e-mail: lixiaoshu8706@126.com

Abstract—**With the science and technology's development and progress, the simple actions and expressions can't satisfy the audience's psychological needs now, the gorgeous colors, wonderful music, compact rhythm and the perfect plot, all of these have become the measure scale that a film is good-looking or not. In order to satisfy these requirements of the audiences, the directors have widely used the montage editing technique in the film and television. So-called montage is using editing technique to make all fragments are combined into the film and television story of with meaning, content and plots. The charm of montage in the film and television works is that it can not only bring the visual enjoyment to the audiences, meanwhile it can let the audiences in the same time experience the directors creative intention and ideas. Through the change of the paragraphs or the reorganization of the screens, the viewers will have the different feelings to the film and television works. In this paper, starting from the origin of montage, it has introduced the classification method of montage in detail, and through some examples, analyzed the role of montage in the film and television works. Through this paper, it enables the audiences to better understand the profound meaning of montage.**

Keywords—Film and television works; Montage; editing technique; narrative montage; expression montage

I. INTRODUCTION

"Montage", that is a word of French architecture, which is used by the film workers, they used "Montage" to express the technology of film editing and combination in film works[1]. In the architecture, this word means installation, combination, constitution. That is, according to the designer's idea, the various architectural elements can be formed a whole after processing and installation, to make every element play a greater role than each individual element. In the film creation, "Montage" means in accordance with the feelings expressed by the script or film, to take a lot of scenes, and then according to the original ideas, these scenes are artistically combined together, to make it produce comparison, association and foil, so as to form a complete works of film and television, such a kind of constituting form and art mode is called "Montage". In fact, this theory has get flexible application in film language by early filmmakers.

II. THE ROLE OF THE MONTAGE

In the silent era, the film could make the audiences laughing through the exaggerated movements and expressions. But now, with the science and technology's development and progress, the simple actions and expressions can't satisfy the audience's psychological needs, the gorgeous colors wonderful music compact rhythm and the perfect plot, all of these have become the measure scale that a film is good-looking or not. The films which have shown in recent years, whether it is "2012", "Avatar" or "Inception", all do quite perfect in these aspects, accompanied by the scenes appearing and the music sounding, the audiences will be unconsciously integrated into the story, together sadness or joy with the the characters. When we further research these films, it is not difficult to find, any a excellent film absolutely can't do without the "Montage" Technique". The Montage is one of the important factors to decide the film's success or failure. Not only in the aspects of structure story plots, creation figure characters, rich expressive force of the film, "Montage" has an important role which can not be replaced by other art means, but also in the aspects of attracting the viewers desire, mobilizing the viewers emotion, "Montage" even has played a key and decisive role.

III. THE DEVELOPMENT OF MONTAGE

In fact, Montage exists in people's daily life. Everyone has this feeling, when you watching a theater or a film, you will pay attention to someone or some special part on the stage accompanied by the plots or personal preference, instead of your eyes unmoved to keep a close watch on some place. This is actually explains that as the audiences, we make a "Montage editing" for the watching contents in there unconscious. As we all know, the vision field of person is 120°, in this range, we can enjoy the aesthetic feeling of vision, also can selectively accept your favorite things, we can observe the farthest or nearest views, and this is called shooting scale usually, this unconscious choice process is actually the process of montage's selection and combination.

In the film and television works, the charm of montage is that it can not only bring the visual enjoyment to the audiences, meanwhile it can let the audience in the same time experience

the directors creative intention and ideas. Through the change of the paragraph or the reorganization of the screens, the viewers will have the different feelings to the film and television works. The former Soviet union director Kuleshov did a famous experiment: to take some close-up scenes of "sad" and "smile" faces that the actor "Mozhukhin" was in a film, then the two kinds of expressions were combined with "gun" lens, it produced two completely different effects[2]:

The "sad face---gun---smile face": a man was originally very depressed, when a gun was in front of him, suddenly open and clear, he became fearless in the face of death, he saw through everything, then smile face to everything. It shows this man's courage and calm, such as shown in Figure 1.

The "smile face--- gun--- sad face": a man was very happy originally, when a gun was in front of him, he suddenly felt nervous and tangled, his face appeared fear and timorous expression. This fully embodies his afraid and timid in his heart, such as shown in Figure 2.

This famous experiment of "Kuleshov Effect" fully demonstrates the importance of different film editing for a film, it can bring the audience's emotion changes, increase the drama conflict and strengthen the theme expression. A beautiful potted landscape needs the pot makers devote all his attention to clip it, it can be able to show the beautiful side, and the same is true for a film. A good film needs to use the montage technique to cut the dilatory plots to make the film more compact and express the chief plot and emotion to the audiences.

The montage theory has been experienced a long time: After summarized the former Lumiere brothers to take scenes of life's realities and Melie liked to shoot stage performances, Griffith set up the parallel montage language (In the "last minute rescue", which is the classic paragraph in the film "The Birth of a Nation", the montage technology is used vividly and thoroughly)[3]. Then, there have been two kinds of theories: one is the Sergei Eisenstein's montage theory which headed by the Soviet Union director and film theorist, he insisted that using the film editing technique to rearrange some cinema scenes will produce the new meaning. The second theory is French film theorist Andre Bazin's long lens theory (also called paragraph lens), he considered that the montage techniques destroy the film's truth and the new meanings that are produced by the montage combinations is a performance of behaviorism. However, the first theories have been used in the real life widely and set up the film industry. The most famous representative is Hollywood.

IV. THE CLASSIFICATION OF MONTAGE

The Classification of montage can be roughly divided into two types:

A. *Expression Montage (to play a major role in embellishment)*

Expression montage is also called "queue montage", that is according to the scene's inner link, through the change and shock among the scenes or the scenes with sound, to form the concepts and meanings that a single scene itself cannot produce, and inspire the audience imagination[4]. The expression montage can be subdivided into: parallel montage, cross montage, comparison montage, symbol and metaphor montage, and so on. Using these expression techniques in the film would make the story's plot is more colorful and the content is more substantial, let the audiences could felt the film's feelings more than ever before. The following is the two expression montage's forms:

1) *Comparison Montage*

Through the comparison between the rich and the poor, the barbarism and the civilization make the audiences have a strong shock in the heart, just like as the ancient poetry said "the portals of the rich reek of flesh and wine while frozen bodies lie by the roadside". One is the rich spend money like water, the other is the starving people, through the strong contrast, it shows the old society's dark and extremely brutal.

2) *Accumulation Montage*

That is to combine a series of similar lens, give rise to the visual accumulation effects. Such as: old road, west wind, bony horse, foot bridge, running water, household, old tree and so on, all the similar views are run through by an emotional line, when these views are combined together, every plot has become a extension of emotion.

B. *Narrative montage (to play a major role in narrative)*

Narrative montage is the editing method that according to

Fig.1. sad face-gun-smile face

the things' development rules, internal relations and time sequence, the different shots are connected together to narrate a story and show a series of events[5]. From the time sequence that the events have happened to see, the narrative montage includes typical narration, flashbacks, narration interposed and division narrate and so on. From the correlation that the events have happened to see, the narrative montage can be divided into the following kinds:

1) Parallel Montage

Two or more than two plot lines that occurred in different time and space (or in different places at the same time) are parallel performance, separately narrate and unify in a complete structure[6]. Griffith and Hitchcock are the montage master who are very good at using this method.For example: in the film "Spacked Out", Liu Ye who was in a slump in his career encountered his first girlfriend and rekindled their romance; the unlucky Chen Jianbin raised money to cure disease for his wife, but all his property was cheated by female cheater Lin Xinru; the rich second generation, deaf and dumb Wang Luodan was not bad money only love, fell in love a handsome boy who is the accompany of driving; and the handsome boy's greatest pleasure was to have a gay time with beautiful girls, did not like the ugly duckling at all; the platform miss Li Xiaoran who was the first wife of Liu Ye was unwilling to lose her husband, employed the handsome boy to trace Liu Ye's amour--- various people appeared on the scenes in succession, what the stories of all walks of life! each have their own pain, each have their own tangle, but a car accident, let these people who struggle in their life suddenly have the intersection. This editing technique makes the plot of the film is more compact, the content is more concentrated.

2) Repetition Montage

it likes the repetition narration mode in the literature. In this montage structure, a certain meaning lens will appear repeatedly at the important moments, in order to achieve the purpose of portraying characters and deepening the subject. Such as the film "SACRIFICE", in order to rescue Zhao's orphan

Cheng Ying sacrificed his own son, with infinite courage to assume the burden of fostering Zhaoshi orphan. "until Bo Er grows up, take him to the front of Tu Anjia, tell him who is the boy, who I am. I would to let them love each other, then Zhao's son kill Tu Anjia, that would wreak vengeance." This sentence of Cheng Ying constantly repeats in the film, it fully shows his bereavement and infinite forbearance.

3) Intersection Montage

It is also called alternate montage. That is, using this mode, two or several plot lines that occurred at the same time, different regions are alternatively edited together quickly and frequently, usually, the development of one of the plot lines can influence the others. The various plot lines are interdependent each other, and finally are joined together. In the film "SACRIFICE", in order to get rid of Zhao Shuo, Tu

Anjia ordered people to cheat Zhao Shuo, said his wife Zhuang Ji has birthed baby, at this moment the plot of the film shown: one side is Zhao Shuo to see his wife and baby at a gallop, then he is killed in the ambush, million arrows wear his heart; another side is Mrs Zhuang Ji serenely listened to Cheng Ying telling about the miscarriage prevention, quietly waiting for the arrival of the baby. Using this editing technique makes the whole film rhythm intension, exciting. The two plots appears alternately, give the viewer to create a urgency sense.

4) Illusion Montage

The first is deliberately to make the audiences suppose the necessity development of the plot, however, the plot suddenly turns 180°, the plot development in the opposite way instead of the audiences' thought , then give viewers a big surprise. In the youth film "OLD BOY", when Bao Ge heard the news that his idol Mike Jackson has died because of illness, the emotion was out of control, accidentally crashed into the car in front of him, the driver of the car was violently crazy scold and claim, at this time, the owner of the car got off, a look of anger, when he saw the culprit was his classmate, immediately turned anger to joy, and invited him to attend the programme of Happy Boys. Just about the lucky coincidence, the Chopsticks Brother that was composed by Bao Ge and his brothers deeply affected the judges and audience with the beautiful songs, in rigged case, they won the first name.

5) Order Montage

Order Montage was originated from rhythmize of the Beijing Opera, it means who is called, who played. who played. Talk of the devil, and he is sure to appear. In the whole film, order montage has played a role in the connecting link and echo of up and down. In the film "If You Are The One II", Li Xiangshan who was still alive hold a remains leaves ceremony for himself in advance, at the ceremony, Li Xiangshan quoted his daughter Chuan Chuan's words with deep feelings: "relative to the living, death is another existence". At this time, The camera cut to Chuan Chuan who is crying sadly because her father soon passed away. This scene makes the whole film rhythm more fusion, also make the atmosphere of the farewell ceremony more sad.

6) Expanded and centralized Montage

The expanded Montage means the cameras shoot the plot from close-up gradually expanded to the distant views, so that the audiences can see the whole from the detail, resulting in a particular atmosphere, that is the expanded montage; the cameras shoot the plot from the distant views gradually into the detail close-up, which is centralized montage. In the film "Let the Bullets Fly", the county magistrate and his wife, private adviser Tang, were eating Hot pot on the train, they would come into office to Goose county, meanwhile Zhang Mazi readied to hijack the train to make a fortune. The lens were shoot from the train white smoke to the train rear, until the whole body of the train, the last was the panoramic views of the train, this was actually a telescope observation by Zhang Mazi. This shooting style shows the observation

meticulousness and the full grasp to the overall situation, it can make a special emotion that the audiences can watch from the detail to the whole.

V. CONCLUSION

A good works of film and television cannot do without the the editing art, the excellent editing cannot do without the support of montage theory and practice, in the film editing, montage theory is in the continuous development and improvement. Keeping the montage thought, making the montage to play its biggest role in the films, showing the important role of montage in the film, making both the editing and montage realize the perfect combination, which will make the montage theory becoming better and approaching perfection day by day.

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