

## Performance Analysis of the Cucurbit Solo Lonely Black Steed

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**Key words:** Lee Chunhua, The lonely Black Steed, The cucurbit solo.

**Abstract.** *The lonely black steed*, created by composer Lee Chunhua, has a strong Mongolian prairie style. This paper analyzes from the following aspects: the structural analysis, emotional analysis and execution, so as to inspire the interested fans and performer.

### Introduction

*The lonely black steed* is a kind of national music cucurbit solo, which was created by the famous composer Lee Chunhua based on the Mongolian music elements. This music highlights the strong prairie style because Lee Chunhua delves into performing skill with Long-tune, finger vibrato and special scale performance. With the combination of western composing skills and national composing skills, *the lonely black steed* has a strong regional characteristics and a strong appealing the expression of the mood, which make people have more understanding and interest in cucurbit flute. Therefore, it is extremely great masterpiece with a broad impact in music circles.

Mr. Lee Chunhua, a national first class performer, who is the composer of cucurbit, the young cucurbit performer and educator, is the executive director of the professional Committee of Chinese cucurbit and bawu and the cucurbit grading judges of Shanghai Music Conservatory. There are his published works: *The tutorial of cucurbit and Bawu*, *Performance guide of cucurbit and Bawu*, *How to play the cucurbit and Bawu*, *How to play the well-known piece of cucurbit and Bawu music*, *The point of cucurbit and Bawu*, *Happy cucurbit*, *Gold Hulu*, *Charming cucurbit*, *Intoxicating cucurbit*, *The point of cucurbit and Bawu and Cucurbit OK*. There are his creative works: *striking time*, *Dance song*, *The blossoming snow lotus*, *Clear water of jade lake*, *The pear raining*, *Drum charm*, *Waning moon of broken bridge*, *The blue Shambhala*, *Silky love*, *Hulu in the wind*, *The love of hulu and The Lonely Black Steed*. *The solo album has the Hulu sutra*, *Cucurbit flute of Lee Chunhua and so on*. *The tutorial of cucurbit and Bawu* is well-known and gained wide attention, which made a great contribution to the development of cucurbit and spread to all over the world.

In 2011, Lee Chunhua had created cucurbit solo *the lonely black Steed* with the Mongolian musical elements in five months, starting from the September of 2010, accomplishing and issuing in the February of 2011. when composing the music, he was writing a lot of diaries. From the composition of the song style, it has a strong prairie flavor, whose brief style as a prairie folk and melodious long tune attract people with the infinite yearning of vast grassland and a profound and memorable scene. The use of long tune and the finger vibrato enriched the playing skills of Cucurbit with the chromatic scale. In fact, there are rich ethnic characteristics in execution and emotional appeal. Lee Chunhua also lamented that there is nothing unexpected, only can not to do!

### Music structure analysis

From the perspective of the overall music structure, this is a complex trilogy structure with the introduction using the traditional national mode. It is performing by fingering "1" with cucurbit G, belonging to B mode.

### Introduction

The introduction that starts with a combination of primer and piano music give people a feeling of being in the open prairie. At first, the appoggiatura enters with upbeat and gradually strengthens. The ragtime is very particular, blowing out in five tones with emotion. The "6" tone make the sound full of



with different hierarchy. It is appropriate to weaken the light and strength the heavy, so as to help people hear the stress even every syllable. Please refer to Fig. 4:

3235 6561 66 05 | 6165 3565 33 02 | 1235 2121 66 0 | 611 233 122 355 |

Fig. 4

### Allegro

Due to the joint of 7tone and 4 tone in combination with Chromatic scale, devoiced and revolt, This music changes its national five tone mode into the national seven tone mode. There is the same musical structure between allegretto and allegro. Allegro, an extension of allegretto, gives people the impression of strong and powerful, which is a representation, but it will not come to the point in the strict sense, using the rapid double tonguing with passion. Each bar has a tone to be highlighted with the finger vibrato, so as to express the black steed's hope for future life and thorough understanding of life, as a result of which, it is particularly important to use the two special skills as seen from Fig. 5.

6666 6666 6666 60 | XX XX XX XX |

4333 4333 4333 4333 | 5<sup>#</sup>444 5444 5444 5444 | 6<sup>#</sup>555 6555 6555 6555 |

1777 1777 1777 1777<sup>v</sup> | 1177 7<sup>b</sup>766 7<sup>b</sup>77 66<sup>#</sup>55 | 66<sup>#</sup>55 55<sup>#</sup>44 5544 4433 |

4333 4333 4333 4333 | XX XX XX XX | XX XX XX XX | XX XX XX XX |

Fig. 5

### Technique and emotion analysis

The emotion of music is the soul. Without emotion, no one can integrate into the feelings of their music, and skills are an important means to reflect the feelings of the works. *The lonely black steed* is music with Mongolian style which is based on the nomadic people--the Mongolian folk songs. Combined with the material with ethnic regional characteristics, such as Mongolian long tune and short tune, it is appropriate to fully dig out the unique characteristics of the Mongolian music techniques, which is of great value to enrich the performance of the music.

### The emotional expression of "freedom"

While the rhythm of the ragtime is free, it has relatively high requirements on the emotional assurance. a combination of morin khuur and piano leads you to a beautiful and fantastic world of the Mongolian steppes where a lonely black steed is galloping in the darkness. The combination of quiet grassland and silent sky express the infinite imagination of the prairie, entering an infinite yearning for the opening prairie and the feelings of the survival of the lonely horse. This part uses some techniques to express, like more audio, glide and virtual vibrato as Fig. 6.

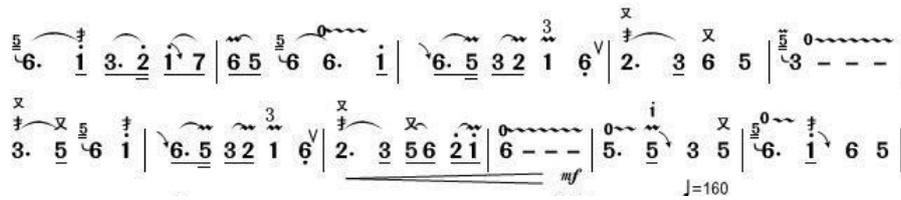


Fig. 6

### The emotional expression of hopeful

The scene of the andante is full of hope and the feeling of loneliness, main describe the black steed's contradictory thinking on the broad prairie and ambivalent yearning for a better life. Entering with portamento and virtual vibrato, it highlights' the loneliness of a black steed in the prairie in slow sleep and it is close to the tune of Mongolian with virtual vibrato. The first half of this bar (1-10) is mainly to express the loneliness of black steed in the broad prairie, thinking about the meaning of survival, linger on the survival and ideal. In the second half of bar (11-26) is to write the black steed in the survival and the ideal, without contradiction in the middle, thinking how to get rid of the loneliness to usher in a better life. The black steed is lonely with a good yearning for the future. It is noticed that the breath must be clear and the gas tremolo is also very important in controlling the good feelings, rather than playing without feeling. Finger vibrato, with the characteristic of morin khuur, is usually used in music of Mongolian style. "The lonely Black Steed" is such music with a strong Mongolian style, where finger vibrato is used to well demonstrate this style.

### The emotional expression of galloping in Grassland

There are two allegro in this music with different emotion, which is divided into allegretto and allegro. Allegretto is a description of black steeds galloping on the prairie scene. After a series of ideological struggles, the black steed finally decided to face the reality and it knows that the prairie is his home where he cannot feel betrays. It tries to run in the direction of the prairie given to its life. The music had a very happy change when the black steed finally understand what is the direction of the wonderful life in the future, so as to give people a cheerful, passionate and lively emotional changes using the following skills:

#### Staccato

It is mainly used double tonguing in this music, generally served to complete the continuous playing skills fast, so as to achieve the effect of double tonguing by playing "TK", which is reflected in the part of the allegro as Fig. 8.

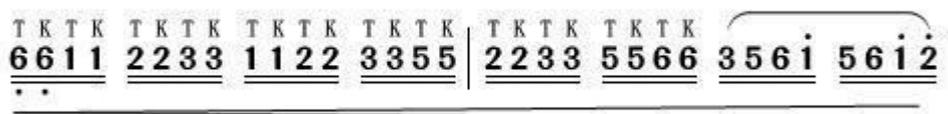


Fig. 8

#### Gas tremolo

Gas tremolo, caused by abdominal air shock, can make music more emotional, which is generally used in the soothing music bar. The use of gas tremolo in lonely black steed enrich the lonely emotion as Fig. 9.

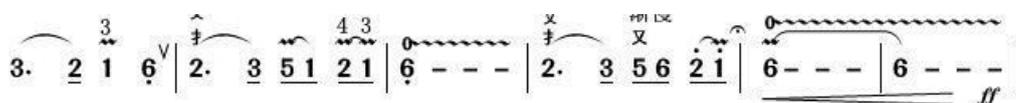


Fig. 9

#### First skill

This skill is special skill in the music, mainly imitating the effect of the galloping horse, whose playing method has the effect of combining two techniques of fast spit and slow sleep with the double tonguing based on the glide from 1 to 4, from 4 to 3 as Fig. 30

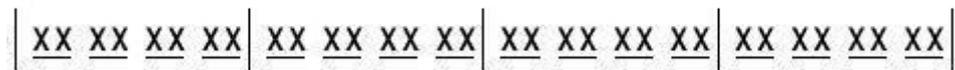


Fig. 40

### The emotional expression towards the future

Allegro is a powerful and imposing way to express emotional that the Black Steed is confirmed in his faith, while the allegretto is to describe the black steed's disillusionment to the present predicament and the wonderful planning for the future. Two special skills in this bar emphasizes the the black steed's determination to get rid of the trouble. From the beginning, the black steed was very frightened and uncertain about the future, and then he decided to go out of the lonely predicament for the courage to the future. Face with difficulties, it is hoped to brave in breaking and to understand that loneliness is not terrible, depending on each person's comprehension of life. The end is intact with passion and ebullient, which seems boundless as Fig. 51 .

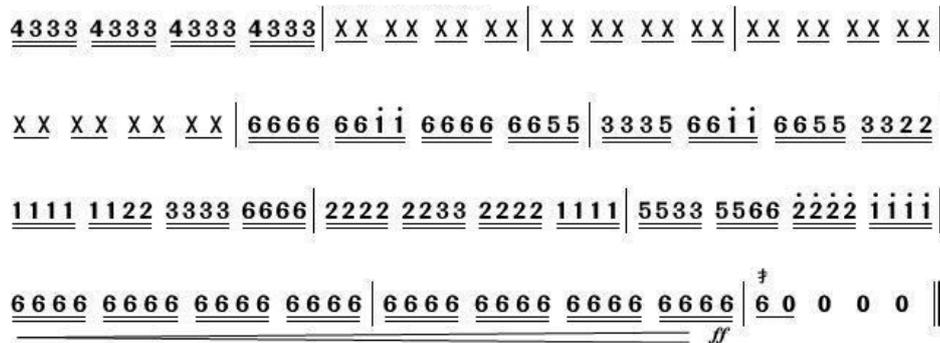


Fig. 61

In addition, there is the second skill that is to imitate the sound of horse. After 1 tone slide to 1 tone in high pitch, and then slide down 3 holes with three fingers, the 4 and 5 tone finished the fast tremolo with the close of three fingers. This skill is very difficult but it is important in the performance of the mood as Fig.12:

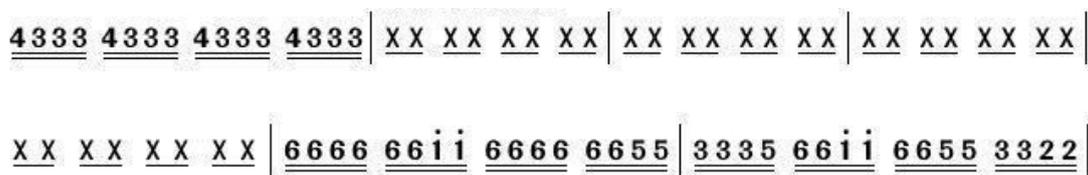


Fig. 72

The Lonely Black Steed is a indomitable spirit brought to people for finding the meaning of life when anyone encounter difficulties rather than blindly felling into the predicament, which is creator's idea to create this music. in the development of cucurbit music, it is hoped to make arduous efforts with the principle of "discarding the dross and selecting the essence" to develop the Cucurbit culture.

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