

Creative Innovation Research on the Ethnic Song and Dance Drama "Terraces Riding Over Clouds"

Song Liu

Director of China National Opera & Dance Drama Theater, Beijing, 102400, China

Keywords: Ethnic, Song and Dance Drama, Rural Development

Abstract: This paper takes the ethnic song and dance drama "Terraces riding over clouds" as the research object, aiming to explore its creative innovation as an ethnic song and dance drama. The plot revolves around Long Guoliang, a young Buyi man who returns to his hometown upon completing his studies and, under the guidance of the first secretary stationed in the village, uses big data to build "cloud-based" terraced fields, contributing to rural revitalization. The drama integrates elements of technology, ethnic culture, and rural revitalization, demonstrating innovative choreography techniques in ethnic minority song and dance dramas in China. Through an analysis of the creative elements, stage design, and performance format of the production, this paper delves into the artistic expression and social concerns that feature innovatively in "Terraces riding over clouds." The paper examines the vivid portrayal of characters and the clever arrangement of the plot by the director, analyzing how the artistic work closely combines reality and presents an artistic piece that is both thoughtful and aesthetically appealing. In the research process, this paper also focuses on the series of awards received by "Terraces riding over clouds" Through this case, the paper attempts to propose considerations regarding the artistic creation of ethnic song and dance dramas in rural areas. Through in-depth study, "Terraces riding over clouds," as an original ethnic minority song and dance drama, has not only set an artistic precedent for the creation and choreography of ethnic song and dance dramas in China but has also provided a new model for the artistic expression of rural revitalization in China.

1. Background Introduction

"Terraces riding over clouds" is set against the backdrop of the poverty alleviation efforts in Guizhou, focusing on rural revitalization. Through the dramatic presentation, it showcases the remarkable achievements made by Guizhou in poverty alleviation and digital development. This production integrates elements of technology, ethnic culture, and rural revitalization, successfully combining the diverse culture and rural development of Guizhou, presenting an artistic performance rich in both artistic value and social significance. The creators from the Guiyang Performing Arts Group, in their creative process, have upheld the belief of "facing challenges and keeping pace with the times," injecting new artistic vitality into rural revitalization in Guizhou through "Terraces riding over clouds." This paper will delve into the innovations and artistic accomplishments of "Terraces riding over clouds," aiming to better understand the role and impact of artistic creation in rural revitalization through the study of this work, providing insights and inspiration for the

innovation of ethnic song and dance dramas.[1]

2. Plot and Creative Background of "Terraces riding over clouds"

"Terraces riding over clouds" is set in a Buyi ethnic village in Guizhou province. The protagonist, Long Guoliang, is a young Buyi man with a dream of rural revitalization. He pursues education in the city and becomes an outstanding young talent. However, Long Guoliang is deeply rooted in his homeland, and upon graduation, he firmly decides to return to his hometown and engage in the cause of rural revitalization. Back in his hometown, Long Guoliang meets the first secretary stationed in the village, and together they plan to use big data to construct "cloud-based" terraced fields, aiding their fellow villagers in poverty alleviation and prosperity. Through digital technology, Long Guoliang successfully creates a digitized terraced landscape, bringing new development opportunities to the rural area. The story revolves around this process, expressing a steadfast confidence in rural revitalization and a deep appreciation for traditional culture.

"Terraces riding over clouds" showcases the transformative journey of a Chinese rural area from poverty and underdevelopment to gradual prosperity, focusing on the revitalization narrative of a specific village in Guizhou province. As one of the prominent ethnic minorities in Guizhou, the Buyi culture is meticulously portrayed throughout the drama, encompassing attire, dance, and language. The production team intricately depicts the vibrant traditional culture of the Buyi ethnic group, offering the audience a vivid glimpse. Through its narrative, "Terraces riding over clouds" reflects societal concerns regarding rural revitalization and serves as a guide to contemporary rural development philosophies. The protagonist, Long Guoliang, exemplifies the organic integration of individual efforts with rural revitalization. The portrayal of these aspects not only fully embodies the cultural uniqueness of Guizhou but also profoundly mirrors the current development trajectory of rural China. This renders the drama not only aesthetically pleasing but also a socially valuable artistic work.[2]

3. Analysis of Creative Elements

3.1 Innovation in Content and Theme

"Terraces riding over clouds" revolves around the themes of poverty alleviation and rural revitalization, intricately addressing current societal realities. Through artistic techniques, the production highlights the significance of these themes. While enjoying the performance, the audience is prompted to contemplate the challenges and opportunities associated with rural development. Through the perspective of the protagonist, Long Guoliang, viewers gain profound insights into the growth environment of contemporary Buyi youth and their efforts towards rural revitalization.

3.2 Technological Innovation

As a national folk musical drama with rural revitalization as its central theme, "Terraces riding over clouds" ingeniously blends traditional artistic forms with modern technology to present a rich, innovative artistic style. The digitized innovation of "Cloud-Top" terraced fields within the drama integrates traditional agriculture with modern technology. This element emphasizes the role of technology in supporting rural revitalization while captivating the audience with captivating visual effects on stage.[3]

3.3 Innovation in Artistic Presentation

The drama seamlessly integrates opera, dance, and drama, skillfully employing diverse artistic forms to enrich and enliven the storytelling. Dance, songs, and dialogue interweave, presenting the audience with a comprehensive and three-dimensional stage production. This creative fusion of multiple elements enhances the entertainment value while effectively conveying the emotional depth of the narrative. The production thoroughly showcases the traditional culture of the Buyi ethnic group in Guizhou Province, encompassing elements such as clothing, dance, and music. Through meticulously crafted stage effects, the audience not only appreciates the beauty of traditional culture but also gains a deeper understanding and appreciation of the unique charm of ethnic minorities.

3.4 Innovation in Ecological Culture

Guizhou, characterized by its diverse topography and a concentration of ethnic minorities, relies predominantly on agriculture for economic development in rural areas. "Terraces riding over clouds" not only narrates the story of rural economic development but also combines topographical features with technology, showcasing new methods and means for the agricultural economic development of rural areas and providing innovative perspectives for rural economic revitalization. The creative element of digitized terraced fields allows the audience to immerse themselves in the integration of technology and traditional culture.[4]

Overall, the incorporation of these creative elements makes "Terraces riding over clouds" not just a visual feast but also an artistic masterpiece that profoundly reflects the era and societal development. Through these unique elements, the drama successfully captures widespread attention from diverse audiences and injects new creativity and vitality into China's performing arts scene.

4. "Innovative Achievements of "Terraces riding over clouds"

The staging of "Terraces riding over clouds" has generated a robust societal response, with its creative innovations not only reflected in the dissemination of audience acclaim but also encompassing the portrayal of rural development in China, the promotion of cultural heritage, and the formation of social resonance."

4.1 Promotion of Cultural Inheritance

"Terraces riding over clouds," through its vivid portrayal of Buyi ethnic culture, facilitates the preservation and development of minority cultures. As audiences appreciate this musical drama featuring the Buyi ethnic group, they gain a deeper understanding of elements such as traditional costumes, dance, and music, thus promoting the dissemination and endorsement of minority cultures.

4.2 Formation of Social Resonance

The narrative of rural revitalization in "Terraces riding over clouds" focuses on illustrating the efforts and dedication of ordinary farmers in the context of rural revitalization. This close-to-life and palpable plot has elicited widespread social resonance. The revitalization and development of rural areas constitute a central theme in contemporary China's development. "Terraces riding over clouds" not only narrates the story of the development of a minority village in China but also underscores the intertwined narrative of rural development, technological advancement, and economic growth. The audience can emotionally connect with the significance of rural revitalization for each family, forming a close bond with the characters in the drama.[5]

4.3 Community Dissemination and Discussion

Through social media and other online platforms, audiences have engaged in lively discussions and shared their perspectives on the drama. Interactive discussions online not only disseminate evaluations of the plot and actors' performances but also foster collective exploration of the themes related to rural revitalization, generating a more extensive societal impact.

4.4 Artistic Creation Inspires Social Attention

As a creatively unique musical drama, "Terraces riding over clouds" has captured societal attention towards artistic creation. Viewers, while following the plot, have shown a keen interest in the artistic conceptualization and performance techniques of the creative team. This heightened attention to artistic creation contributes to the innovation and development of artistic works, particularly in the realm of ethnic musical dramas.

5. Conclusion

"Terraces riding over clouds" ingeniously integrates artistic forms into the realistic backdrop of rural revitalization, successfully conveying the contemporary themes of poverty alleviation and rural rejuvenation. The organic combination of elements such as song, dance, and drama enhances the emotional resonance and aesthetic appeal of the artistic production. The drama skillfully blends technology with art and rural development, offering a profound portrayal of the multi-dimensional facets of rural revitalization. It not only focuses on economic development but also addresses social and cultural aspects, as well as ecological considerations. Through the portrayal of ordinary individuals, the drama illustrates the positive impact of rural revitalization on the lives of everyday people.[6]

Artistic creations are not merely entertainment but serve as significant channels for guiding societal values and conveying positive energy. "Terraces riding over clouds," through its innovative expression, showcases the positive role of artistic works in shaping society. Rural revitalization provides rich material for artistic creators, and in turn, artistic works, through emotional resonance and value guidance, drive the practical implementation of rural revitalization. This symbiotic relationship forms a positive interaction. The creative team behind the ethnic musical drama "Terraces riding over clouds" innovates in content and theme, artistic expression, stage technology, and regional ecological culture. The seamless integration of diverse elements creates a compelling narrative that showcases China's outstanding traditional culture while narrating the story of rural revitalization. The drama serves as a source of inspiration for the innovative arrangement of ethnic musical dramas, injecting new vitality into their development.

References

- [1] Chen Zhaoyifei. *The Fusion of Ethnic and Sense of Science and Technology-A Case Study of the Folk Song and Dance Drama The Terraced Fields in the Clouds*. *Art Science and Technology*, 2022(2):109-132.
- [2] Xie Jinjiao. *The Construction and Dissemination of National Art Classics-The Life Trajectory and Inspiration of the Musical Theater Liu Sanjie in 60 Years*. *Culture and Communication*, 2021(3): 42-48.
- [3] Li Jianguo. *Thought on stage facilities and equipment of domestic theaters*. *Art Science and Technology*, 2009(2): 32.
- [4] Wang Jingbo. *Transition and Inheritance of Tea-picking Opera in South Jiangxi*. *Journal of Longyan University*, 2020(6):33-40.
- [5] Niu Tingting. *Recreation of Mountain Folk Songs and the Making of Classics of Mass Literature and Art*. *Southern Culture Forum*, 2021(1): 173-177.
- [6] Zhou Zuolin, Tan Zhousheng. *The Fusion of Tradition and Modernity, Classical Allusion and Fashion: The Art and Creation Appreciation for Zhuang Opera Liu Sanjie*. *Journal of Hechi University*, 2012(1): 119-123.