# The Expression of Urban Folk Songs on Urban Culture

# Yulin Yan<sup>\*</sup>

Citi University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, 999097, Mongolia \*Corresponding author: 752566123@qq.com

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*Abstract:* This article uses urban folk songs as the starting point to explore the expression of folk songs on urban culture. Firstly, it analyzes the expression of urban culture in urban folk songs, then proposes that urban folk songs construct urban culture based on lyrics text and language selection, and finally analyzes how urban folk songs select the image of urban culture and how to express the emotions of urban culture.

## **1. Introduction**

The song itself is a kind of medium. It constructs an image and conveys spiritual culture to the outside world. It keeps telling stories to the audience[1]. With its own melody and the text it carries, it constructs a certain unspeakable spiritual world. For urban folk songs, it reflects the culture of a certain gathering area, but the people who spread it are not the people in the area. Therefore, studying the construction of urban folk music on the urban cultural image has become one of the foundations for studying folk music[2]. The song "Chengdu" by Zhao Lei quickly opened up the city's popularity among young people. The beautiful scenery of Chengdu and the faint sadness of Chengdu have become the content of this ballad for the public, and it has nearly 400,000 in NetEase Cloud Music. The amount of commentary on this song illustrates the charm of this music. Therefore, the analysis of the text and image selection of urban folk songs can identify the cultural choices of urban folk songs and further propose the path of urban folk songs to construct urban culture. This is the spread and image of urban culture. Construction provides new propaganda ideas[3].

#### 2. Urban Folk Songs Express the Content Construction of Urban Culture

Folk music is an emerging vocabulary in the annals of Chinese modern and contemporary music. It has not been passed down from ancient times to the present day. Naturally, when exploring the origin of folk music, academic circles and the industry generally believe that it originated from folk songs. This way of distinguishing gives folk music a basic and clear outline-from folk. The consensus method of distinguishing that the music of Qu Gao and Wu, Yang Chun Baixue is not folk music has been widely recognized by the public. Urban folk songs, as the name suggests, are folk songs created on the background of city life. He does not have the simple love and nostalgia of school days like campus folk songs, nor the unruly and unruly wreckage of rock music. What he has is a simple record of young people in the city. Because of the simple living conditions of the Chinese and the young people's dream-seeking journey in the "heterotopia", urban folk songs pay more attention to urban humanistic feelings. As we all know, music is composed of words, tunes,

and tunes. The tune of music is an inherent characteristic of music art. There has been no breakthrough development in folk music at this point. The construction of urban folk music on urban culture is mainly reflected in the lyrics and singing methods. On the one hand, the lyrics of urban folk songs mainly embodies the "narrative", which integrates their emotions into the songs and tells them in a story-like manner. The way it is delivered to the audience, this creates the urban folk songs that must involve urban culture, and it builds the public's first impression of urban culture, such as the chant in "A Beijinger in Beijing": "Deshengmen Gray Gate Tower Dazhalan The gray intersections/the same gray building numbers are all rusty/McDonald's just opened the door and KFC is still dozing off/The old man in Nancheng who is riding a scooter also knows these English words. The lyrics are directly given to the most intuitive city for listeners. Cultural image. On the other hand, in terms of tunes, the type of urban folk songs that the owners sing in the dialects of the region. This way of singing conveys the image of the city more authentically. For example, some parts of "Shanghai" sing in the Shanghai dialect will make the audience respond. This city has a deeper experience. It can be said that a city folk song constructed the cultural image of a city. It allowed the original illusory urban culture to penetrate into the eardrums of the listeners, and finally made countless listeners a yearning for a city.

#### 3. The Image Selection of Urban Folk Songs to Express Urban Culture

"It seems that in any city, there is a public image or a series of public images composed of many people's images, each of which reflects the image of a considerable number of citizens. If a person wants to successfully adapt to the environment, Other people get along, then the existence of this group image is very necessary." The cultural heritage of urban folk songs comes from the city, so according to Adorno "pop music has the function of social glue, the audience is listening to a certain song.

At times, there are two ways to adapt, the "rhythm obey" type and the "emotional" type." [7] This view shows that the reason why urban folk songs attract the public's attention and gain audience recognition in some aspects is because of its successful stickiness. It fits the emotions of the audience. Since urban folk songs are a description of a city and a representation of the life of the general public in the city, it must involve the public images of the city. These public images are the cultural representatives of a city and the symbol of a city. . In urban folk songs, most of the buildings that represent a city more prominently will appear. These buildings are the most unique content of a city, which is not available in other cities, and represent a certain image of a city. For example, Deshengmen in "A Beijinger in Beijing", Jiefang Square, Tangu Street, Xinhua Street in "Goodbye Shijiazhuang", these are all landmarks that can directly express a city. People in this area hear These songs must be able to trigger their own emotions. In addition to landmarks, the "soft" culture of a city is also one of the elements cited in urban folk songs, such as fried noodles in Beijing, oil cakes in Lanzhou, candied haws skewers in Harbin, snacks in Taiping Street in Changsha, beer in Baotou, etc., These soft cultures have become a signifier, that is, hometown. In many urban ballads, these iconic buildings, iconic food and other content can directly trigger the emotional memories of local people "in a foreign country." This is the reason why urban folk songs are so popular.

## 4. Urban Folk Songs Express the Emotional Resonance of Urban Culture

Realistic music has always resonated with the public, after all, they are derived from reality and rooted in the present. It can be seen from the early Chinese music "The Pride of the Fisherman", which depicts the hard work of the fisherman's daughter in a realistic style. The song and the lyrics complement each other, and the sentiment is deep and meaningful. "It is like an aria from an

oriental fisherman. Together with the waves, it gives the sound of the times." It arouses people's strong emotional resonance. This kind of song expresses the feelings of the times from a personal perspective and witnesses The narrative of the era of small people in the background of masters. Today's era is an era in which agricultural civilization and urban civilization collide. Industry allows cities to develop rapidly. This has triggered a population migration that has never been seen in Chinese history, and more and more people have poured into cities. Looking at those who enter the city with a historical perspective, it is not difficult to find that their spiritual world is constantly wandering in the urban space, or living in an unsettled place, or adhering to traditional ideas in ancient times, or being polluted and contaminated by the impetuous atmosphere of the city. What the city gives them is endless temptation and trouble. "While the'countrymen entering the city' group generally enjoys the convenience of urban life, they are often filled with an'identity crisis' with no identity and no way to settle down in their lives." The birth and popularity of folk songs in this context proves that they have been recognized by the Chinese people. After sorting out the lyrics of urban folk songs, it is not difficult to find that most of the urban folk songs are sad, negative, and distressed. In the lyrics text of these music, you can see the wandering and loneliness of the masses/marginal people. When these loneliness are chanted, there are two faces, one is depression and the other is positive. Take Hao Yun's "Beijing" as an example. This urban ballad expresses the sadness of the life of the people at the bottom, but it also shows the spirit of being positive and struggling hard. This overlaps with the melancholy and thoughts of young people, and this is the reason for the emotional resonance of folk songs.

This article has carried out a certain research on urban folk songs from a cultural perspective. The wide range of urban folk songs research and the interrelationship of urban cultural theories made me still panicked after the research. Yu proposed the way of expressing urban culture in urban folk songs. The actual effect still needs to be tested by the times, and I hope that experts and scholars will criticize and correct the lack of ten thousand in this article. I am very pleased!

#### References

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