

A Study on the Design of Functional Playing Costumes

(Focusing on Female Harpist)

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Stage costumes perform not only the instrumental but also the expressive functions. The major goal of this study is to develop the functional and aesthetic costume designs for musical players considering the characteristics of instruments, players' postures. This study will increase the related market size and the players' choices and move aurally and visually more. The scope of this study is restricted to the musical costumes for female adult soloists playing the wind and string instruments. This study is composed of theory research, empirical research and manufacturing a real costume.

First, theory research contains theory of musical costumes and that of pure musical areas. Concept, characteristics and wearing effects are analysed in theory of musical costumes.

Second, designs of instruments and playing postures are analysed in the theory of pure musical areas. Proper and improper designs are compared based on the survey asking the favorite designs of 56 wind and string players.

Third, The design is made considering the functionality such as the characteristics of instrument and playing posture and the esthetic sense such as personal preference of a player and lighting effect.

The conclusions of this study are as follows.

First, wind and string players think the functionality of costumes more importantly

than the esthetic sense. And there are differences in design preferences for different playing postures.

Second, string players basically use arms, fingers and the upper body. Wind players use fingers more than string players and do abdominal breathing.

Third, string players think the design of arms and sleeves because of frequent usage of bow and prefer the design without sleeves. On the contrary, wind players think the silhouette importantly because of standing playing posture.

Fourth, players don't think that the accessory is not important and want it so long as it doesn't hinder playing.

Fifth, shoes plays more important role than costume in case of playing posture with using pedals and moving legs frequently. Players prefer high heels because of esthetic reasons while they prefer low heels because of functional reasons.

Lastly, both wind and string players prefer the design with simplicity and comfort most. Therefore the ideal design for players is to harmonize the esthetic sense and functionality.