

The Poetic Infrastructure of Shajariān’s Song: the Case of “*Qāsadaḳ*”

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Abstract

Literature and music have a close and complementary relationship with each other. In performance, poetry is the infrastructure of mind and the language of music, with which it has a strong connection. In fact, what melodies and musical instruments express through the sounds, the poetry manifests more tangibly via words. In this interdisciplinary research, the induction of sounds, due to the repetition of consonants and vowels, has been examined in the light of Maurice Geramont’s theory and via a descriptive-analytical approach. Accordingly, the pragmatic axis shows the angles of inducing meaning and, more importantly, the effectiveness of poetry and the way music and poetry influence each other, which is examined via the introduction of examples of vocal music and, specifically, Akhavan Sales’s “Dandelion” performed by Mohammad Reza Shajarian. Each vocal division in Iranian music has its own characteristics and expresses different moods, and both the composer and the singer should select the music division and vocal corners with the consideration of the meaning and the content of the selected poems. The results show that sounds and words, with clarity, brilliance and darkness, have been successful in conveying the two discourses of slight hope and overwhelming despair and that it is the sound which determines the color of the feeling of the music and instruments and makes the poetry and musical works more effective and lasting.

Keywords: Maurice Geramont, Poetry, Music, Shajarian, Daštġāh, “Dandelion”.

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How to cite this article:

Fariba Sohrabi; Vahid Mobarak; Mohamad Hataminia. “The Poetic Infrastructure of Shajariān’s Song: the Case of “Dandelion””. *Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature, Arts and Humanities*, 3, 2, 2023, 173-190. doi: 10.22077/islah.2023.6420.1281



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Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

The relationship between literature and music has been evident and deliberate for an extended time. Research in both disciplines has conclusively established their interrelation and interdisciplinarity. Poetry and letter compositions in literature, as well as melodies and sounds in music, strive to convey the beauty of words and music, respectively, and their interrelation enhances both. The establishment of a connection between poetry and music in Shajariān's rendition of Akhavan Salles's Dandelion poem is the focus of this article.

2. Aim

This interdisciplinary study examines the application of Maurice Grammont's theory to the induction of sounds via the repetition of consonants and vowels. The axis of word substitution, as postulated by this theory, symbolizes the induction of meaning and the reciprocal influence of poetry and music. This has been examined through a case study involving Mehdi Akhavan Salles' Dandelion poem and Mohammadreza Shajariān's musical rendition of the aforementioned poem, composed by Parviz Meshkatian. The undeniable significance of interdisciplinary studies and comparative literature in illuminating the correlation between literature and music is demonstrated in this research, as it enables an examination of the correlation between the chosen poetic devices and vocal corners that correspond to the poem's subject matter. The rationale behind the utilization of each musical element can be assessed through the lens of word substitution, repetition, and the manner in which the sounds are articulated.

3. Theoretical Framework and Methodology

The general framework of this descriptive-analytical study involves examining Akhavan Sales's poem "Dandelion" through the lens of Maurice Grammont's theory. It also explores the impact of the poem's content and word placement on the selection of musical devices and corners that convey the luminosity, darkness, and lightness of sounds within the poem. The exchange of the concepts of optimism and despair is demonstrated. Through applying Grammont's theory, one can discern the hue of the prevailing sentiment in the poem of Dandelion. – Through the examination of the semantic and phonetic implications of words and sounds, one can discern the desolation and hopelessness of the poet's society. - According to grammatical theory, individual syllables have the capacity to communicate various meanings; poets depend on this verbal capability to fashion phrases and poems that are both conceptual and impactful.

4. Discussion

Mehdi Akhwan Salles is one of the most prominent contemporary poets and one of the proponents of the Nima Yoshij movement, who has given a new color and dynamic to poetry. Due to the familiarity of Akhwan Salles with music, his poems are at a high level of phonetic balance. In this research, Dandelion poem has been analyzed based on Maurice Grammont's theory and with regard to social and critical content of the chaotic situation of the society. Maurice Grammont is a French linguist who expressed the evocative nature of sounds in a coherent and classified manner. He linked the placement of consonants and vowels next to each other to the brightness, lightness and darkness of words, and linked the poet's thoughts and feelings to the meaning of their associations.

One of the foremost contemporary poets and a proponent of the Nima Yoshij movement, Mehdi Akhwan Salles has imbued poetry with fresh vitality and colour. Because Akhwan Salles is well-versed in music, his poems exhibit exceptional phonetic equilibrium. This study examines the poem "Dandelion" through the lens of Maurice Grammont's theory and in consideration of its social and critical implications for the disorderly state of society. Maurice Grammont, a French linguist, systematically and categorically described the evocative qualities of noises. He established a correlation between the proximity of consonants and vowels and the luminosity, darkness, and lightness of words, as well as a connection between the poet's emotions and sentiments and the significance of their associations.

The correlation between the semantic load of words and the selection of corners and musical instruments is examined in this study. The poem "Dandelion" was composed by Parviz Meshkatian, and Mohammadreza Shajarian, a highly regarded vocalist in Iranian music, performed the song. Poetry-wise and musically, the ballad "Dandelion" stands out due to the vocalist's mastery of the proper intonations and lyrics, along with the selection of vocal corners fitting for the subject matter and tone of this new poem. This study investigates the correlation between the color of the sensation of words and the light, dark, and bright phonemes, which serve as indicators of the required sound and content for each device and corner.

5. Findings and Conclusion

Interdisciplinary studies serve as prime opportunities for elucidating the profound interrelation between music and poetry. This interdisciplinary study illustrates that the spatial arrangement of the poem's components significantly enhances the singer's interpretation of the melodies and cadences. Specifically, this study examined the induction of meaning in the poem of Dandelion through the lens of French theorist Maurice Grammont. The results indicate that juxtaposing the poem's elements produces a visually captivating effect.

Due to the greater frequency of dark vowels, the poem of Dandelion more elegantly conveys the poet's enthusiasm in articulating his discontentment with society. As in the musical section, the reader is prompted to consider a song that embodies melancholy through its tone of desolation as a result of the expression's influence on the placement of vowels; thus, the intended persona of the poet is revealed throughout the poem.

Keywords: Maurice Grammont, Poetry, music, Mohammadreza Shajarian, vocal device, Dandelion

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