

The Guidance of Lens Movement on the Emotional Resonance of the Audience in Dance Film

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Abstract: This study investigates the relationship between camera movement and audience emotional resonance in dance imagery, examining four dimensions: concrete translation, core dimensions, practical approaches, and guiding mechanisms. It demonstrates how camera movement concretely encodes dance emotions through trajectory, speed, and perspective, while establishing resonance foundations via spatial, rhythmic, and cognitive empathy. By optimizing movement types, hierarchical design, and spatial configurations, the research enhances resonance effects, ultimately serving to amplify emotional symbolism, activate immersive perception, clarify emotional logic, and expand resonance boundaries. The study reveals the intrinsic mechanisms of camera movement in guiding emotional resonance, providing theoretical references for dance imagery creation.

Keywords: dance imagery; camera movement; emotional resonance; guiding mechanisms; visual narrative

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Introduction

As an art form that centers on bodily expression, dance employs camera movement as a pivotal medium to bridge its emotional essence with audience resonance. Through multidimensional visual orchestration, camera movements transcend the temporal, spatial, and perceptual constraints of theatrical performances, transforming abstract dance emotions into tangible visual symbols. In dance film production and dissemination, the trajectory, speed, perspective, and framing of camera movements directly influence the precision of emotional delivery, the audience's level of immersion, and the clarity of emotional logic. Exploring how camera movements guide emotional resonance is not only a core issue in dance film artistry but also a vital approach to enhancing emotional communication effectiveness, thereby establishing an effective bridge between the emotional expression of dance imagery and audience reception.

1 The Concrete Translation of the Emotional Movement of the Lens

1.1 Emotional Expression Construction of Lens Trajectory

Camera trajectories encode emotions through three movement patterns: linear, curved, and irregular. Linear trajectories combine horizontal and vertical motions—horizontal ones emphasize direct and continuous emotional delivery, while vertical ones highlight layered intensity and tension. Curved trajectories, with their arc-shaped or looped paths, convey fluidity and expansiveness, dissolving rigid boundaries in emotional expression. Irregular trajectories, through unpredictable motion variations, reflect the contradictory, uncertain, and sudden nature of emotions, aligning with their multidimensional complexity^[1]. The synergy between camera trajectories and dance movements creates spatial visual resonance, materializing abstract emotions through tangible spatial representation.

1.2 The emotional rhythm of the camera speed

Through tiered control of high-speed, low-speed, and variable-speed movements, camera speed synchronizes with the rhythmic characteristics of dance emotions. High-speed camera movements compress temporal perception through brief spatial leaps, externalizing the explosive intensity and impact of intense emotions while enhancing immediate emotional delivery. Low-speed camera movements extend motion duration to amplify the subtlety and depth of emotions, aligning with restrained and prolonged emotional expressions. Variable-speed camera movements achieve dynamic shifts in emotional rhythm through gradual or abrupt speed changes, simulating the complete process from emotional brewing, accumulation to eruption or dissipation. The synergy between camera speed, dance movement rhythm, and musical rhythm forms a tripartite coordination, constructing a rhythmic system for emotional expression that enables audiences to perceive emotional fluctuations through visual rhythm.

1.3 The Emotional Dimension of the Lens Perspective

Through strategic selection of eye-level, overhead, upward, and close-up perspectives, cinematography anchors the dimensions and focal points of emotional expression. The horizontal perspective establishes an equal viewing relationship between the audience and dance performers, dissolving psychological barriers caused by visual distance. By restoring authentic perceptual dimensions, it enables direct emotional transmission and empathetic connection, ensuring natural authenticity in emotional delivery. Overhead shots employ a top-down macro perspective to encompass the entire dance scene and group formations, integrating scattered emotional elements to strengthen narrative integrity and spatial coherence, helping audiences establish a holistic understanding of emotional expression. Upward shots reconstruct the visual image of dance subjects through a bottom-up perspective, elevating emotional expression to sublime and idealized dimensions. This approach enhances the spiritual height and value core of emotions, highlighting their solemnity and appeal. Close-up perspectives precisely focus on key body parts, muscle tension changes, and facial micro-expressions, stripping away redundant background visual information and compressing emotional perception pathways. This directly anchors emotional essence, achieving deep penetration and precise transmission^[2]. By strategically combining different perspectives according to emotional expression needs, a multi-dimensional complementary emotional

presentation system is formed, ensuring abstract emotions receive comprehensive and accurate concrete translation in visual media.

2 The Core Dimension of the Lens Movement to Guide the Audience's Emotional Resonance

2.1 Scene Immersion Construction of Spatial Empathy Dimension

The spatial empathy dimension redefines the narrative space of dance imagery through spatial choreography of camera movements. Push-in shots progressively narrow the visual distance between the audience and dance performers, intensifying emotional proximity. Pull-back shots expand the visual horizon through spatial extension, creating depth in emotional expression. Panning and tracking shots comprehensively cover the entire space with continuous motion, ensuring complete scene transmission and immersive spatial experience. This deconstruction and reconstruction of space through camera movement eliminates the fixed perspective constraints of stage performances, transforming passive viewing into active emotional engagement. Through spatial immersion, audiences establish the foundation for emotional resonance.

2.2 Emotional Rhythm Synchronization in the Dimension of Rhythmic Empathy

The rhythmic empathy dimension creates resonance through the interplay between camera movement rhythms and dance's emotional cadence. Three coordinated elements—camera movement frequency, amplitude, and start-stop rhythm—synergize with dance's forceful beats and music's rhythmic cadence to form a unified emotional rhythm system^[3]. High-speed camera movements align with the explosive pace of emotions, while slow-motion shots match the contemplative rhythm of emotional buildup. Variable-speed camera movements simulate the rhythmic fluctuations of emotional ebb and flow. This rhythmic synchronization activates the audience's physical perception and emotional response mechanisms, guiding viewers to naturally immerse themselves in the dance's emotional rhythm under visual guidance, achieving synchronized resonance in emotional experience.

2.3 Constructing the Emotional Logic of the Dimension of Cognitive Empathy

The cognitive empathy dimension employs narrative-driven camera movements to unravel the emotional logic of dance, helping audiences construct an emotional cognitive framework. Tracking shots follow the emotional trajectory of dance performers, vividly illustrating the genesis and evolution of emotions^[4]. Cross-cutting between different subjects and settings reveals the multidimensional nature of emotions. Depth-of-field techniques highlight core emotional elements while filtering out distracting details. Through visual storytelling, camera movements decode the emotional underpinnings of dance, lowering the cognitive threshold for viewers. This approach enables audiences to transition from understanding emotional content to achieving profound emotional resonance.

3 Practical Path of Enhancing Audience's Emotional Resonance by Camera Movement

3.1 The Emotional Attributes of Dance and the Types of Camera Movements

Select appropriate camera movement types based on the nature, intensity, and emotional logic of dance expressions. For emotional attributes: positive emotions employ linear motion, horizontal panning, and medium-high speed combinations; negative emotions utilize curved motion, vertical elevation, and low-speed movements; while conflicting emotions feature irregular motion, variable-speed transitions, and multi-angle alternations. Regarding intensity: low-intensity emotions rely on gentle motion and subtle framing changes; medium-intensity emotions use steady motion with moderate framing adjustments; high-intensity emotions employ rapid movement, dramatic framing jumps, and abrupt perspective shifts. In terms of emotional logic: linear progression requires continuous tracking shots and gradual zoom-in techniques, whereas nonlinear expressions employ montage-style cuts and cross-panning to achieve precise synchronization between camera movements and dance emotions, ensuring accurate emotional delivery^[5].

3.2 The logical design of the emotional progression and the hierarchy of camera movements

The camera movement hierarchy follows a progressive emotional progression: brewing, accumulation, eruption, and resolution. During the brewing phase, slow long shots, static overhead views, and low-frequency panning establish a subdued visual foundation to guide initial emotional perception. The accumulation phase employs steady medium shots with uniform zooms, horizontal pans, and moderate cuts, creating a stable visual rhythm that builds emotional intensity and deepens audience immersion. The eruption phase features close-up rapid zooms, swift panning, dramatic elevation changes, and high-frequency cuts, delivering visceral visual impact to trigger an emotional climax. The resolution phase employs slow pull-backs to full shots, gradual panning, and low-frequency cuts, achieving smooth transitions through measured visual shifts. This process solidifies emotional resonance and completes the closed-loop emotional guidance system.

3.3 Spatial narrative optimization strengthens the path of emotional immersion

Through optimized spatial choreography of camera movements, we create immersive emotional immersion scenarios. At the spatial focus level, close-ups and tracking shots lock onto core emotional expression zones, stripping away redundant spatial elements to enhance targeted emotional delivery. For spatial expansion, panoramic pulls and circular panning shots broaden narrative space, presenting contextual scenarios for emotional expression and improving perceptual completeness. Spatial interaction is achieved through reverse/forward shots and cross-cutting movements that establish spatial connections between dance subjects, clearly conveying emotional dynamics. Spatial transitions utilize rapid cuts and dissolves to seamlessly switch between emotional spaces, ensuring narrative coherence^[6]. This multidimensional choreography of spatial focus/expansion, interaction/transition eliminates spatial barriers between audience and dance scenes, intensifies emotional engagement, and deepens resonance.

4 The Guidance of Camera Movement in Dance Image to the Emotional Resonance of the Audience

4.1 Visual Reinforcement of Emotional Symbols

The visual amplification of emotional symbols is achieved through camera movement techniques that amplify core expressive elements via shot composition, trajectory control, and speed modulation. At the shot level, close-ups focus on key body parts, muscle tension, and micro-expressions, stripping away visual clutter to highlight emotional essence and enhance audience perception. Medium shots balance subject-environment relationships, contextualizing emotions through concrete imagery. Panoramas capture the emotional atmosphere, establishing a macro-level perceptual framework. Trajectory control varies through linear motion for direct impact, curved motion for fluidity, and irregular motion for tension, each type matching specific emotional states. Speed modulation compresses emotional intensity through rapid movements, intensifying immediate impact, while slow motion extends perception to deepen nuanced delivery. Dynamic pacing simulates emotional evolution through rhythmic changes, aligning expression with internal logic to achieve visual reinforcement from subtle to vivid, from vague to clear.

4.2 The Immersive Activation Effect of Audience Perception

The immersive activation effect perceived by audiences manifests through camera movements that disrupt the fixed viewing-performer relationship in traditional theaters. By reconstructing spatial dimensions, shifting perspectives, and synchronizing motion, these techniques create a comprehensive sensory experience that transforms passive observation into active immersion. Spatial reconstruction involves: zooming in/out to narrow or widen visual distance, eliminating physical barriers; panning to capture full scene coverage and present emotional expressions in spatial depth; and elevation to achieve vertical perspective shifts, enriching spatial perception levels for audience members to experience emotional scenarios as if physically present. Perspective shifts include: eye-level shots establishing equal empathy, bridging psychological distance between performers and viewers; overhead shots providing macroscopic perspectives to grasp emotional narratives; upward shots offering sublime perspectives that elevate emotional experiences; and subjective shots simulating performers' viewpoints for first-person immersion. Motion synchronization ensures rhythmic coordination between camera movements and dance actions, activating kinesthetic perception^[7]. Resonance with musical rhythms enhances auditory-visual synergy, while continuous motion prevents visual interruptions to maintain immersion continuity. This comprehensive activation of sensory systems and emotional response mechanisms ultimately constructs an immersive emotional experience.

4.3 The role of narrative organization in emotional logic

The narrative structuring of emotional logic manifests through camera movements that employ sequential scheduling, focus control, and transition transitions to clearly present the generation, development, climax, and resolution of dance emotions, helping audiences establish a cognitive framework for emotional connotations. At the level of sequential scheduling, tracking shots follow the dynamic trajectory of emotional expression, comprehensively presenting the evolution of emotions. Progressive zooms gradually focus as emotional intensity rises, enhancing the layered development of emotions. Slow pull-backs accompany emotional subsidence, achieving smooth transitions and orderly progression of emotional logic. At the focus control level, shifting focal points highlight core emotions at different stages, clarifying the primary-secondary relationship in emotional expression. Depth of field adjustments separate emotional subjects from backgrounds, preventing irrelevant information from interfering with emotional logic cognition. Dynamic focus follows core carriers of emotional expression, ensuring coherent presentation of emotional logic. At the transition transition level, cut shots enable rapid scene shifts matching emotional logic turns, while dissolve shots achieve gradual transitions aligning with emotional logic gradations. Flash cuts emphasize sudden emotional shifts, highlighting transitional tension in emotional expression. Through precise scheduling and transitions, the inherent logic of emotions is organized, reducing cognitive barriers for audience emotional understanding and providing cognitive support for deep emotional resonance.

4.4 The Function of Resonance Boundary in Cross-dimensional Expansion

The cross-dimensional expansion of resonance boundaries manifests through camera movements that transcend temporal, spatial, and cultural constraints, broadening the scope of emotional resonance and facilitating its transition from individual experience to universal recognition. In temporal dimension expansion, slow-motion shots freeze pivotal emotional moments, prolonging perceptual duration to allow audiences across different time rhythms to grasp emotional essence. Fast-forwarded camera movements compress emotional progression, aligning with fast-paced viewing habits to achieve temporal adaptability in emotional resonance. Spatial dimension expansion breaks physical limitations of theatrical spaces, enabling dance emotions to spread regionally through visual media and allowing audiences in diverse settings to participate in emotional resonance. By fully presenting spatial scenarios, it eliminates spatial perception differences caused by regional cultures, expanding the spatial coverage of emotional resonance^[8]. Cultural dimension expansion focuses on universal emotional symbols through camera movements, stripping away superficial elements of specific cultural contexts to emphasize shared emotional expressions. Through multi-angle and multidimensional emotional presentation, it provides diverse interpretation pathways for audiences from different cultural backgrounds, reducing barriers caused by cultural differences. This achieves cross-cultural expansion of emotional resonance from specific groups to broader audiences, enhancing both the breadth and depth of emotional communication in dance imagery.

5 Conclusion

As the core medium for emotional transmission in dance imagery, camera movement achieves multi-dimensional audience engagement through concrete translation, core dimension construction, and optimized practical approaches. By precisely orchestrating trajectories, speed, and perspectives, it encodes emotional symbols while establishing resonance pathways through spatial, rhythmic, and cognitive empathy.

Enhanced through genre adaptation, hierarchical design, and spatial optimization, this technique ultimately amplifies emotional symbolism, activates immersive perception, clarifies emotional logic, and expands resonance boundaries. The deep integration of camera movement with dance emotion creates a complete closed loop for emotional communication in dance imagery, providing essential support for innovative emotional expression and improved dissemination effectiveness in dance visual arts. This highlights the pivotal role of camera movement in dance image creation.

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