

Application and Analysis of Montage Shooting Techniques in the Film The King's Speech

Xuewen Wang^{1,a,*}

¹School of Humanities, Central South University, Changsha, Hunan, 410000, China

a. 2577285481@qq.com

*corresponding author

Abstract: The method of montage shooting is to express the film story more directly by splicing the shots. When telling the story that a person's thinking and doing things are not understood, it can be recalled through the narration, and the reason for the development of the story can be narrated at the end so that the audience can have a feeling of enlightenment. This also makes the film more layered and expressive. Through an in-depth study of the film *The King's Speech*, this paper analyzes the application of montage shooting techniques in the film. This paper first introduces the importance of montage in film production and the basic background of *The King's Speech*, then analyzes in detail how different types of montage shots promote the plot and express the complex emotions between the protagonists, and finally evaluates and reflects on the effect of using montage shooting techniques. This study not only contributes to an in-depth understanding of this classic film but also provides valuable enlightenment for future film and television production.

Keywords: Montage movie, Shooting technique, *The King's Speech*

1. Introduction

Montage is a shooting technique that is commonly used in film production. In this approach, many pictures are edited and stitched together to produce unique visual effects and narrative experiences [1]. Montage involves stitching together numerous shots. Montage has been an essential component of filmmaking ever since the medium was first introduced. In *The King's Speech*, montage is utilized in a manner that is both incisive and vivid. Its purpose is not just to facilitate the progression of the plot, but also to profoundly convey the feelings that the characters are experiencing.

"*The King's Speech*" is an uplifting narrative that tells the account of King George VI of England, who persevered through his stuttering disorder in order to deliver a speech that was successful. The film chronicles the narrative of George VI and Lionel, a speech therapist, and is set against the backdrop of World War II. It depicts the emotional interchange and growth that occurs between the royal family and regular people.

Because of its exceptional performance art and one-of-a-kind narrative tactics, the movie "*The King's Speech*" has established itself as a universally acknowledged classic. The audience has been left with a profound impression as a result of the film's portrayal of King George VI of England's triumph over his stuttering disorder in order to deliver a speech that was successful [2]. For the purpose of providing a reference for the production of future films, this article will conduct an in-depth analysis of the montage filming techniques that were utilized in the film "*The King's Speech*."

One of the most important aspects of film production is the use of the montage technique. The editing and splicing of various types and styles of montage video allows filmmakers to create one-of-a-kind visual effects and narrative experiences for their audiences. In *The King's Speech*, montage is utilized in a manner that is both incisive and vivid, and the construction of this classic work is accomplished by the interweaving of several sorts of montage methods.

2. The application of several specific narrative montage techniques in *The King's Speech*

Montage has two major functions: narrative and ideographic, according to which we can divide montage into three basic types: narrative montage, expressive montage, and rational montage. The former is a narrative means, and the latter two are mainly used for expression. On this basis, the second level can be divided [3].

Narrative montage, pioneered by American film master Griffith and others, is the most commonly used narrative method in film and television films. Its characteristics are to explain the plot and show events as the main theme, and to cut and combine shots, scenes and paragraphs according to the time flow and causality of plot development, so as to guide the audience to understand the plot [4]. The montage is clear, coherent and understandable.

2.1. Continuous montage

In *The King's Speech*, continuous montage is the most common shooting technique. By connecting a series of continuous shots together, filmmakers can show the passage of time and the change of characters. For example, during George VI's speech therapy session, a series of footage showed George VI's stuttering symptoms, the therapist's advice, and George VI's progress. Through continuous montage, the filmmakers succeeded in showing George VI's efforts and persistence.

2.2. Symmetrical montage

Symmetrical montage is also cleverly used in *The King's Speech*. Through the use of symmetrical lenses, film creators can compare and echo the relationship between different scenes and different characters. For example, at the beginning of the film, George VI is too nervous to hold his own as he delivers a speech in the royal palace, while at the end, he appears confident and determined as he delivers a speech outside the Houses of Parliament. The contrast between the two scenes highlights the growth and change of George VI.

2.3. Split the montage

The split montage technique is also reflected in *The King's Speech*. By splitting the picture into sections, filmmakers can present different scenes and characters in the same shot at the same time. For example, in the scene where George VI and his wife are reunited with their children, the picture is split into four parts, showing the facial expressions and interactions of the four people. This technique effectively expresses the emotional exchange and interdependence between the characters.

The director's mastery of montage technique is crucial to the narrative and expressiveness of the whole work. In *The King's Speech*, the director successfully constructs the narrative frame, shapes the characters' images and expresses the emotions of the characters through the flexible use of different types of montage techniques. At the same time, the director also skillfully interweaves reality and memory, history and reality through montage techniques, making the whole story more in-depth and broad.

Montage shooting technique has broad development and innovation space in film art. With the continuous progress and innovation of technology, we can expect more novel and unique montage

techniques to emerge in the future. In the classic "*The King's Speech*", we have seen the great potential of montage shooting technique and its outstanding achievements in expressive force and aesthetics. Therefore, we have reason to believe that the future film production technology will make greater breakthroughs and development in continuous exploration and innovation[5].

3. The montage captures the narrative of the film in several ways

Time jump: The film makes use of a significant amount of memory and flashback shots, which allow for the past and the present, as well as history and reality, to be deftly intertwined. This enhances the narrative and makes it more complex and multi-layered.

Transformation of space: The environment is effectively modified by the use of a variety of scenes, angles, and field shots, which results in the narrative space of the film being more three-dimensional and vibrant.

Switch of viewpoint: In the film, subjective lens and objective lens are used to switch the audience's perspective, so that the audience can better enter the inner world of the characters and understand the emotions and thoughts of the characters.

Control of rhythm: The rhythm of the picture is deftly handled by the utilization of techniques such as quick and slow shots, continuous shots, and other approaches. This results in the narrative of the film being more condensed, strong, and vivid.

Expression of emotions: Montage techniques allow for a more profound and vivid expression of the protagonist's feelings, which are made possible by the usage of these techniques. A significant number of close-ups and subjective shots were utilized over the duration of George VI's speech, for instance, in order to powerfully convey his feelings of strain, worry, determination, and other emotions.

By making the narrative of the film more rich, three-dimensional, and vivid, the 12345 montage shooting technique played a significant role in the film *King's Speech*. This allowed the audience to have a better understanding of the character's feelings and thoughts, as well as the background of the story, as well as the process by which the story was developed.

In summary, *The King's Speech* not only enhances the storyline and expression of the film by employing a variety of montage methods, but it also enables the spectator to comprehend and experience the struggle and development of George VI as an ordinary man in a more profound manner. It is not only that the utilization of these tactics improves the perception and beauty of the film, but it also makes the theme of the film more firmly ingrained in the hearts of individuals [6].

One of the most essential elements that should be considered when evaluating the quality of a film is the consistency of the plot rhythm. The utilization of montage in *The King's Speech* has an effect on the rhythm of the story's progression in a certain way. Because of this style, which places an emphasis on contrast and conflict, the storyline of the movie can be dramatic and intense at points, and then it can be calm and quiet at other times. Despite the fact that this unsteady rhythm of the plot contributed, to a certain extent, to the enhancement of the creative expression of the picture, it is possible that it will nevertheless cause some viewers to experience discomfort while they are viewing the film [7].

4. Conclusion

For the purpose of this research, the film *The King's Speech* serves as a case study, and the montage techniques that were utilized during its production are analyzed. In spite of the fact that it has a more general tone, the montage is presented in a more precise manner. In the movie "*The King's Speech*," the use of montage, which is like a blade with two edges, not only lends the movie a personality all its own, but it also has an impact on the way the story is told, to a certain extent. Every frame appears

to hold hundreds of words and causes people to think deeply because of the fast-switching editing approach that is used in the film. This strategy makes the film stand out while it is providing important information. This editing style also causes the development of the plot to move about, which means that the audience needs to be more concentrated on comprehending and determining the meaning behind each picture. Despite the fact that the montage technique used in *The King's Speech* has been the subject of controversy and has been shown to have some limitations, we cannot dispute the good role that it plays in highlighting important information and increasing the expressiveness of the film. The film is able to successfully merge many components, including historical context, character, inner struggle, and social pressure, through the use of the montage technique. As a result, the audience is presented with a work that is rich in depth and connotation. Every single shot gives the impression of telling a heartfelt story, transporting the audience into the inner world of the protagonist and enabling them to experience the special feelings and challenges that they are experiencing. When doing an analysis of *The King's Speech*, we ought to take a perspective that is more all-encompassing and objective. In spite of the fact that the use of montage has, to a certain extent, hindered the coherence of the narrative and the consistency of the rhythm of the plot, it is also an attempt made by the filmmaker in the process of pursuing artistic expression and innovation. It would be irresponsible of us to disregard the importance and value of the entire movie due to these shortcomings. On the contrary, we ought to take more inspiration from this movie and experience the one-of-a-kind artistic attractiveness that characterizes it.

References

- [1] *Mengtaqi theory [m]. (Russia) с.м. (с.м.эўзешуеўн); the translation of rich man. China Film Press. 2003 14-16*
- [2] *The plot in the eyes of historians: Analysis of "King's Speech" [J]. Xingye. Film literature, 2013 (19)*
- [3] *Application practice of Montecip's method in the creation of micro -film [D]. Feng Siqiang. Shandong Academy of Art, 202119-33*
- [4] *The presentation and application research of Montcip's method in the design of narrative exhibition [D]. Wang Weiqi. Lu Xun Academy of Fine Arts, 202219-20*
- [5] *On the art function of the movie Montcippy [J]. Wen Ting. Yihai, 2011 (09)*
- [6] *Introduction to Film and Television Art [M]. Liu Hongqiu. Shanghai Literature and Art Publishing House. 2002 (08)*
- [7] *Film Language [M]. (French) Masser Maldam; He Zhenzheng translated. China Film Press. 2006 (52-60)*