

A Study of the Model Feature of the Costumes in the Movie 'Amadeus'

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I. Introduction

The movie costume is the medium that transmits all symbolisms such as periodical background, actor's social status, economic power and viewpoint by the historical investigation according to historical, cultural background in case of historical drama. Also it is the important factor in understanding the flow of drama while reinforcing the psychological, symbolic effects of the movie.

The movie 'Amadeus' by director Milos Forman was admitted of its value officially by winning 8 categories in the Academy Award in 1984. Here, as Amadeus was excellent in the completion of work as a dramatic movie, the artistic value was highly evaluated, and it succeeded in box office record in many countries in the world. In the aspect of the content, the costumes by historical investigation as the periodical drama of imaginative plot of the existed figures were highlighted, those are expressing the minds of the characters by symbolism and formativeness of the costume

So the purpose of this study was to perceive the importance of movie costumes and it was to find out the formative feature of Amadeus costumes referring the image data such as movie magazines, internet, DVD and each and every literature data investigation to help the creation of movie costumes in the future.

II. The Works of Amadeus

'Amadeus' is the movie which Milos Forman filmed from the play by Peter Shaffer that won the Tony Award made supposing that the existed figure and Baroque musician Mozart(Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, 1756~1791) was killed by poison.

Different from the play, it added movie entertainment and focused on the humane conflict between two guys and made it as a movie. That subject matter is the content which is the 10 year figure in Mozart's later life and shows a genius and an ordinary person, the conservatives such as the pope and the emperor and the romantic and free wave which began to rise up newly.

In the movie, the periodical background of the late 18th century and the figure of political situation of Europe and the figure of Salzburg palace are replayed well.

III. The Formative Feature of the Costumes in the Movie 'Amadeus'

The movie 'Amadeus' of which the background was the late 18th century was designed by the general costume forms of Rococo period in Europe. The feature of Rococo style is forming the nimble rhythm by elegant and delicate curves.

Seeing men's wear, those in the movie include a coat named justaucorps, and the vest is long to the knee and its form is that the trimming is round and during the 1st half, there is no collar, and during the 2nd, and it also includes a standing collar or a shawl collar. The pants have the feature that are long right below the knees and they are tight in the thigh. The pants which fit tightly to the body of the French aristocrats were called Culotte, and they wore making them of black velvet or white satin, wool and leather.

The protagonist Salier is showing well of the fabulous mood by wearing jabot which creases by lace and suspending it on the front center by hanging it on the neck which is the item that best shows the feature of Rococo style of the men's wear in 18th century at the scene of a ball. When he conducted the opera, his silk coat of about 1780's hangs a fabulous blade of black color, and the standing collar is hung, he is expressing his love toward his own opera by expressing it elegantly and intensively which is illustrated similarly to men's wear of the late 18th century.

Seeing the costume of Mozart which he wore at the concert in Papal Court when he was 6 years old in 1762, his garment is typical of gentlemen at that time, and he creased the waist line and let it spread out artificially. He is wearing habit a la francaise of the common width of a sleeve that has blade decoration, and is wearing silk brocade of waist length and Culotte that is tight on the hip being the vest and knee-length pants. The costumes are showing gentlemanlike beauty by the peak period costume of Rococo period.

The costume of Mozart at the concert in Daesakyogung in 1781 is the style of habit a la francaise that the features of citizen wear is mixed up, and it is showing softness by the functional and lineal expression and by wearing gilet of pale color.

As for the costume of women, there are two wide facing creases on the round line at the back neck that is called as Watteau gown, so it is the style of which the volume of the big crease is peculiar and the upper body is tightly fit and at the front crack a stomacher is hung. The Robe a la francaise that is comprised of underskirt and overdress has a big facing creases in the round line at the back neck and the sleeves are in lace at the end of the sleeve and it is the half sleeve of elbow length, and form the beauty of crease which is beautiful in strata, so it emphasized the arms that have started to show up little by little.

Constance was Mozart's wife and she wore redingote which she wore at the scene visiting to ask for the work of Mozart to Salter and she harmonized the color refined by sky blue and

blue color, and the costume that she wore when she viewed the concert of Mozart was the stripe pattern like caraco and decorated with little frill, so she is showing cute and lovely image.

As above, in 'Amadeus', which sets the background from the mid to late 18th century, the mixed and changing figure of original and fabulous costume and citizen wear of Rococo pattern are well shown

IV. Conclusion

In this study, as we analyzed the formative feature shown in the costume of the movie 'Amadeus', the costume of 'Amadeus' showed well the formative features setting European Rococo period as the background by the palace life and aristocrat costumes of Wien and by the colorful decoration such as delicate curvilinear beauty and fabulous textile, ribbon, and lace, etc, and those were replayed by the accurate historical investigation.

In the costume of Salier, he is showing the fabulous mood by wearing jabot hanging on the front center and on the neck creasing by lace, and that item that well shows the feature of Rococo style. In the costumes of Mozart, and changed the curve or straight line and they were harmonized according to the character by using vivid color such as habit a la francaise and frock coat, coat, and gown and fabulous silk, wool and velvet.

Constance's costumes used splendid dress that flows curvilinear beauty peculiar in Rococo such as bright and gorgeous colored redinggote gown or caraco, and it expressed lovely and cute image of her simple character.

As above, in the movie 'Amadeus', by the accurate periodical investigation of the costumes, it gave aesthetic and factual effects to the drama. At the same time, expressed personal characters in each costume, and it let us perceive the feature of the characters and the change. So, if it can make use of the formative feature of movie costume to raise the expressiveness of the movie when producing a movie, I think it can be help when the movie costumes are created.

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