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Field Survey Report on Media Artists' Works and Their Educational Methods

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Abstract

Traditionally, listening has been the gateway to all forms of musical expression. However, with the development of information technology, the way we experience music has entered a period of great change.Artists who have emerged in recent years, known as media artists, use technology to create previously unimaginable ways of expressing music and opportunities for musical experiences without the use of instruments or voices.The work and methods of these media artists can also be applied to music education. The traditional form of learning through imitation of sound between teacher and learner can be supplanted by media artists' methods of expression and learning through the transmission of sound using technology.

The goal of this research is to develop a new method of music education, using media artists' sound expression methods and information technology. In music education, it is essential to enrich sensibility to various elements of music. To enhance the consciousness towards tones and musical verse that form music is highly important for nurturing learners' musical expression capabilities. Media artists have, through their own unique ideas, succeeded in creating methods to learn these musical elements that cannot be expressed by voice or musical instruments.

To explore new media-based methods of music education, we visited Junya Oikawa, who is a specialist in the representation of sound and a guest artist at the Media Arts Center ZKM in Karlsruhe, Germany, in February 2020. We carried out field research to experience his work, "Growing Verse1."

Growing Verse1 is a new means of communication that utilizes music and gestures. The program responds to bodily movements through motion detection, creating specific pitches and syllables through simple repetitions of moving and stopping. By allowing the learner to perceive the sound produced in real time while moving at the right moment, they can learn how music is made. Through this experience, participants can get to know the various elements of music without the use of voice or instruments.

The traditional process of music education is based on the acquisition of musical expression using songs and instruments. However, in today's information-driven society, the possibilities of sound expression have become infinitely wider. In the future, new sound experiences created by media artists are expected to become innovative methods of music education.