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Musical folklore in Russia and Great Britain

The word «folklore» is usually interpreted as «folk wisdom». In science folklore is considered as a special sphere of the people's existence, a manifestation of their spiritual and material culture.

The vast expanses of folk culture are boundless, the boundaries of folklore are difficult to delineate. In general, it does not lend itself to a clear definition. Musical folklore in the context of modern culture is one of the most acute and popular topics of today's musicology. [1, С. 51]

Firstly, genres of Russian folk music will be considered in this work. The main genre here is song, but the songs are different and therefore there are numerous genre varieties of Russian songs. It is best to remember these varieties by what role they played in the life of the people, in what situation and under what circumstances they could sound. [2]

So, Russian songs are:

1) songs that are associated with the calendar and calendar holidays and rituals (meeting spring, congratulations on the new year, carols and divination songs).

2) songs that are associated with various events in the personal and family life of people (songs for the birth of a child, lullabies, children's play dances).

3) epic song genres (epics, ballads, historical songs).

4) lyrical songs (songs about love-happy and unrequited, tragic, urban songs).

5) songs of everyday life and holidays (student's songs, holiday-vivat, comic songs and ditties.)

The folk music of Great Britain is a tradition-based music, which has existed since the later medieval period. It is often contrasted with courtly, classical and later commercial music. Folk music is traditionally preserved and passed on orally within communities, but print and subsequently audio recordings have since become the primary means of transmission. The term is used to refer both to English traditional music and music composed or delivered in a traditional style.

British songs are:

1) a ballad is a form of verse, it is often a narrative story and set to music.[4]

2) a carol is a festive song. In modern times, carols are associated with Christmas, but in reality there are carols celebrating all festivals and seasons of the year, and these were not necessarily christian festivals.[5,С. 60]

3) children's songs are lullabies from the later medieval period.

4) sea shantie are a type of work song traditionally sung by sailors. Derived from the French word «chanter», which means «to sing».

The work can observe a large number of linguistic coincidences and differences in the lullabies of Russia and Great Britain.

Phonetic features:

1) Russian traditional folk lullabies are full of whistling and hissing sounds and sound combinations are soothing:

Спят усталые игрушки, книжки спят,
Одеяла и подушки ждут ребят.
Даже сказка спать ложится...
Ты ей пожелай: «Баю-бай!»

2) In English, repetitions of sounds, sound combinations, syllables, and individual words serve as the main means of achieving smoothness and melody in lullabies:

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
how I wonder what you are!
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky!...

Similarities:

Both English folk and Russian folk lullabies contain "cradling" small words or letter combinations that do not carry meaning, which are pronounced on the chant.

Russian folk lullabies: «Ай, люли –люли, лю-ли», «баю-бай», «бай –качи, качи-качи»;

English folk lullabies: «Hush-a-bye», «croon-croon», «O ho-ro ee-ree-ree».

Lexical features:

1. It is noteworthy that in Russian lullabies, nouns are often formed with the help of diminutive suffixes:

-ик, -чик: домик, столик, братик, животик, котик, ротик;

-очк(а), -ечк(а), -к(а): папочка, мамочка, речка, рубашечка, лавочка, ножка, ручка, собачка;

-очек : сыночек, звоночек;

-енький: слабенький, беленький, хорошенький, добренький, красенький.

2. In addition to the above, it is impossible not to notice that lullabies are full of words used for affectionate naming of the child: милый, радость моя, крошка, etc. In most Russian lullabies, the mother addresses the child by name and often in diminutive forms: Лизонька, Ванечка, etc.

In English lullabies, there are only general affectionate addresses, such as darling, baby, my treasure, my little one.

Similarities:

1) Due to the fact that most of the lullabies appeared a long time ago, they contain a lot of archaisms and historicisms:

Как у Вани колыбель

Во высоком терему Шитом, браном пологу,

Кольца-пробойца серебряные...

2) In English lullabies, we also meet outdated vocabulary:

hush-a-ba = hush-a-bye; gane=gone; braw = beautiful, wonderful; kye or kine = cows; gaits = goats, hie = high; hame = home.

In conclusion, despite the remoteness of the two countries there are a lot of coincidences in musical folklore. Folk musical works of Russia and Great Britain are akin to people's life, their history, beliefs and mentality.

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