SUMMARY OF NEW CONCLUSIONS OF THE DISSERTATION

Doctoral candidate: Vũ Tự Long

Dissertation title: The Artistic Characteristics of the Cheo Theatre of the Military Cheo

Theatre

Major: *Theory and history of theatre*

Code: 9210221

Scientific supervisor: Prof. Dr. Đào Mạnh Hùng – Dr. Trần Thị Minh Thu

Institution: Vietnam Institute of Culture, Arts, Sports and Tourism

New conclusions of the dissertation

The thesis is the first research work to approach the artistic characteristics of the Military Chèo Theatre in a systematic and comprehensive way on both content and form, thereby helping to clearly identify the "Military Chèo" style within the flow of modern Vietnamese Chèo theatre.

On the basis of surveying representative plays of the Theatre from 1954 to the present, the thesis identifies that the thematic content of the Theatre is expressed through a system of topics bearing a combative and humanistic character, praising soldiers and the people in war and peace; character images that combine reality and idealization; and ideological themes oriented towards patriotism, social responsibility and national moral values.

In terms of artistic form, the thesis points out the creativity in structure, genres, acting and staging of the Theatre, shown in the flexible combination between traditional Chèo poetics and modern stage language, the use of convention, symbols and characteristic stylized movements, thereby creating a distinct style – the "soldiers' chiếu chèo (Chèo mat)" rich in discipline, collectivity and fighting spirit.

The thesis analyzes the factors that influence the formation and development of the artistic characteristics of the Military Chèo Theatre, including: the requirement to serve political tasks, the need to improve the spiritual life of soldiers, the mission of preserving Chèo values within the military environment, as well as the impact of the market mechanism and international integration on the process of artistic creation.

Based on practical analysis, the thesis clarifies the artistic contributions of the Military Chèo Theatre to the development of Vietnamese Chèo art: (1) inheriting and promoting traditional values; (2) modernizing performing art in association with the spirit of the era; (3) expanding the audience base, bringing Chèo art to the community and soldiers.

The thesis proposes three feasible groups of solutions to preserve and promote the artistic characteristics of the Military Chèo Theatre in the contemporary context:

- (1) Maintain firm ideological orientation and enhance the creative capacity of the artist–soldier contingent;
- (2) Innovate methods of playwriting and performance, apply stage technology and digital transformation;
- (3) Strengthen cooperation, training and communication, develop young audiences and promote international integration.

The research results of the thesis supplement theoretical and practical foundations for the discipline of theatre theory and history, contribute to affirming the role and position of the Military Chèo Theatre in the system of Vietnamese stage arts, and at the same time provide useful material for research, teaching and creative activities in Chèo art in the new period.

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