

ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : An Analytical Study of Kwanjit Sriprajan's
Folk Songs
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Advisory Committee :

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The purposes of research focused on studying and analyzing Kwanjit Sriprajan's folk songs in order to study her life as a National Artist, to study background and general aspects of E-seaw songs and Choi songs, to analyze the concepts of Thai culture, Thai society and vision in her folk songs, and to analyze the style of language use.

The data of this research was collected from January 1997 to January 1999 and was classified into two sources: primary sources and secondary sources. Primary sources are interviews, and observations. Secondary sources, on the other hand, include Khun Kwanjit's folk songs, appearing as written language, taperecording, and other materials.

In summary, it was found that Kwanjit Sriprajan is a folk singer who has high ability and talent both in composition and performance of E-seaw songs and Choi songs, especially the E-seaw style.

As for song composition, although her education was limited, she could compose songs fluently and beautifully, both written songs and improvised songs. Moreover, in her performances she was considered as one who has a lot of high abilities and interesting tactics such as joking, impromptu speech, tones, gestures, and interaction that are popular with audiences.

As for the background and general aspects of E-seaw and Choi, it can be said that E-seaw is a kind of folk song in Suphanburi province that is more recent than Choi, not more than 100 years, but Choi songs are older than 100 years. The pattern of E-seaw is similar to Choi because Choi is the original. The melody of E-seaw, however, is faster than Choi, which is pretty, not slow and not fast. All in all, both E-seaw and Choi are performance locally by professionals.

Concerning the creativity of lyrics, it is found that its lyrics reflect the concepts of Thai culture and Thai society because Khun Kwanjit can compose any song by applying surrounding events such as culture, history or society, or even applying present events and can repeat any event. In addition, Kwanjit Sriprajan also emphasizes social vision because the way of life in each society must relate to people. Not only does she emphasize people, but she also emphasizes nature as useful to people, and sings about saving nature. Moreover, the vision of spiritual belief can help people survive confidently.

Anyway, three aspects of language creation, language use, description, and the way of building up figures of speech are regarded as an important part of Khun Kwanjit's folk songs, so as to make all her songs beautiful and popular among Thai people even today.