



ROMANTICISM OF LIFE AS AN IDEA FOR CREATING PAINTINGS

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ABSTRACT

Romantic art has long been a means of expression that allows people to explore various aspects of life outside the boundaries of conventional romance. In this report, the author approaches the topic of romance from a broader perspective, not only as an embodiment of love and human social interaction but also as an expression of natural simplicity and beauty as well as emotional depth. Inspiration from the Romantic art school motivates writers to create works of art that visualize the beauty and complexity of individual lives through self-portraits and portraits of people important to the writer. Method of making this work. Art includes the stages of contemplation, idea processing, improvisation, and conception, which are systematic steps in developing an idea from conception to realization. The idea for this work of art emerged from the author's personal experience in depicting the people closest to him, and pets were the main subject. The process of viewing this work is made using a collage technique combined with acrylic paint, thus creating a dynamic aesthetic, full of emotional meaning. This work of art not only represents the physical dimensions of the object depicted but also reveals its depth, relationships and hidden meanings behind them. With an emphasis on facial expressions and harmonious use of color, this work invites viewers to reflect on the beauty of human relationships and appreciation of shared values. Through this study, the author hopes to inspire an experience of contemplation and deep appreciation for the romance of life in all its splendor.

1. INTRODUCTION

For centuries, visual art has served as a means for humans to express diverse dimensions of life, transcending mere romanticism. Romanticism in art encompasses not only themes of love and human interaction but also delves into the significance of simplicity, celebrates the beauty of nature, and explores the depths of human emotions. In the realm of art, Romanticism is not merely about human affection but also about a profound connection with life itself and the wonders surrounding us (Iskandar, 2018).

Inspired by a rich tradition of Romantic art, the author is motivated to express the beauty of life through the medium of visual art (Dias Prabu, 2017). By depicting the faces of individuals who have played



significant roles in the author's life, the aim is to convey Romanticism in its most personal and intimate form. Through this artwork, the author seeks to craft a captivating visual narrative about the Romanticism of life. The intention is to showcase how the presence of cherished individuals and beloved pets has colored the author's life, much like brushstrokes painting a beautiful story on a canvas. By delving into profound emotions and allowing Romantic inspiration to flow through the work, the author hopes to create something beyond a mere physical depiction a tribute to the deep and valuable relationships that have shaped the author.

This study addresses the Romanticism movement that emerged in late 18th-century Europe as a reaction to the rationalism of the Enlightenment. Romanticism emphasizes feelings, imagination, and individual freedom of expression, and highlights values of natural beauty, freedom, and simplicity. The movement prioritizes human emotions such as love, sadness, and joy as central sources of inspiration in art and literature (Aji & Abidin, 2019). One of its defining features is the idealization of nature, where nature is often seen as a place to find tranquility and truth. Dramatic and mysterious natural landscapes frequently become the main subjects in Romantic paintings, reflecting awe towards the grandeur and diversity of the natural world (Yosef, 2021). Furthermore, Romanticism also underscores the exploration of identity and individual roles within society. Romantic artists often strive to express their subjective feelings and personal experiences through their work, whether in paintings, poems, music, or other visual arts.

Romanticism has played a crucial role in transforming artistic and cultural paradigms of its time, and its legacy remains strong today. In the modern context, the influence of Romanticism can be seen across various art mediums, as well as in the emphasis on self-expression and the exploration of deep human emotions (Yasir, 2022).

In deciding on the approach for this visual artwork, the author feels that self-portraits and portraits of influential individuals in the author's life are the most natural and authentic choices. A self-portrait, as a visual representation of oneself, provides an opportunity to explore personal identity and existence within the context of the artwork. Meanwhile, portraits of loved ones add an additional dimension to the work, showcasing layers of complex and diverse relationships in the author's life. This choice is not merely about reproducing physical likenesses but about expressing our existence as part of a larger, interconnected narrative. By featuring meaningful faces, the author hopes to invite viewers into the emotional world of the author, encouraging them to experience the warmth and depth of the relationships depicted.

More than just visual representations, these self-portraits and portraits of loved ones serve as windows into the author's life, reflecting the traces of journeys, joys, and sorrows experienced. By creating a strong emotional connection between the artwork and the audience, the author aims to inspire reflection and introspection about human relationships and to reinforce the appreciation of shared values in our collective life.

In the planned artwork, the faces to be depicted will not merely represent physical likenesses of individuals who have influenced the author's life. Each facial expression will symbolize the shared emotional journey, reflecting significant moments experienced together. Each brushstroke will carry a unique story, illustrating how their presence has imparted invaluable color and meaning to the author's life.

Through this artwork, the author aims to channel the romanticization of life using various visual elements that invite contemplation and reflection. The use of soft and harmonious colors will evoke an atmosphere of tranquility and peace, creating a world where the presence of loved ones becomes a source of happiness and serenity. Symmetrical or irregular compositions will reflect the complexity of human

relationships, mirroring the dynamics within each relationship we build. Emphasis on facial expressions and eyes will be the central focus, as the author believes that the eyes are the windows to the soul, expressing the depth of emotions and connections between the subject and the viewer. Every detail, from the small folds around the eyes to the subtle smile on the lips, will convey a deeper narrative about the relationships shared. Through this integration of elements, the author hopes to create a work of art that is not only visually captivating but also touches the soul and stimulates thought.

The author aspires for this work to be a celebration of the beauty and wonder of human relationships that shape us as individuals. By presenting this work to the world, the author hopes to convey a message about the importance of valuing and celebrating the bonds we have with those who matter most in our lives.

2. METHODS

The method of creation is a systematic way to create a work of art. Creative stage of a work of art. Description of the plan for the production process of a work of art, according to the creative stages from inspiration (idea) planning to realization of the work. The process of creating a work of art requires a way to describe in detail the steps and methods taken in the process in an effort to produce a work of art. Each series of stages in the process of creating a work of art is a way of realizing a mature work, both in terms of visualization and aesthetics. The process of finding ideas, sketches, and the tools and materials chosen are the result of a series of processes that have been passed.

2.1. Contemplation

Contemplation according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary [online] is contemplation and so on with unanimity of thought or full attention. So contemplation can be interpreted as the basic thinking in humans to create a work. The author does one thing where the activity is carried out by building an imaginary work of art before pouring it into a real form. With this, the author can easily pour ideas that have been thought of before, whether it is in the form of a work, title or writing that will be given or made. or created.

2.2. Idea Processing

Idea processing is the creative process of an artist in thinking into a work of art, which can also be said to be a follow-up to an idea. The author takes action to develop existing ideas into more varied ones. For example, looking for several references that already exist, then filtering them until the author forms his own artwork. This is done so that the artwork does not look monotonous and more varied.

2.3. Improvisation

Improvisation is a phase of experimentation and creativity, where we can do various types of experiments until we find something interesting when creating a painting. The author conducts activities in the form of experiments forming collages with several shreds taken from magazine paper which are then arranged in such a way that the desired results are formed.

2.4. Forming

The forming stage is the process of creating or realizing a work based on ideas, sketches, and techniques adopted from the previous stage of research. At this stage, the author first brings up ideas one by one, then proceeds to the stage of preparing the canvas and then continues to sketch and color. The author performs the final action where this activity is carried out by uniting the ideas that have been thought of before, both in the form of idea processing and improvisation, into one unit which will later be formed into a desired work of art.

2.5. Tools and Materials

The process of creating paintings also requires tools and media, tools that are usually used are pencils, erasers, palettes, brushes, acrylic paint, spray paint and glue. The media that are usually used are canvas, old magazines and used paint that has dried.

1. Pencil
2. Eraser
3. Palette Knife
4. Brush
5. Acrylic Paint
6. Spray Paint
7. Glue
8. Canvas
9. Used Magazines

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section describes the ideas and concepts on which the work is based. Ideas, notions and concepts arise from the analysis of phenomena, literary ability of artworks, design works and the experience of the creator. The author puts the ideas and concepts into the form of paintings. The idea of the creation of this painting comes from the people around and the author's experience in the environment around his life. The author uses his own experiences as inspiration for the creation of the artwork. The role of people and pets used as objects in the creation of paintings is to remind the author of the phenomenon that once existed.

3.1 STAGES OF CREATION

The process of creating a work of art certainly consists of stages such as the exploration stage, the stage of finding the source of inspiration for the work, and the improvisation stage which is usually carried out experimentally.

3.1.1 Stage of Contemplation

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary [online], contemplation means to contemplate with full attention or mindfulness. Therefore, speculation can be interpreted as a basic human way of thinking to create a work. The writer performs the activity of constructing an idea of an artwork before translating it into physical form. This allows the writer to easily express the ideas that have been compiled.

3.1.2 Improvisation Process

Improvisation is a stage of experimentation and creativity, where we can do various types of experiments until we find something interesting. The author conducts his activities in the form of experiments, namely making collages from several pieces of magazine paper and arranging them to produce the desired results.

3.1.3 Stages of Formation

The forming stage is the process of creating or realizing a work based on ideas, sketches, and techniques adopted from the previous stage of research. At this stage, the author first comes up with ideas one by one, then proceeds to the stage of preparing the canvas and then continues sketching and coloring. The author performs the final action where this activity is carried out by uniting the ideas that have been

thought of before, both in the form of idea processing and improvisation, into one unit which will later be formed into a desired work of art.

3.2 WORK DESCRIPTION



Figure 3.1 Work 1 (Personal Documentation)

Title: Ambu

Media: Mix media on canvas

Size : 80 cm x 70 cm

Year : 2024

This painting describes the personality of a woman who plays the role of ambu or mother. role as ambu or mother, where the role and things she likes are expressed in this painting. and things she likes are contained in this painting



Figure 3.2 Work 2 (Personal Documentation)

Title: Mumu

Media: Mixed media on canvas

Size : 80 cm x 70 cm

Year : 2024

This painting depicts one subject who is a “friend” to the creator of the work/painting. is a “friend” to the creator of the work/painting, because all subjects can be friends can be friends.



Figure 3.3 Work 3 (Personal Documentation)

Title: The power of love

Media : Mix media on canvas

Size : 80 cm x 70 cm

Year : 2024

This painting realizes a relationship which in this painting really shows various things of romance and various puzzles that exist when having a partner or romantic relationship.



Figure 3.4 Work 4 (Personal Documentation)

Title: Saudade

Media: Mix media on canvas

Size : 90 cm x 70 cm

Year : 2024

This painting visualizes a deep feeling of nostalgia that does not end with someone who is poured by describing things that are characteristic.



Figure 3.5 Work 5 (Personal Documentation)

Title: Yellow Rose

Media : Mix media on canvas

Size : 90 cm x 70 cm

Year : 2024

Life will go on. This painting depicts how we all have to move forward, with or without an important figure in our lives.



Figure 3.6 Work 6 (Personal Documentation)

Title: Mirror Ball

Media: Mixed media on canvas

Size : 90 cm x 70 cm

Year : 2024

This painting depicts an overlapping friendship in the sense of an unbalanced friendship relationship that causes distance between two people with one another, or it can be said that one of them is always a mirror ball for the other two people.

3.3 Aesthetics of the Work

Aesthetics is a field of philosophy that studies beauty and the values contained in artistic or creative works. Aesthetics is not only limited to visual elements such as composition, color and form, but also includes the sensations and feelings that the work gives to the audience. In the aesthetic interpretation of works, the influence of cultural, historical or social context is very important. The works created give meaning to values in human life regardless of degree or social status. This is because human life will always be a puzzle in the future. These works outline the twists and turns of life that can start from relationships between families, couples, friends or companions, even pets that may have various meanings from important to unimportant things.

3.4 Authenticity of the Work

The authenticity of the work refers to the degree of harmony between the personal expression of the creator and the work created. The theme is very sensitive and the viewer can deeply feel what the creator has expressed in the painting shown. The romanticization of life in painting may be one of the themes that can strengthen the authenticity of the work. In addition, the technique used in creating the work by combining collage with acrylic paint, makes the visual appearance of this painting different from paintings that only use one medium in their work. The dynamic color palette reflects strong personal emotions, while the unbound composition gives the audience room to understand for themselves. Many paintings and works are very diverse, but this painting or work can be one of the works that has a very important and deep meaning for the creator and gives a deep impression to the viewer.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the discussion underscores that the artwork is a vast and boundless subject, deeply rooted in the fusion of emotional experience and personal analysis. The choice of medium or materials plays a significant role in defining the uniqueness and authenticity of a piece of art. The author introduces Romanticism as a response to Enlightenment rationalism, highlighting its emphasis on emotion, imagination, and individual freedom of expression. Romanticism in visual arts extends beyond human relationships to include the appreciation of natural beauty and the exploration of deep human emotions.

The author has chosen to create artworks featuring self-portraits and portraits of influential individuals in their life. The goal is to reveal the beauty of life and the profound emotional connections shared with these individuals. The artistic creation process involves contemplation, idea development, improvisation, and formation stages, each of which is crucial in transforming concepts into captivating and meaningful visual art.

The artwork employs collage techniques with acrylic paint, enriching the color palette and adding an extra dimension. The dynamic and unbound composition reflects the complexity of diverse human relationships while maintaining a focus on emotional expression and personal connection between the subjects and the viewers. Aesthetic considerations such as color use, composition, and technique contribute to creating art that is not only visually appealing but also emotionally profound. This allows the artwork to convey messages about life values and the beauty of human relationships, aligning with the Romanticism concept embraced.

Overall, this report highlights the significance of Romanticism in influencing modern visual art and how artists use this medium to express personal connections and appreciation for life. Viewers can engage deeply with the artwork, as it resonates with universal human experiences and offers insights into how romance and romanticism are expressed not just through words but also through paintings and other art forms.

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