



FLOWER METAPHOR INSPIRATION IN FINE ARTS

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ARTICLE INFO

Received on
23 September 2024
Revised on
25 December 2025
Accepted on
3 April 2025

KEYWORDS

Metaphor
Flowers
Women
Works of art

ABSTRACT

This report is written to explain the creation of a work of art with the theme "Flower Metaphor Inspiration in Fine Arts". This topic is inspired by the author's experience when he listened to stories from his friends and books that talk about the meaning of flowers. Metaphor is a figure of speech that uses words or groups of words with figurative meanings, not their real meanings, to describe something by comparing it to something else. The flower metaphor is argued here as a small part that is almost the same as a colorful life journey. This work identifies how the flower metaphor is a meaning that produces the expression of a woman's feelings through creativity and imagination in artwork. There is one work that will be produced in the form of a painting. Each work will use various techniques and media, based on the essence and principles of fine art. More specifically, this report covers how artists use artwork to express the flower metaphor that represents a woman's feelings. Thus it can be seen that every visual artwork of the flower metaphor can appear in a smile, disappointed, disappointed, broken, love. Therefore, the other side of this artwork can help to do an in-depth and interpretive analysis on this painting, and strictly speaking, this will allow to gain an understanding of the complexity of the flower metaphor that is the inspiration in this work.

1. INTRODUCTION

Technological developments have an impact on various fields to continue to develop themselves. In this Merdeka Belajar Kampus Merdeka independent study program, we also choose partners, where these partners are organizations or industries registered in the independent campus program by offering programs to improve the development of learning ecosystems for students in higher education. In partnering with Galung Wiratmaja Art Studio, the author hopes to improve knowledge in the arts and develop themselves into artists who have mature concepts, such as in this MBKM the author raises the theme "Inspirational Flower Metaphors in Fine Arts". In realizing the idea of flowers as self-expression in the creation of this artwork, it has a concept of manifestation displaying a work of art.



Flowers are a part of a plant that is the center of attention, usually beautiful in color and fragrant, a type of various flowers. Flowers are objects that are very attractive to the human eye, especially those that are colorful so that they have cultural meaning. The philosophical meaning and symbolism of flowers should not be underestimated. Flowers have the ability to reflect various things, such as expressions within us when we feel sad, happy, depressed and many more expressions that can be expressed by flowers. Each flower symbol contains its own special meaning. Flower symbols are often used to convey meaning or hope to others, either through implied messages, prayers, or even in paintings. Its presence in human social interactions contains deep philosophical significance.

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary or KBBI, the definition of metaphor is the use of words or groups of words not with their actual meaning, but as a depiction based on similarities or comparisons [1]. Metaphor is one of the comparative language styles that is usually found in everyday life, both orally and in writing. Metaphor comes from Greek which is a combination of two words, namely meta which means transfer and Pherein which means to carry. Overall, metaphor means transfer. (Banhart, 1973:1294) [1]. The meaning of flowers in this work of art is not only transferred rawly, but with a little expression of expression felt by the artist or around him. A number of words about flowers that are short and full of philosophy, these words can be used as inspiration in art to express what the artist feels. This feeling can be expressed in a work of art as a meditation in art.

2. METHODS

In making this artwork, the theory of semiotic approach is used, because the data to be conveyed will produce signs. While the method of creation in this is using Hawkins' theory, because this method has signs that guide and direct more systematic thought patterns and action patterns. Hawkins in his book *Creating Through Dance* translated by RM. Soedarsono (2001: 207), mentions; the creation of good painting and dance art, always goes through three stages: first exploration; second improvisation; and the third forming (formation or composition). In this connection Hadi (2003: 24,29,40) translates, the method includes: exploration, improvisation, and forming [3].

In a brief discussion with I Made Galung Wiratmaja, his creative method is actually just flowing. Starting from exploration, where Galung Wiratmaja said that the themes that are often raised are things that are around him or topics that can offend his feelings. After the theme is formed, Galung Wiratmaja does not escape from improvising. He has done a lot of experiments with materials or techniques so that the theme can unite with his technique in his 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional works. In his manifestation, Galung Wiratmaja initially started from abstract expressionism then continued to landscape and abstract figures where the figure initially appeared to be facing away from us in the object of the painting. From the many manifestations that he has done, Galung Wiratmaja has no limits or is free in his art [4].

2.1. Exploration

Exploration includes thinking, imagining, feeling, and responding. In the exploration stage, it begins by determining the ideas and concepts that will be realized in the creation of the work [5]. From the beginning of forming the concept, the author has experimented to find a topic that is relevant to today's era, where there are many metaphors for words to express a person's feelings.

The author has conducted basic research from articles and has had discussions with artists, then the concept of "Metaphor of Inspiration Flowers in Fine Arts" was formed. When the concept was formed, the author also conducted experiments while working, starting from exploring materials, tools, media to trying

techniques that the author had never tried before. In this process the author was guided by partner I Made Galung Wiratmaja who is a multi-talented artist who has done a lot of exploration.

2.2. Improvisation

Improvisation is the emphasis of medium experimentation, where in this artwork the author uses various materials, tools and techniques. In determining the materials, tools and techniques, the author also experiments so that they can match the artwork that the author makes, starting from a mixture of calcium, glue and paint that the author uses to create textures in the painting in order to strengthen the background color that the author makes. In installation artwork the author explores various media to get a unique impression in it.

2.3. Forming

The formation stage is the process of realizing various experiments that have been carried out. At this stage, the artist determines the form of creation that is considered appropriate by combining materials obtained from previous explorations. The formation stage begins with sketches, ideas or concepts that are still in abstract form are poured into sketches to facilitate the visual work process. Choosing the right unity and harmony such as composition, color, texture and so on as well as choosing the form and harmony of art elements. Completion of the work is also included in this stage because this process determines the final result of the artwork created (Hawkins 1964).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In creating the concept of this work, the most important thing is broad knowledge to achieve harmony, harmony, and happiness. Rachmat Subagya, (1981: 2) wrote that: Humans by nature realize that they are limited and weak. They also experience that their souls are directed to another realm that overcomes their weaknesses and limitations. The spiritual realm is thought of by them as a manifestation of their ideals, as something whole, perfect and happy. In it, the longing for happiness is fulfilled; humans try to direct their activities to achieve that happiness [6].

From various experiences that have been directly experienced by the author and people around him regarding flower metaphors, the author feels the need to implement them into works of art. From the various flower metaphors presented, the author wants each of these works to be able to bring up different symbolic meanings so that people can understand the feelings of a woman through flower metaphors.

3.1. Results

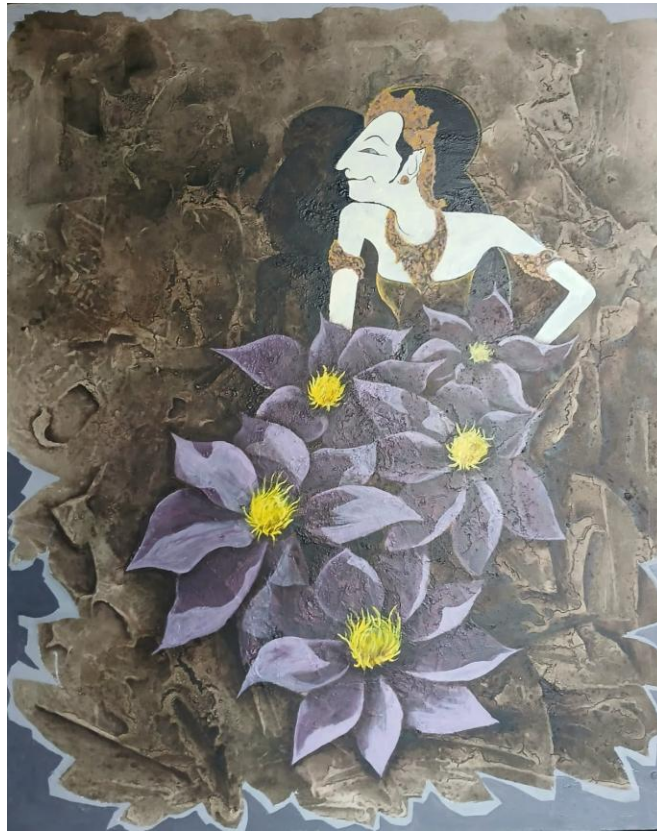


Figure 1. two sides.

[Source: Personal Documentation, 2024]

Title : Two Sides
Media : Mix media on canvas
Size : 100 cm x 80 cm

Description:

This work depicts a woman who has two sides, beautiful is not always good like the beautiful but poisonous clematis flower, just like some women out there who look beautiful but have poisonous hearts, with women depicted with beautiful puppets with dark shadows symbolizing the bad side of the woman, the excessive brown background color symbolizes someone who is heartless.

3.2. Discussion

3.2.1. Exploration

Exploration is the process of finding sources of ideas obtained from observations and interesting experiences so that they can stimulate creativity in creating works of art, the exploration process carried out is as follows:

a. Object Observation and Research

In this process, the author was interested and decided to focus on taking a theme related to the Flower Metaphor. The author was inspired when reading information about flower metaphors through an article and interviews with relatives in the author's environment. When reading an article, the author imagined how deep the meaning is in a flower, where we always think that flowers are just beautiful flowers without knowing what meaning is contained in them. When the author observes a beautiful flower, the author imagines that beauty is a woman and the meaning contained in the flower becomes a metaphor for flowers in women's feelings.

b. Observation Through Artworks

The author in creating works of art observes the works of artists who are used as sources of inspiration. The author was inspired by one of the works of I Made Galung Wiratmaja, a Balinese artist. The author applies several parts of the technique to the work of I Made Galung Wiratmaja in painting, sculpture and installation, which are poured into the creation of the work. Through literature study, the author was inspired by one of the works of the artist, namely I Nyoman Erawan, with the texture in his paintings.

3.2.2. *Improvisation*

The experimental stage provides greater opportunities for imaginative ways in aesthetic processing. This work was created by continuing to experiment as in painting by creating textures, using liquid paint to create backgrounds and strengthen textures, and strengthening details in the objects created. Various techniques are used such as plaque techniques, wet techniques, and dry techniques. The texture used uses calcium dough poured on canvas and scratched using a palette knife that has an abstract impression and uses a wet technique using liquid paint colors to emphasize the lines produced by the palette knife. In the sculpture, the author made the initial frame by welding and tried to make the initial shape using used newspapers to save materials and manufacturing time, using cement to strengthen the initial shape. In the installation artwork, the author experiments with materials, where the materials used are leftover materials from previous works such as cloth, iron, and wire. Many experiments were conducted by the author in making the installation, starting from how to utilize these leftover materials to become a work of art, by folding and sewing the fabric to form rose petals and attaching the sewn fabric to the frame using a glue gun on work 5. Experiments were also conducted in making work 4 using canvas to make orchid petals, this experiment is very complicated because it is very difficult to attach the fabric to the wire mesh frame using white glue because the fabric is not easy to stick to the frame, it takes a long time for the fabric to stick so the author continues to repeatedly tidy it up so that the fabric does not lift on the wire mesh. All experiments are carried out without thinking about the required shape and color, this is intended to get high courage and freedom to experiment.

3.2.3. Forming

1. canvas installation



Figure 2. canvas installation process.
[Source: Personal Documentation, 2024]

The initial stage in creating a painting is installing the canvas, which begins by stapling each side and ensuring that it is not loose, then stapling the ends of the stretcher.

2. texture creation



Figure 3. texture creation process.
[Source: Personal Documentation, 2024]

In making texture, start by mixing the ingredients in the form of glue, calcium and water. After mixing evenly, pour the mixture onto the canvas and rub it using a palette knife spontaneously.

3. Creating a background



Figure 4. Creating a background process.
[Source: Personal Documentation, 2024]

After the canvas is installed, the next step is to create a background where it starts from a sketch but the author makes a background, the goal is to make the background visible behind the object. Starting from mixing paint with water, thin but not too thin, when the paint liquid is considered sufficient, pour the paint onto the canvas then scratch the palette knife onto the canvas so that the paint does not accumulate on one side and accidentally forms an abstract shape on the background.

4. visualization creation



Figure 5. visualization creation process.
[Source: Personal Documentation, 2024]

If the sketch is correct, continue with the visualization process, starting from creating the main object and then thickening it so that the object looks thick and thin.

5. finishing process



Figure 6. finishing process.
[Source: Personal Documentation, 2024]

When the object has been formed, start the final stage, namely finishing, by creating a cubist object in the background that looks like a mohoton using the plaque technique.

4. CONCLUSION

Overall, creating a work of art consisting of six artworks that raise the metaphor of flowers that represent feelings for women without thinking about how those feelings can have various aspects and nuances is a very interesting and profound concept. Through three paintings, two installations, and one sculpture, the author can express various aspects and nuances of feelings visually. During the process of creation, observations of the everyday world and simple life experiences serve as sources of inspiration for ideas. The metaphor of flowers is a visual manifestation of feelings and experiences that women may achieve. In general, women's feelings are something that is often very complicated and very difficult for others to understand. The use of various media and different techniques also shows that exploration, experimentation, and embodiment are the approaches used during the creation process, as explained by the Alma M. Hawkins method. This method allows for the exploration of various materials and techniques, as well as taking risks in visual experiments that can enrich and strengthen the message to be conveyed. The purpose of this artwork is to be a depiction of women's feelings that are rarely expressed, which can provide a new perspective and deeper understanding to the audience. Through visual expression, this artwork has the potential to evoke empathy, introspection, and reflection on the experience of feelings that may be hidden or less understood in everyday life. Thus, the creation of a work of art from the Metaphor of Inspiration Flowers in Fine Art Works is not only a form of artistic expression, but also a visual narrative that enriches and expands our understanding of the complexity of human feelings.

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