

Aesthetic Review of Gandaria Dance Show in Rembang Regency

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Abstract—The beauty of Gandaria Dance Show can be seen in terms of form, content, and appearance. The problem studied in this article is aesthetic value with the main study, namely the form of show, the content of show and the performance of Gandaria Dance Show from Rembang Regency. The aesthetics of Gandaria Dance can be seen in terms of form, content, and performance. The form of Gandaria dance show consists of a variety of movements, musical accompaniment, makeup and fashion, lighting, sound system, and venue. The component of the show's form gives an agile, strong, and dynamic impression. The content consists of an idea, atmosphere, and message which contain values of togetherness, association, and morality.

Keywords—dance, Gandaria, aesthetics

I. INTRODUCTION

Art is the product of a culture which belongs to each ethnic group. Art is an expression of a group of people who intentionally or unintentionally created by life habits, social conditions of society, religion, geographical location, up to the myths which develop in that area. Art as a product of society's expression has certain aesthetic value, which reflects the uniqueness and the beauty of arts and the community itself. The beauty of the art form that is in the realm of sense aesthetics showing the form of dance as a reflection of the feelings that arise in the context of Javanese cultural phenomena [1]. The Existing art can be classified according to its' field such as dance, fine arts, puppetry, musical art, and others.

Gandaria dance is one of the arts which belongs to people of Rembang Regency. Gandaria dance is a traditional Javanese dance created by Mr. Rusdiyono from Krikilan Village, Sumber Sub-district, Rembang Regency. A long time ago, Gandaria Dance was functioned as an entertainment dance in the earth charity event which is usually done by the people in Sumber area. Now, Gandaria Dance can also be shown in *kethoprak* or *wayang kulit* shows as an opening or interlude.

Gandaria dance comes from the word *gandaria* which is one of *gendhing* name or Javanese song, namely *gendhing Gandaria*. Gandaria dance is a representation of young people who are falling in love so that it can also be interpreted as a symbol of fertility. Gandaria dance is known and liked by the community, especially the people of Rembang Regency. Gandaria dance has its own characteristics which make it attractive compared to other dances which also exist in Rembang Regency. The

characteristic of Gandaria Dance is acrobatic motion between dancers. Motion in Gandaria Dance requires flexibility and muscle strength so that dancers can perform attractive movements.

Many people, especially people in Sumber Sub-district know Gandaria Dance created by Mr. Rusdiyanto, but due to the influence of the more advanced times, people are less familiar with Gandaria Dance. In addition, the condition of Mr. Rusdiyanto who at that time was affected by stroke made the regeneration of Gandaria Dance in Krikilan Village stopped. This is one of the factors that affect the existence of Gandaria Dance which has almost gone. Considering the rapid development of globalization which has affected the existence of Gandaria Dance, finally, Mr. Purwono, an artist from Rembang Regency, has the initiative to re-work Gandaria Dance. The reprocessing is done without losing the standard motions of Gandaria dance which become the characteristic of Gandaria Dance, such as acrobatic movements between dancers. The reprocessing effort is done to make Gandaria Dance easy to learn and has an attraction to a young generation.

Gandaria dance has its own beauty among other traditional dances. This beauty can be seen from the form of the show, its content, and its performance. Gandaria dance is a paired dance that describes the behavior of humans who are falling in love. This is shown by the movements of the dance which most of which are acrobatic movements which is a woman who always climbs the male body. Besides that musical accompaniment of Gandaria Dance is music from Javanese gamelan instruments which are played with medium tempo and tend to be fast so that it can make the mood of the audience becomes excited. Gandaria dance can be shown on stage or in an open field, depending on the type of event. The dancers of Gandaria dance use costumes which are made of velvet which color is yellow and red, equipped with Laseman batik cloth, and use *Jamang* on their head.

II. METHODOLOGY

This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach. Data were collected by interview, observation, and document study. The collected data were analyzed using interactive analysis flow from Miles and Huberman, using measures including data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verification.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. The Aesthetic Performance Art

Aesthetics come from Greek "Aisthetika" which means things that can be absorbed by the human senses [2]. An aesthetic theory holds that every artwork has a general structure can be received an equivalent, namely harmony structure and rhythm structure. Function harmony in a work of art which puts pressure and categorizes elements language aesthetic, so the work art is unique [3]. The aesthetic value of all art objects or events contains three fundamental aspects which include form or appearance, weight / content, appearance or performance. The definition of the form concept includes the basic form or element and structure. The content or weight has three aspects, namely the atmosphere, ideas, and messages. Art performance has three elements that play a role namely talent skills, and means or media [4].

Aesthetic aspect is born through the relationship of form and content. The form is structure, content is a message. The form is how to convey while the content is what is conveyed [5]. The presence of a dance form will appear in the design of motion and the pattern of continuity of motion that takes place in space and time. The form of dance can be seen from the overall presentation of dance, which includes a combination of dance elements (motion, space, time) and various supporting elements of dance presentation (musical accompaniment, theme, dress, makeup, place, and lighting) [6].

The content of dance is an invisible idea or appreciation. Without an idea, art will be present without weight, while a form is a product of interweaving the expression element or concrete manifestation. Through the form, the audience can appreciate the content of the dance [7]. The content or weight of an art object or event includes not only what is seen merely but also what is perceived or lived as the meaning of the form of art itself. Art weight has three aspects: (1) idea, (2) atmosphere, and (3) message. The idea is the result of thought or concept, opinion or view about something. The dance atmosphere can be formed by its constituent elements, namely, motion, musical accompaniment, dress, and lighting which are formed in such a way and combined with one another so that it becomes a unity which creates a certain beauty. Message in dance is expressions of the soul which are reflected in thorough motion.

Performance is intended as a way of how art is presented to those who enjoy it. There are three elements which play a role in art performance: (1) talent, (2) skills, and (3) means or media. Talent is a unique potential ability owned by someone which is obtained because of his offspring. Skill is proficiency in implementing something that is achieved by doing practice. Means or media is those that influence art performance, such as stage, light, color, and loudspeakers.

The problem that will be discussed in this article is how the aesthetic value of Gandaria Dance performance in Rembang Regency, with sub-studies (1) the aesthetic form of Gandaria Dance Show, (2) the aesthetic content of Gandaria Dance Show, (3) the aesthetic appearance of Gandaria Dance Show.

B. The Aesthetic of Gandaria Dance

The form of Gandaria Dance Show can be seen from the pattern of show and elements of the show such as motion, musical accompaniment, makeup and fashion, the stage of show, lighting and sound systems.

1. Form

The pattern of Gandaria Dance Show is divided into three parts, namely the initial part, the main and the final part. (1) The initial part is preceded by the introduction of gamelan music, then followed by Arum Manis song and the come up of dancers to the stage until stop / pose after *mlaku Muter's* motion. (2) The main is the part where the dancer moves from the pose to the last joint motion and throws sampur towards the male dancer. (3) Then the final part is the part where the dancer improvises with her partner until finally posing acrobatically.

Elements of Gandaria Dance Show consist of motion, musical accompaniment, fashion make-up, the stage of show, lighting and sound system.

a. Motion

Motion is the way an artist (choreographer) expresses a particular idea or meaning [8]. The Gandaria dance is paired dance between man and woman. Paired dance can be done by man and women, fellow men, or fellow women, besides that the dancer must pay attention to the harmony of his movements with the movements of his partner, they must also respond and cooperate each other [9]. The theme of Gandaria Dance is an association so that it rises interaction motif and respond to each other between male dancer and female dancer. Gandaria Dance motions are dominated by agile and dynamic movements typical of northern Java coastal areas (*pantura*). The characteristics of a female dancer in Gandaria dance are *kemayu* and *kenes*, while for the male dancer are dashing and strong.

The motion of Gandaria dance is very agile and vibrant. There are acrobatic movements between female dancer and a male dancer. These movements portray human activities and actions when making love. The creator of Gandaria Dance interpreted it as a symbol of fertility. The repetition of motion shows an affirmation, such as in *mlaku geol's* motion on female dancer which signifies the characteristics of motion which are *kemayu* and *kenes* so that invites the male dancer's lust to respond.

The space of dancers is the farthest limit which can be reached by the dancers. The movement space of Gandaria dance is very dynamic that is adjusting the floor pattern. floor pattern or floor design, which is a form that is danced on the floor by dancers, where dancers move from one place to another, using straight and curved lines, which are developed into squares, or rectangles, zig zags, and circle, so dance comes alive [10]. Occasionally dancers are far away, and sometimes dancers get close until directly touching each other. The floor pattern of Gandaria dance is very varied, besides using horizontal floor pattern Gandaria Dance performances also use vertical floor pattern that is by riding each other and posing on the male dancer's body. The volume used in Gandaria Dance is a large volume for a male dancer and medium volume for female dancer.

The impression of beauty that arises from the motion form is the impression of being agile, dynamic, assertive, and strong. Gandaria dance reflects the joy of coastal

community which is shown by agile and vibrant movements. The movements of dancers who interact with each other represent idea and concept about the association or interaction of young people. Gandaria Dance is very unique because it uses acrobatic movements that can only be danced by dancers who have been trained and have special skills and have strength and flexibility of the body.

b. Musical Accompaniment

Musical accompaniment of Gandaria dance is Javanese gamelan instruments which consist of *kendhang*, *kenong*, *kempul*, *bonang*, *saron*, *demung*, and *gong*. The function of Musical accompaniment of Gandaria dance is as illustration music and accompaniment music. This is indicated by the music that was sounded at the beginning of the show without the dancer (illustration) and music which is sounded during the show accompanied the dancers' movements (accompanist). Musical accompaniment of Gandaria Dance is music that is *rancak* and lively with populist nuances.

Besides being accompanied by external music, Gandaria Dance also uses internal music which comes from the human body. The internal music is *senggakan* from the accompanists and dancers like *hayo*, *lo*, *lo*, *ea ea ea*, *yo yo yo* and others. *Senggakan* is carried out spontaneously and interconnected, interacting, responding to each other as in general folk art which causes lively nuances. The impression of beauty that emerged from musical accompaniment at Gandaria Dance Show is dynamic, lively and cheerful, thus enlivening the atmosphere.

c. Fashion Makeup

Makeup which is used in Gandaria Dance is corrective stage makeup. Stage makeup is makeup that was created for the performance on stage. Makeup on stage is different from everyday makeup. Stage makeup for dancers is designed thick and firm so that the lines between the parts of the face are clearly visible when it is viewed from a distance. Meanwhile corrective make up is a makeup technique that makes the face look more perfect than the original face when it does not use makeup. Makeup is distinguished according to gender, female and male dancers. The impression of face makeup used by the female dancer is beautiful makeup, and the male dancer is good / handsome makeup.

Clothing that is used by the dancers of Gandaria dance is divided into two, namely female dancer clothing and male dancer clothing. The female dancer uses ankle bracelets at his feet, pants, cloth/*Jarik laseman*, *slepe*, *klat shoulders*, *mekuk/kemben*, clothes, necklaces, bun, and *jamang*. While male dancers' cloths are double bracelets, *epek timang*, shorts, *jarik*, *klat shoulders*, vests, *sumping*, necklaces, and *head iket*. Impressions that arise from the clothes worn by dancers are beautiful and unique. The creator blends function creation of costume parts and the beauty that is shown from the decoration details on the clothes and the head accessories which like *jamang* on Classical Golek Dance. Color harmonization is also a consideration.

d. Performing Place

Gandaria dance can be performed anywhere. In the past, Gandaria Dance was always shown at Kethoprak event as an interlude. But now after the reconstruction of Gandaria Dance by Mr. Purwono made its' function changes into

show dance as well as entertainment. So, Gandaria Dance can be performed anywhere in both formal and non-formal events. Gandaria dance requires a large place, this is because of the use of a wide range of movements both female dancer and male dancer. There are no specific criteria for performing Gandaria Dance so that it gives simplicity impression in the presentation of populist art.

e. Lighting System

Gandaria dance can be performed by using additional lights or not. The populist concept promoted by the creator makes this dance can be performed simply, but it does not rule out the possibility of being performed on a large stage with high technology. Gandaria Dance Show on small scale events usually does not require stage lights. While Gandaria Dance Show on the big stage can use light settings including red flashing for an initial part; bright yellow and green for the main part; and blue for the final part. The use of lights can support staging to be more attractive and support the atmosphere of dance.

f. Sound

Sound system used in Gandaria Dance Show is sound system. Even so, there is no specialization for sound management in the performance of this dance. If Gandaria Dance is played with live gamelan music, then the sound produced is directly from the gamelan, with the help of several loudspeakers and stabilizers. However, if the Gandaria Dance is performed non-live or does not use live gamelan music, then the show uses sound system to play musical accompaniment in the form of a file from the recording of gamelan. In addition, musicians and dancers can also fill their voices from their mouth, so it makes a lively impression.

2. Weight/Content

The weight or content in Gandaria Dance Show is divided into three ideas or concepts, atmosphere, and message that contained in Gandaria Dance Show:

a. Idea

The idea of Gandaria Dance came from Mr. Rusdiyanto, the first creator, a social dance that symbolized fertility. Gandaria dance is a popular dance that tells about the behavior of a couple who are falling in love. In the past, this dance was performed when there was earth charity event as a form of gratitude from the people in Sumber District for the abundance of crops. Gandaria dance is a substitute of Tayuban Dance which is usually done by the community in earth charity event.

Gandaria dance is a transformation as well as expression of people in Sumber District, which was later reconstructed by Mr. Purwono. As the second creator, Mr. Purwono added the meaning of dance through the wording in the dance title. Gandaria comes from the word "double" or pronounced "*gondo*" which means smell/smelled, then "*ria*" or pronounced "*rio*" means happy/cheerful. So, Gandaria Dance is interpreted as an activity of kissing happily. Acrobatic motion is a reflection of activities carried out between male and female to attract and mingle. Whereas the movements of touching and bringing the female dancer's face closer to a male dancer are a description of kissing activity. So that with this motion, this dance can also be interpreted as a symbol of fertility. Both the fertility of the

land in the dance area comes from Sumber Village and human fertility.

b. Atmosphere

The atmospheres that arise in Gandaria Dance are cheerful, lively, dynamic and vibrant. The atmosphere is created because of supporting elements of the show such as motion, musical accompaniment, makeup, clothing, and others. The movement of Gandaria Dance is a dynamic movement which gives the impression of cheerfulness. Musical accompaniment is music that is dynamic and has a medium tempo which tends to be fast, thus gives a lively impression. The makeup used by the female dancer is very beautiful, and the handsome male dancer who gives a beautiful impression and proper. Whereas, the fashion of Gandaria Dance uses harmonious colors such as a combination of red and yellow which creates a beautiful/aesthetic impression.

c. Message

Messages contained in Gandaria Dance are intimacy, harmony, happiness, and decency. This is indicated by dance movements that respond to each other and interact as a form of intimacy and harmony, as well as the agility of motion and musical accompaniment that lively illustrates a happy mood. Besides that Gandaria dance also has decency values, which at the beginning of the creation by Mr. Rusdiyanto the dance movements are very vulgar and tend to be erotic. Now, after being reconstructed by Mr. Purwono, the movements are simplified and transformed into movements that are not vulgar and erotic so that it gives decency message between humans both on dancers and audience.

3. Appearance

Appearance contained in Gandaria Dance show is divided into several parts, namely talent, skills, and media.

a. Talent

Art talent is owned by dancer and musician. Dancer usually has talent through the origins of his/her family that also has art blood, especially in the dance field. Just like musicians, they have talent through their parents who are also involved in the art world. Usually, dancers who have artistic talent are quicker to catch dance learning in the studio. But talent is not the only ability that dancers and musicians must have. Talent owned will add presentation value of Gandaria Dance which is energetic and acrobatic.

b. Skill

Skills are obtained by doing practice regularly. The dancers and musicians are trained at Galuh Ajeng Rembang Studio led by Mr. Purwono. Galuh Ajeng studio teaches Gandaria Dance to all students or participants of the studio so that they know and master Gandaria Dance. However, one student and another student must have different skill. Therefore, the one who always performs Gandaria dance is usually those who are skilled in dancing and mastering acrobatic movements.

c. Means/Media

Means or media which are used as means to support Gandaria Dance show are layout/ stage, lighting and sound system. The stage setting is set according to the needs, and also depends on the area that will be used for dancing. The lighting system is a supporting tool to create an atmosphere.

Then the sound system is used to enliven the atmosphere. The louder the sound system the more lively the performance of Gandaria dance, and it clarifies the hearing of dancers so that it increases enthusiasm and accuracy of their movement.

IV. CONCLUSION

Gandaria dance is paired dance that tells about the behavior of couple who are falling in love. The aesthetics of Gandaria dance can be seen from the form, weight/content, and appearance. The form is all that is shown along with its structures. Weight/content is divided into three, namely atmosphere, idea, and message. While the appearance also consists of three aspects, namely talent, skills, means / media.

The aesthetics of form are shown by the performance patterns and the form of Gandaria Dance show. The pattern of Gandaria dance is divided into three, namely the initial part, main part, and the final part. Gandaria Dance is very unique because it uses acrobatic motion. Gandaria Dance movements are agile, dynamic, strong, and vibrant. The musical accompaniment of Gandaria dance uses external music and internal music. External music comes from Javanese gamelan, while internal music "*Senggakan*" comes from the mouths of dancers and musicians as a relief for the atmosphere. Makeup used in Gandaria dance is corrective stage makeup that creates a beautiful impression. The stage can be anywhere just adjust the type of event. The lighting system may be there or not, just as an atmosphere. Then the sound uses gamelan and *sound system*.

The aesthetics of weight/content are indicated by the idea, atmosphere, and message. The idea of Gandaria Dance originated from the realization of gratitude for the abundant corps, then manifested in social dance and interpreted as a symbol of fertility. The movements of dancers who interact with each other represent the idea about the socialization of young people. Gandaria Dance atmosphere is cheerful, lively, dynamic and vibrant. While the message of Gandaria Dance is intimacy, harmony, happiness, and decency.

The Aesthetics of appearance is indicated by talent, skill, and means or media. The talent of dancers and musicians are obtained from their families. Talent owned by the dancers will greatly support and give more value to the presentation of dance. Skill is obtained from the routine learning process at Galuh Ajeng Rembang Studio. Their skills include flexibility, strength, and flexibility in performing acrobatic movements. Means or media in the presentation of Gandaria Dance are layout/stage, lighting and sound system.

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