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Art as Language: The Interplay of Expression, Form, and Reality in the Construction of Meaning

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Abstract: This paper explores the intrinsic connection between art and language, positing that art is a vital force that generates and sustains language. Art, through its diverse forms and expressions, acts as a medium for conveying ideas, emotions, and experiences, shaping the construction of language and knowledge. Language, in turn, preserves the essence of art by providing a structured means of expression. The development of language, from pictorial to symbolic forms, emerges from the necessity to communicate and interpret the realities of life, nature, and material existence. Ultimately, both language and art are driven by a shared goal: to express and understand the complexities of life itself. Language is not simply a collection of symbols, but a living, evolving entity that mirrors the consciousness of life itself, connecting human experience with the natural world.

Keywords: Art, language, expression, form, knowledge construction, emotional expression, symbolic language, creativity, reality, life

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INTRODUCTION

The dynamic relationship between art and language has long been a subject of philosophical and artistic inquiry. As the writer and philosopher Gaston Bachelard observes, "Art is a language, and it is the only language capable of expressing life in its totality" (Bachelard, *The Poetics of Space*, 1958, p. 50). This idea underscores the notion that art is not merely an aesthetic or representational form but a foundational means of constructing and conveying language itself. In this context, both art and language become essential tools for expressing the complexities of human experience, emotions, and the natural world. The passage that follows delves into how art generates language and how language, in turn, sustains art, emphasizing the deep interconnection between creative expression and linguistic communication. Through various forms of expression, from pictorial to symbolic languages, both art and language evolve to encapsulate the multifaceted nature of life, revealing the inherent struggle to capture and understand reality.

Art has the ability to create language. That is why art survives. Information, sense, thought, emotion, nature and all material particles are considered as the effectors of art or language construction, as adjuncts of word or knowledge construction. Language captures the existence of art and keeps alive the vitality of art. Form has been created out of necessity of language. Language knowledge, coherence and unity are created by combining the diversity of forms and the expression of forms.

In truth, both feelings and expressions are determined by reality. Driven by emotion, however, human beings try to determine the mode of expression of language. What emerges in the poem is nothing outside of life or life-based knowledge. Some are familiar with the feeling and many are not. The invention of language is necessary to express all the relationships of ideas from nature, life reality, material form etc. From the construction of pictorial language to symbolic language, all letters are inventions of form which must be the result of creative thought. So, an artist actually creates in search of language.

Language is not just a collection of letters or words, language is a part of life. Language is a matter of learning as well as understanding of language. To know linguistic style is to love the material of language. Language is the consciousness of life that helps to connect all of the illusory life like nature and environment. All this struggle for survival and living life reveals the nature of language. Language is the manifestation of life signs that have evolved to carry nature and life. As Sudhir Kumar Nandy perceives Croce's Aesthetics:

We see in Plato's *Cratylus*: various solutions are hinted at. The guide of thought is sound. Such comments were also not particularly helpful in solving the problem, as they did not elaborate on how to understand such signs. Aristotle also considered words to be 'imitation' as he did in poetry. However, his words in this context are particularly important; In addition to those words that express true or false ideas, there are some words that

reflect people's hopes and desires; They are only manifestations of poetry and rhetoric.¹

That is to say, for the purpose of expression, signs or signs are created in the art of expression, which, like words, indicate the form of language. In this way art develops in the bond of language and reveals the fragmentary information of human hopes, desires, desires, thoughts and explorations. After all, works of art become meaningful because of the creation of language.

Natural truth, language and existence

Art is the most effective means of representing truth, a synthesis of consciousness and matter, where form becomes the medium of self-realization, and language transforms the artist's inner experience into a universal expression. (Gombrich, *The Story of Art*, 16th ed., 1995, p. 72).

The natural elements first form the idioms and then the linguistic word patterns are formed. There is a long tradition in the language of the people of the riverine region (see Bangladesh). Again the words are pronounced a little faster in the language of the people of the coastal region; where the tension and rhythm quickly merge into a monotone in the pronunciation of words. Nature's accompaniments influence the mood of human life. Rivers and seas are both but appendages of nature and both contain and influence basic elements of human life, economy, culture, emotions. As a result, the emotional words that are created by the combination of sense and intellect are created for the sake of natural truth. The transference of sentiments or feelings is like determining the nature or language of words, but the arrangement of words that can be expressed for the full form of language carries the identity of creativity. First of all, the creativity of making words is a great sacrifice to create life marks; which is the result of thought action. Thought always passes judgments or decisions parallel to mind and self. So the French thinker Rene Descartes said, "I think therefore I exist."²

Art depends on the true existence. That is, creativity seeks existence and is able to contain it. Similarly, language informs existence and contains culture like a river or an ocean. This is that words, the creation of words or the arrangement of all these are the results of creative thinking through which the natural truth or existence is revealed and this whole process is an art process or creativity and the result is art. This is that the word, the creation or arrangement of words is the result of creative thinking through which the natural truth or existence is revealed. The purpose of expressing existence is an art process or creativity. Art is the result of creativity.

The philosophy of art is one of the defining influences of the art of architecture which analyzes the form of objects for the sake of beautiful thought with life. The relationship between the mind and the object is determined by the artist himself. The only means of making these relations is language, which solidifies the relation of matter to consciousness. Visually, form merges with truth, which accelerates the flow of consciousness through the construction of language form. It is the form of matter imbued with consciousness that leads to the construction of language, which is consistent with the materialistic thought of self-realization in which the elements of subjectivity are expressed.

Art expresses the mind as well as the spoken language and art itself becomes the language. So we call art as universal language. As a result, although the form and format of this language is regional, the inner beauty contains the universality. Language forms change over time and place and the nature of language varies. Art, like poetry, music, dance, architecture or mathematics, has its own language. Today's language will be old in future and tomorrow's language will be invented today. Thus the register of time is coupled with language which cannot be separated.

In the words of Plato, "Writings that are simple in expression and in which beauty is found are best to be adopted." The pursuit of beauty is a unique goal or objective of art. The significance of creation can be revealed in the light of thought only when it is translated into simple language. In other words, the easier it is to determine the form of language, the more acceptable the beauty of art becomes. Here lies the relation of language to art. So art and language are compatible with each other. Therefore, research and practice of art language is essential. Asim Reza, an Indian writer of Bengali origin, said, "Such diversity and mystical significance of artistic language is on the one hand embedded deep in the social consciousness, on the other hand it originates from the ground of the collective unconscious of the people beyond the individual; It is reflected in various signs, symbols, metaphors or myths, idols."³

Language and knowledge construction

The metaphysics of art focuses on the linguistic form through which knowledge is captured. Searching for Paramsatta or First Cause Metaphysics: where life source, end result and information about nature is searched. That is, it is very necessary to practice this science to create a higher mind. A famous quote by John Locke is: "There is nothing in the intellect which was not previously in the sense." That is, there is nothing in the intellect that was not previously in the senses. Metaphysics is the discovery of what exists within the

¹Sudhir Kumar Nandy, *Aesthetics of Crotch*, p. 163, West Bengal State Book Board, Kolkata 700013

² Md. Shawkat Hossain, *History of Western Philosophy*, Rene Descartes, Page-114, Tithi Publication 2005 AD.

³ Asim Reza, *Modern Art*, Page 10, Anjali Publishers, Kolkata, Publication Date-2009.

senses. Getting to the source is one of the hallmarks of creativity. The way to know the supreme knowledge is to reach the source.

In the same way, creativity has to contain the supreme knowledge which is created through determining the form of language. The language of knowledge is represented in the similitude of form by emoting the facts and feelings of life as source, consequence and nature.

Purnendu Patri wrote in his book *Shilpa Sankranti*:

“In Nandalal's pictures, especially in the postcard sketches, Rabindranath has been seeing the world of real-human movement for a long time. When they came to 'Rhymes', they did a terrible thing, Nandalal's picture not only wrote 32 rhymes with him, but also created a real person. Those who had been hidden beneath the poet's experience, in the unconscious, were now awakened in droves by the rush of the natural language of rhyme, almost with the speed of an explosion.”⁴

That is, imagery is just like literature, a form of words which is only a construct of language. The artist discovers language through observation and observation. And that is why a profound practice to reach the root of thought is to struggle or journey with the language of form.

Sense perception is needed to establish or subvert the language of feeling through form. And that is why the construction of language in the art of artwork is the metaphysics of art that enriches higher thinking through the practice of knowledge. Art explores the language of creation through form or shape and material. Exploring language in art is one of the foundations of art philosophy. The artist actually searches for the language to express the feeling in the art. Hence, the reason for art which carries the formal idea to the end and establishes the honesty and beauty of feeling.

Search for ideas and existence

The concept of nature and material quality is the source of knowledge. In order to express any kind of knowledge, the form of language must first be determined; Language is complete as a form of knowledge only when its form is fixed. That is, the shape and nature of language is constructed according to the pattern of knowledge. And so it is very important to acquire knowledge for the expression of language. Creation is the same; the enlightenment of knowledge about language through which thoughts and thoughts are freed. Linguistic knowledge determines life-oriented behavior. Therefore, the artist exposes himself to the

proximity of thought and logic in the construction of form, only in search of existence. Human society will be free from pride and guilt only by seeking existence. Language is most needed to build and sustain civilization. Language is the main accessory to the structural form of civilization and the fundamental development of thought, and the broad thought of art is advanced to construct the form of language.

John Locke said “If natural ideas really existed, all would possess them; But children, stupid, uneducated and uncivilized persons are not possessed of such ideas.” That is, ideas or experiences construct language. The philosopher Locke also showed that humans can know concepts through the application of intellect and language expresses concepts. The construction of language and the journey to discover truth enriches the range of knowledge produced by the same consideration.

In order to confirm the real existence, it is necessary to establish the truth. Discovering the truth is the only way to liberation. That's what Ravi Tagore said:

The truth is that hard I loved hard
He never does deprivation

Devi Prasad Chattopadhyay says in his *Roop Rasa and Soundarya Granth*:

From whatever point of view, the analysis of art shows that the connection between form and essence does not imprison the essence in the cage of form, nor does the essence inevitably project something of its own fixed and immanent form into the artist's imagination.⁵

Nothing in the world is truly inevitable. The artist himself is not inevitable, so the artist continues to search for language and only in the discovery of language becomes focused on form. Once the language is found, the artist proceeds to execute his artwork.

The artist only follows the flow of his consciousness in which he thinks that the artist's consciousness will also be freed. The color line or texture of clay that the artist wants to awaken again and again in the frenzy of creation is only a way of the artist's self-purification which seeks to be established only through the creation of language.

Construct humane and pure vocabulary

Language is the only tool for developing human relationships and language also builds emotional bonds. Without ideas, it is impossible to determine the form of language, and if the form of language cannot be determined, creation is not worthwhile. In the words of contemporary philosopher Noam Chomsky- “It seems to

⁴Purnendu Patri, *Shilpa Santrantha*, Nandalal Bose's Book Illustrations, Page 37, Dej Publishing. Kolkata 700 073

⁵Deviprasad Chatterjee, *Form and Beauty*, p. 24

me that the conclusions regarding the nature of Language acquisition ...are fully in accord with the doctrine of innate ideas.⁶

Nature's feelings and emotions advance the pace of thought and enrich ideas. The idea of the quality or existence of matter is the experience which takes material knowledge to the right level. Language is needed to express knowledge and ideas of the mind about knowledge and the purpose of creating art is to construct language. Pleasure or pure self-indulgence is not the goal of art creation, the purpose of creation is so inevitable and pervasive that the ultimate target is the creation of language. Aimless or emotion-driven, with only brushwork or disjointed arrangement resorting to illogical jumble or color markings. If the construction of the form wants to express the feeling, then there must be meaning, in that case, the important lesson of art is to build a meaningful structure without the illusion of form.

Art is in everything visible around us; The sense of art becomes appropriate in the artist's thought and visibility for the sake of visible subjects and objects. An artistic sense allows one to perceive the inherent significance of beauty or structural arrangement in all the visible surroundings. So are Deborah Gostin and Joe Gostin (Deborah Gustlin & Zoe Gustlin) Art Appreciation Essay says, art is in everything and everywhere you look” That is, art is in everything.

And so when looking at a picture hanging in a museum, the eye moves from the canvas to the visible world; which brings the concept of art to life. Wherever the gaze registers the touch of art remains; the difference is only in sentiment.

It is very important to have the existence of art in thought and mind to cherish the beauty of visual objects in perception. The continuous existence of art throughout nature-dependent life is everywhere visible;

To see, to understand, requires the construction of language.

That is, art is the essential meaning and existence of world life for which the vision of language is directed toward construction. So, Hans Christian Andersen says, “Art is a language without a word.”

In conclusion, the passage emphasizes the symbiotic relationship between art and language, highlighting how each serves to express and preserve the other. Art is not merely a form of aesthetic expression but a vital force that shapes and creates language, allowing for the communication of complex ideas, emotions, and realities. Language, in turn, is more than a system of symbols; it is a living manifestation of life itself, evolving to capture the essence of human experience and the natural world. Together, art and language reflect the continuous interplay between creativity, expression, and understanding, ultimately enabling humanity to connect with and make sense of the world around us.

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⁶Deborah Gustlin & Zoe Gustlin, Art Appreciation, Evergreen Valley College via ASCCC Open Educational Resources Initiati, Last Update 9 May 2021.
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