

MODERN AESTHETICS IN BALINESE SCULPTURE: A CASE STUDY OF WAYAN JANA

By:

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Received: 20 September 2025, Revision: 6 November 2025, Publishing: 12 November 2025

ABSTRACT

Sculpture is one of the arts that requires special skills from a sculptor, sculpture or usually called a sculpture craftsman usually makes works from rock and wood, nowadays various materials can be used such as temple stone or volcanic lava stone, sculptors choose one material to be made into a statue and become a characteristic of his work. One of the young Balinese sculptors who continues to restlessly search for and find new ideas in sculpture is Wayan Jana. With aesthetic theory being the choice to dissect this sculpture, where beauty is the benchmark in examining this sculpture, starting from composition, proportion, and space, where the sculpture that is used as the research material is a work with a modern style seems elastic and dynamic. The sculptures of artist I Wayan Jana have a very modern style displaying the forms of living creatures such as humans and animals, the style displayed distorts the original form into the form of the artist's own imagination, with such compositions the resulting sculptures are inseparable from the aesthetic values presented in each work created. Although most of Jana's works this time talk about love, he is able to maintain the forms of his work so as not to become verbal. Jana's works that seem elastic and dynamic still provide space for the imagination of the viewer. The images that appear are very dependent on the experience and strength of the viewer's imagination.

Keywords: Elastic, Dynamic, Wooden sculpture.

INTRODUCTION

Amidst the rapid development of new 3D printing technology, which offers convenience and fast completion of designs, due to its practicality and speed, it has become popular with the wider public. In contrast, artist I Wayan Jana maintains his traditional, hand-crafted sculptures.

Bali is an island rich in arts and culture. Its diverse arts range from ceremonial to theatrical. Its deeply rooted traditions and traditions have led the community to deeply preserve and uphold its arts and culture. These traditions can be passed down and preserved from generation to generation. Performing arts are a tourist attraction, often featured at national and international events, and even serve as a platform for introducing Indonesia to the world. Bali's diverse arts scene includes dance, percussion, music, painting, carving, and sculpture. All of these arts are closely linked to Balinese traditions.

Sculpture is one of the arts that requires special skills, usually passed down from generation to generation from a sculptor. Sculpture or usually called a sculpture craftsman usually makes works from rock and wood. Nowadays, various materials can be used, such as temple stone or volcanic lava stone. Sculpture artists choose one material to make a statue and become a characteristic of their work. Various forms of fine art in general, for example, sculpture, especially Balinese sculpture. Sculpture is a three-dimensional work of art whose



form is formed by methods of reducing materials, cutting, carving, and so on (Susanto, 2011: 296).

One of Bali's young sculptors who is constantly searching for and discovering various possibilities for exploring sculpture is I Wayan Jana. He is the eldest son of the sculptor Ketut Muja. He was born in Br. Mukti, Singapadu, Gianyar, on July 8, 1968. I Wayan Jana maintains this technique for aesthetic reasons. The sculptures he creates possess their own values and meanings, giving his sculptures their distinctive character.

Although most of Jana's current work deals with love, he manages to maintain the forms so as not to become verbal. Jana's works, while appearing elastic and dynamic, still provide space for the viewer's imagination. The images that emerge depend heavily on the viewer's experience and imagination. Long before, in his creative process of creating sculptures, Jana was not fixated on a fixed form. He had carved wood by following the grain or responding to the wood's shape, creating new forms. The forms that emerged usually depended on the sculptor's imagination while observing the wood.

Sensitivity is expressed in the form of feelings and emotions embodied in sculpture. Humans feel happy, disappointed, or afraid not because of observing different things, but because of a form of being in the world, a fundamental relationship to oneself. Humans exist in the world with that sensitivity. In everyday life, humans can suppress, suppress, or overcome that sensitivity, but they will still experience it. Sensitivity is a state in which humans discover and encounter the world. (digilib.isi.ac.id)

RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this research is a qualitative approach, namely, research that produces written or spoken descriptions of people and observable behavior. This approach is directed at the setting and the individual holistically. In general, the goal of this qualitative research is to understand the world of meaning symbolized in the behavior of society itself. In examining I Wayan Jana's sculptures in more depth, both visually and in essence, we will utilize aesthetic theory. The definition of aesthetics is the study of the processes that occur between subjects, objects, and values related to experience, properties, and parameters of attractiveness and unattractiveness (Junaedi, 2017:20).

This sculpture is a representation of the embodiment of the human form that shows visuals of the problems of human life in everyday life. Humans have a way to express their hearts relatively briefly in movements through body language; in this sculpture, it is realized by using visual movements of human figures using elements of character forms. The form of the work created is closely related to the phenomena that occur in the surrounding environment, making the theme a method of collecting data in each presented in visual form. So, the author analyzes that a movement has different ways of conveying the meaning expressed. So the relationship between humans and everyday life as a way of expressing their personality and artists in responding to this creates a turmoil that is present in every contemplation and appreciation, which gives rise to stimulation in every aspect found. (Sachari, 2006.26)

Aesthetic theory is the choice to dissect this sculpture, where beauty is the benchmark in examining this sculpture, starting from composition, proportion, and space, where the sculpture used as the research material is a work with a modern style that seems elastic and dynamic. Aesthetics is the unity and relationship of forms that exist between the sensory absorption of a human being; in general, humans consider aesthetics to be art or art that contains the values of

beauty. This view is actually wrong and will actually make it difficult for society to appreciate art.

DISCUSSION

A work is formed from ideas and concepts, and the work has a meaning to be conveyed through its manifestation. In the form of a work of art, it has a role that reflects all the feelings poured out by the author as a form of expression captured directly from the object present in the observation. Through this manifestation each work has its own discussion to communicate to the observer, the sculpture work of artist I Wayan Jana has a very modern style that seems elastic and dynamic by displaying the form of living creature figures such as humans and animals, the style displayed distorts the original form into the form of the artist's own imagination, with such compositions the resulting sculptures are inseparable from the aesthetic values presented in each work created.



Figure 1. Title: Flying with Dreams
(source: Budayana)

The work, titled "Flying with Dreams," is visualized as a winged animal, roughly resembling a swan, whose form has undergone changes according to the artist's imagination. This work holds immense value, possessing strong meaning and philosophy for the artist. From an aesthetic perspective, it maintains the beauty and elements of fine art, and the careful selection of materials makes this work highly appealing.

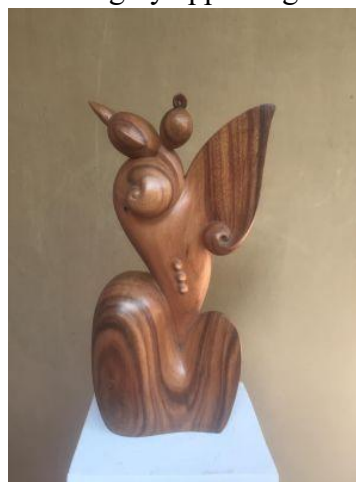


Figure 2. Title: Love Always
(source: Budayana)

This work presents a sculpture filled with a sense of affection, where the forms of the sculptures appear to be embracing each other lovingly. It was created with attention to aesthetic value and the direction of the wood grain used to support the resulting work. The lines of the wood grain are carefully calculated.



Figure 3. Title: Fantasy
(source: Budayana)

The visual fantasy of this sculpture allows the viewer to fantasize, interpreting its form, style, and rhythm. Capable of hypnotizing the viewer, this work's form is exquisite, displaying an unusual style, yet still maintaining aesthetic value and being enjoyable.

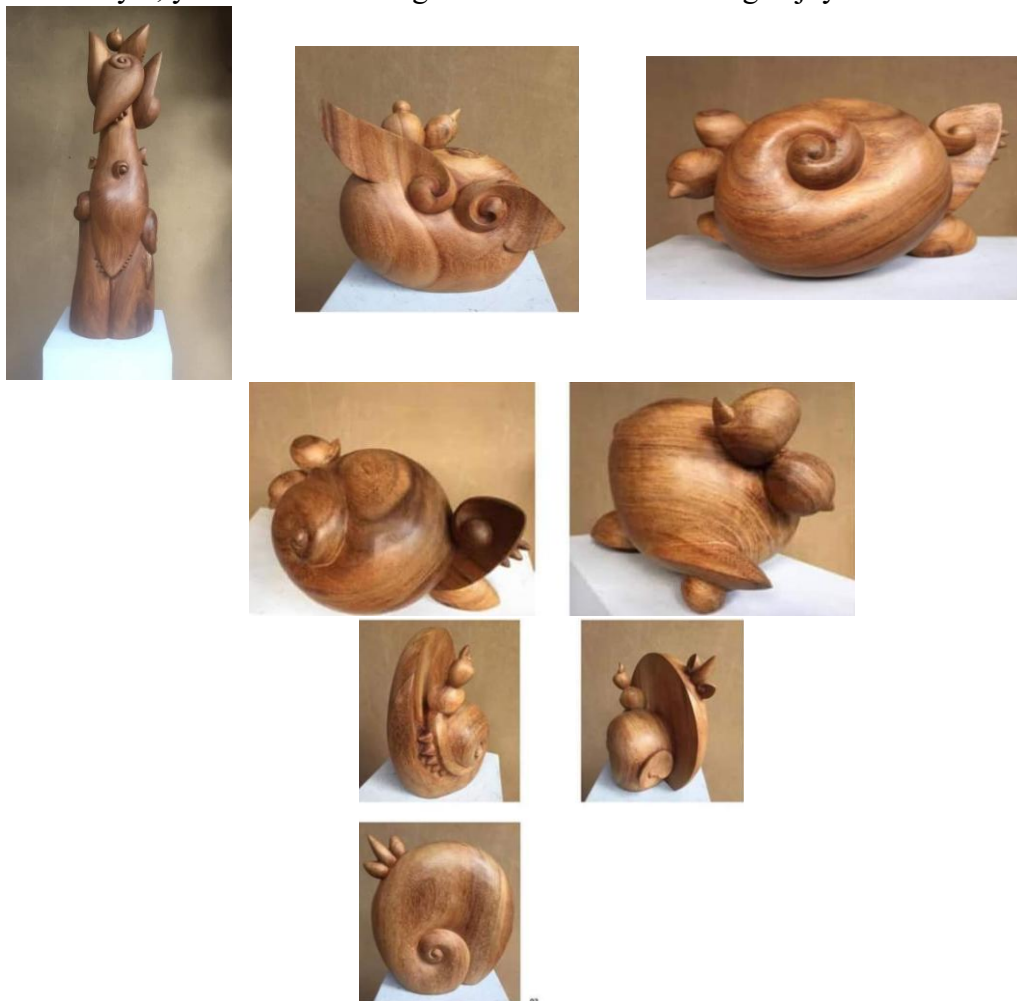


Figure 4. Some of the works of the artist I Wayan Jana

Long before, in his creative process of creating sculptures, Jana wasn't fixated on a fixed form. He had carved wood by following the grain or responding to the wood's shape, creating new forms. The forms that emerged usually depended on the sculptor's imagination while observing the wood. In Bali, this technique was discovered accidentally by *Cokot* when he carved old tree roots into strange, monster-like shapes. Later, this technique was also used by Sukanta Wahyu, Ketut Muja, and several other sculptors.

Although most of Jana's works now deal with love, he manages to maintain the forms so that they don't become verbal. Jana's works, which appear elastic and dynamic, still provide space for the viewer's imagination. The images that emerge depend heavily on the viewer's experience and imagination.

CONCLUSION

Creating works is a way to express all feelings captured directly from ideas, as well as ideas as a pattern of direct application to the reality that occurs. This thought is intended as a way to express and express all feelings that are presented in real terms. Human knowledge seeks to master all sources of knowledge as a way of perception in activities that are constantly experiencing movement in human life. This approach is a human benchmark in the sense of recognizing all events that occur in the encounter between objects of the outside world and something that makes the heart stir. Jana's work this time talks about love, but she is able to maintain the forms of her work so as not to fall into verbal. Jana's works that seem elastic and dynamic still provide space for the imagination of the viewer. The images that emerge are very dependent on the experience and strength of the viewer's imagination.

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