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Defining the Element of Meta-Modernism Art: A Literature Review

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Abstract

The purpose of this writing is to gather and view the flow of art after the post-modern era. Art scholars, artists and art enthusiasts often wonder whether the development of knowledge from modern art to post-modern and whether after post-modern. As we know, the flow of art flourishes with the development of technology, ideology, social and art education. This writing is the first step in finding meta-modern elements that will be associated with the development of art.

Keyword: Modernism, Post-modernism, Meta-modernism, Art Movement, Art History Education.

Introduction

Warhol (1968) statement *“anyone can be famous for 15 minutes”* sums the ideology of postmodernist age. According to Baciu, Bocos & Urzica (2015) Post-modernism is characterized by skepticism, subjectivism, relativism mixture of different styles of art and media. On the other hand, as we know, Post-modernism refers to category of contemporary art was created from 1970 when the concept of modern aesthetics were rejected. The most popular idea that was rejected is *“art is something special”* rather than Post-modernism idea that the art is *“ anything goes”*. The Existence of technology developments, the Post-modernism idea create of artistic experimentation with new media and new art form including conceptual art, performance art, installation art, computer deconstruction and projection art. Besides, Post-modernism is not a movement, it’s a general ideologi. The reflection of big idea. Furthermore, Brouillette (2007) describe the elemen of Post-modernism which is [1] a challenge to order, [2] a dismantling of enlightenment ideas behind modern culture, [3] the end of master narrative, [4] the recognition of small, provisional kinds of knowledge, [5] no stable rational self observing the world, [6] self is fragmented and doesn’t understand its own ways of operating, has deep psychology that splits it into many bits and parts , [7] the observing self influences the creation of knowledge, [8] language doesn’t represent reality, it’s construct it and construes it, [9] no

necessary relationship between words and the objects the name, [10] all culture and information is positional and [11] human identity is positional. Knudsen, Gericault & Fischl (2015) mentioned that academia discuss to find the right term for “whatever-we-call-after” post-modernism in art, when the technology, ideology, social, education and thinking has massively changing beyond the era. The age of 21st century come with new thinking, various approaching in education, manifestation of idea, multiple information and ubiquitous city. for several years, and now it has come to an age where ideas are the main subject, beauty is interpreted in context, technology precedes possibilities and art seen as high interactive medium. It is time for scholars to find the appropriate meanings and terms to define the ideology of this ages.

Meta-Modernism

Development of the way of thinking about philosophy, aesthetics and culture nowadays become a challenge to define the age after post-modernist. The term meta-modernism early appeared in 1975, to describe an aesthetics activity. According to Turner (2015) meta-modernism has gained traction in a years invoking by cultural, social and ideologi development. Hence, the post-modernism hold the concept of deconstruction , irony, relativism, nihilism and rejection of grand narratives , the meta-modernism discuss about resurgence of sincerity, hope,romanticism,affect and the potential for grand narratives and universal truths.

The term meta also refer to express the idea of after or post and the defination of meta should be beyond from that (Vermeulen & Robin, 2010). Meanwhile, Baciu, Bocos& Urzica (2015) claims that metamodernism is a trend which attempts to unify, to harmonize and to settle the conflict between modernism and post-modernism. Then the term meta can reffer as between the modernism and post-modernism also provide solution of the argumentation between the two ideologi.

When the post-modernism has been abandoned by meta-modernism by current phenomenon that show there’s no such thing similar to post-modernism, the article “notes on meta-modernism” by Vermeulen & Robin (2010) affirmed that meta-modernism appears itself as a topic of metaxis which means respectively, strange, extraordinary and paradoxical. Hence, the meta-modernism should be define as space-time that is between ordered (modernism) and disordered (post-modernism) with the parameters of presence is futureless (Bunnel , 2015)

The Element of Meta-Modernism

Scholars have written several elements in identifying meta- modernism. Abramson (2015) emphasize the meta-modernism is a structure of feeling and a system of logic. Abramson had outlined ten basic principles of meta-modernism such as;

1. Meta-modernism as a negotiation between modernism and post-modernism

Both ideology are often contradictory and incomprehensible. Each of them points out conflicting thinking. Meta-modernism negotiates between both ideology and ism that can integrate together become an new thinking paradigm.

2. Dialogue over dialectics

When post-modernism introduce the dialectics over dialogue, meta-modernism explicitly advances the cause of dialogue.

3. Paradox

Metanarratives ; while negotiating between universally (modernism) and contingency (post-modernism) meta-modernism embraces the paradoxical.

4. Juxtaposition

Occurs when one thing such image, text or footage is super-imposed with another thing which is be deemed entirely separate and create another meaning.

5. The collapse of distances

Meta-modernism is dealing in digital age and the internet communication. Thus, everyone become stranger but share the same feeling, idea and thinking in long distance but at the same time.

6. Multiple Subjectivities

Meta-modernism celebrate diversity and difference not only physical, religious or race but thoughts and ideas. The multiple subjectivities show the reflection of how they develop, interact, intersect and in time help form our individual and collective identities.

7. Collaboration

Meta-modernism purpose the collaborative the efforts, perspective, idea and thought with others. They encourage the generative of working together in a collective activities.

8. Simultaneity and generative ambiguity

In meta-modernism the simultaneity and ambiguity suggested that an individual thinking oscillates between opposing states of memorable, thought and feeling. It depend on what subjectivities situation.

9. An optimistic response to tragedy by returning, albeit cautiously, to metanarratives.

This is reflection or responsive to tragedy. Theorist agreed that the phrase “ a romantic response to crisis” is often use to describe meta-modernism. Meta-modernism thinking is optimistic in order to engage proactively with society even though the crisis is bad.

10. Interdisciplinary

It is about to rearrange, radical reevaluation and realignment of structure is the reason why meta-modernism concern towards crisis response.

On the other hand, Turner (2011) has outlined eight meta-modernism menifesto in reflection and applying the term meta-modernism as used by Vermeulen & Robin (2010).

1. We recognise oscillation to be the natural order of the world.
2. We must liberate ourselves from the inertia resulting from a century of modernist ideological naivety and the cynical insincerity of antonymous child
3. Movement shall henceforth be enabled by way of an oscillation between positions, with diametrically opposed ideas operating like the pulsating polarities of a colossal electric machine, propelling the world into action.
4. We acknowledge the limitations inherent to all movement and experience and the futility of any attempt to transcend the boundaries set forth therein. The essential incompleteness of a system should necessitate an adherence, not in order to achieve a given end or be slaves to its course, but rather perchance to glimpse by proxy some hidden exteriority.
5. All things are caught within the irrevocable slide towards a state of maximum entropic dissemblance. Artistic creation is contingent upon the origination or revelation of difference therein. Affect at its zenith is the unmediated experience of difference in itself. It must be art role to explore the promise of its own paradoxical ambition by coaxing excess towards presence.
6. The present is a symptom of the twin birth immediacy and obsolescence. Today, we are nostalgists as much we are futurists. The new technology enables the simultaneous experience and enactment of events from multiplicity of positions. Far from signalling its demise, these emergent networks facilitate the democratisation of history, illuminating the forking paths along which its grand narratives may navigate the here and now.
7. Just as science strives for poetic elegance, artists might assume a quest for truth. All information is grounds for knowledge, wether empirical or aphoristic, no matter its truth-value. We should embrace the scientific-poetic synthesis and informed naivety of magical realism. Error breeds sense.
8. We propose a pragmatic romanticism unhindered by ideological anchorage. thus, meta-modernism shall be define as the mercurial condition between and beyond irony and sincerity,naivety and knowingness, relativism and truth, optimism and doubt, in pursuit of an plurality of disparate and elusive horizons.

Figure 1 The eight meta-modernism manifesto , Turner (2011).

Meanwhile, Yousef (2017) mentioned that meta-modernism is an ongoing process of intellectual and cultural development. Meta-modernism also is the best synthesizes between modernism and post-modernism. The figure 2, show the element of modernism, post-modernism and meta-modernism from devised and reconstructed of Yousef research.

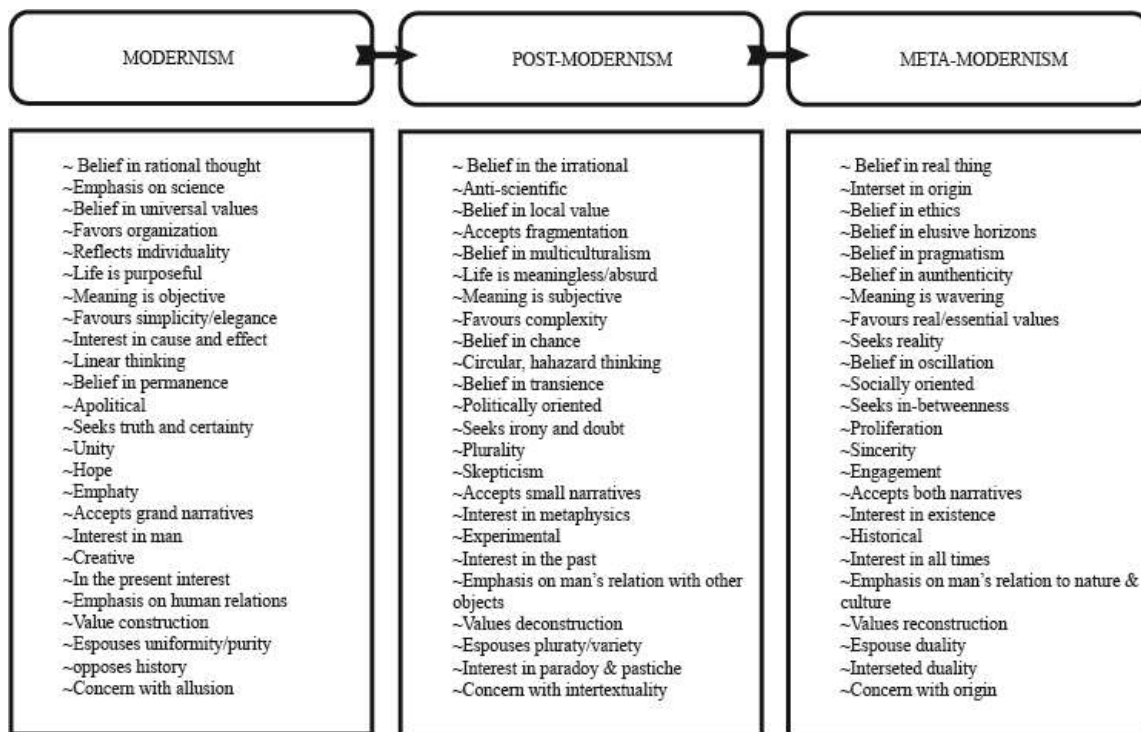


Figure 2 The element of modernism, post-modernism and meta-modernism, Yousef (2017)

Conclusion

In conclusion, Meta-modernism is a movement of thought that includes politics, social, education, technology and so on. finding at the elements of meta-modernism and in relation to the movement of art in Malaysia will especially help the flow of art and thought that can pursue an intellectual discourse. The way of thinking, the evolution of industry and technology usually affects every philosophy of life in that era. Art work will reflect on ever-changing thinking and technology. We are expecting a study to be made to the artworks in Malaysia art scene based on the meta-modernism elements that scholar's expelled. Therefore, the proliferation of intellectual will produce something more innovative.

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