

## Visual Analysis of anonymous Mural in Bangil named 'Dipaksa Sehat di Negara yang Sakit' 2021

**M F Nasruddin**

Desain Komunikasi Visual  
Departement of Design, Universitas Komputer Indonesia,  
Jl. Dipati Ukur No.112-116, Lebakgede, Kecamatan Coblong,  
Kota Bandung, Jawa Barat, Indonesia 40132  
[merlina@email.unikom.ac.id](mailto:merlina@email.unikom.ac.id)

**Abstract.** The Covid-19 pandemic in 2019 and is still ongoing in 2020 has had a mental and psychological impact on humans. Indonesia is part of a nation that has been affected by various policies during the pandemic, one of which is PPKM. The PPKM policy has an impact on dropped economic activities that it affects the income and quality of life of the community. This situation encourages artists to express opinions that represent what is felt by the general Indonesian people who are affected. The mural in Bangil appears anonymous with dramatic visuals. This mural is only one of many murals that appear anonymously and use the media as walls of empty houses and public facilities. Not only pictures, the mural in Bangil appears with the diction "Dipaksa Sehat di Negara yang Sakit". Uniquely, this mural appears with more cheerful colors and visual style and has a playful nuance. Not tendentious and more emphasis on environmental aesthetics. The method that will be used is visual literacy with the aim of identifying and understanding the purpose of the maker and what the aesthetic expression is about to be conveyed. Do the audience see this mural as a mural that is tendentious to the diction that appears or does the emphasis lie on visual aesthetics. The first section in your paper. Relevance of text to image depicted irrelevant on the meaning and perception based on visual. The pictures does not contain a tendentious element or an attempt to coerce a certain opinion that can lead to destructive actions as well as protests or resistance. Because the creator seems emphasize the aesthetic elements that the means of the diction itself.

### 1. Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic that hit the world from 2019 to 2021 and is still ongoing has a massive impact on the human structure in all aspects. Not only changing behavior by adapting to new habits, but humans also have to adapt economically in order to maintain survival. A number of government policies, such as large-scale social restrictions, including restrictions on community economic activities, have had an impact on hampering the economic pace of the state and individuals. In Indonesia, many places of business were forced to close, contract terminations and workers' unilateral

dismissals were accepted. Restrictions on economic activity have an impact on increasing the level of life pressure, especially experienced by residents, especially urban residents.

The picture of the pressures of people's lives is then translated into an illustration by intellectuals in the creative field. There is a phenomenon of murals related to the topic of people affected by the pandemic and government policies in it. Uniquely, there is a mural phenomenon that contains criticism and satirical content that generates reactions from the authorities or the city government. Several murals appeared in public facilities that could be accessed massively and ended up being published virally.



**Figure 1.** Mural that similar to representative of Jokowi.

Source : <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20210828093800-20-686632/mural-mural-yang-dihapus-dalam-sepekan-terakhir>.



**Figure 2.** Mural that similar to representative of Jokowi in Bandung.

Source : <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20210828093800-20-686632/mural-mural-yang-dihapus-dalam-sepekan-terakhir>.

So with this condition, it gave result to a reactive attitude from the authorities by removing the mural. Some of the murals that were deleted were considered to be able to cause polemics among the community so that the removal actions were carried out by the state apparatus. Some mural artists are even in the process of being searched by the authorities. Nevertheless, these murals are seen as purely artistic movements by figures engaged in the arts. The general public perceives this mural as a positive act that represents the people's emotional unrest. Wenger resume the contents of the three fundamental regimes of the arts: ethical, the representative, and aesthetic [1]. On the other hand, the government actually sees this phenomenon as an act of resistance and is charged with driving opinion.

The mural phenomenon appears in various big cities including Tangerang, Bandung, Pasuruan, Yogyakarta. Each mural appears with a message content and a distinctive and diverse visual style. Research in the area of aesthetics has been carried out by Maghdalena, Suryadi and Puspita who studied Moel Soenarko's paintings with the theme of Heritage. Maghdalena and friends explained that the creative ideas generated came from internal and external factors[2]. The mural raised in this study is a mural that appeared in Bangil Pasuruan, East Java. The specialty of this mural is that it comes with

a visual style that tends to be entertaining and close to the tastes of young people who are cheerful and spontaneous. Although it contains textual content that has satirical nuances and tends to bring the state side, there are cartoon figures who are more dominant. Some mural that have unique character and represent whats happening in today's popular culture of Indonesian metropolitan youth has been done by researcher in field design and communication studies [3]. This study uses a visual analysis method by observing and analyzing every image that appears with an aesthetic approach.



**Figure 3.** Anonymous Mural in Bangil.

Source : <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20210828093800-20-686632/mural-mural-yang-dihapus-dalam-sepekan-terakhir>.

## 2. Method

The method that used in this research is a visual analysis method with the stages of research including observing the elements that appear in the composition, conducting a review process or visual analysis based on an aesthetic approach in art and design, then making a conclusion. Presentation of conclusions to answer whether this aesthetic content appears as an essential element in the composition of the mural image by describing it from an aesthetic point of view.

## 3. Results & Discussions

Line Style Analysis			
Element	Picture	Analysis	Interpretation
Typography headline.		There are lines on the body of the letter in a naturalist style, such as manual hand painting with brush characteristics that appear in the details of the body of the letter which seem irregular. With the font size is also irregular. Looks sharp corners that make it look dynamic.	The irregular nature of the body letters tends to be close to the visual expressionist style in calligraphy art such as Chinese calligraphy.  The angles on the body of the letters and the layout of the text tend to be close to the headlines on the covers of western horror comics.

			
<p>Anthropomorphic character of cat</p>		<p>It appears that the image contains a black outline or outline of the shape of this character. The black outline is depicted with varying thickness.</p> <p>The elements of the eyes and teeth are depicted as having sharp angles. However, apart from these two elements, the line is drawn as circular.</p>	<p>Outline or outline serves as an affirmation. Adding contrast to the anthropomorphic character of the cat as the figure that appears the most dominant and attracts the most attention.</p> <p>Lines that tend to be circular and less angular give the impression of being harmless, playful and friendly.</p> <p>This anthropomorphic character illustration style tends to be close to the visual style of characters in games, book covers, or western illustration styles.</p> 
<p>Anthropomorphic character of dog</p>		<p>The lines that appear in this dog character tend to be predominantly circular with lines on facial expressions that are not as detailed as in character 1.</p>	<p>The impression generated from the line style on this character tends to be more friendly and close to children's style of illustration.</p> 
<p>Batik motif of mega mendung</p>		<p>The lines on the motif tend to be rounded.</p>	<p>This motif is an adaptation of the Cirebon batik motif, namely the Mega Mendung motif. This motif that represents local elements of Indonesia is present as a counterweight. The outfit element on the character that tends to be highlighted is a jacket with the stripes identity of the adidas brand, an outfit that is close to the representation of modern western style.</p>

Color Analysis			
blue (background) and green (environment) and pink on the mega cloudy motif.		Both of these colors use additional white so they are classified as pastel colors.	Blue and green are analogous colors on the color wheel. Pastel impressions give a lighter impression. Green and blue colors tend to be associated with the impression of coolness and rest. Pastel impressions give a soft impression.
orange color on the face elements of the two characters.			The orange color looks more cheerful and close to the joy of the younger generation or even children.

Visual elements that appear in the composition of the mural image include: The background is solid light blue and bright pastel green; Typography headlines with the diction “Forced Health in Sick Countries”; Two cartoon figures representing cats that have elements of human traits including human emotional expressions, clothing attributes commonly used by humans and drinks and consumption commonly consumed by humans; Batik motifs are the decorations in this mural.



**Figure 4.** Mural in Bangil, Pasuruan before removed by Pamong Praja.

Source : <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20210828093800-20-686632/mural-mural-yang-dihapus-dalam-sepekan-terakhir>.

The two characters that appear as cartoon with particular facial expression are considered as slapstick cartoon. The slapstick drawing must be, in most cases, pleasant to look at and generally the type that will not reflect adversely upon the product advertised (pg. 26) [4]. Two figures are classified as anthropomorphic characters because they have elements of human clothing attributes and have human characteristics and traits, namely drinking gestures, smoking gestures, and antagonistic smile facial expressions that humans usually have in cat characters. Attributes of clothing worn is a blue jacket with white stripes with the Adidas brand logo. Dog anthropomorphic character wearing ash sweater. The gray color tends to give a neutral impression on the surrounding color variations. Color also gives a perception of its own beauty. The experiences of color begins with a sensation. A sensation is an actual, physical event (pg.44). Perception is a connection between human beings and their environments (pg. 49) [5]. The blue color on the background is classified as a pastel color

because it is a mixture of pure blue and white. This color gives the impression of calm and cool. Bright colors appear on the face elements of two anthropomorphic figures.

The batik motif behind the two characters is a Mega Mendung motif typical of Cirebon batik motif with warm, soft and feminine nuances represented by a combination of bright dark pink with pastel color categories.

Friberg tell that the majority of discourses on aesthetics are about art, artistic qualities and beauty [10]. Anthropomorphic characters seem to dominate the canvas, indicating that their position is dominant and important, as a focal point element of the composition of the mural image. The letters on the '*Dipaksa Sehat di Negara yang sakit*' headline use decorative letters that are typical of western horror comics. However, the white color that is harmonious with the blue background makes it seem minor compared to the composition of the elements of the two anthropomorphic figures and the decorative motifs behind them. White color tends to have a good contrast but seems neutral among the color variations around it.

#### 4. Conclusion

The image uses a top-down balance layout; Use bright pastel colors (mixed tints) that are closely associated with cheerfulness; The illustration style that appears is a cartoon style, featuring anthropomorphic figures of cats and dogs; Contains modern western elements which are represented by the clothing attributes on both figures; There is a local elemental charge, although the placement is minor; There is an element of perspective, the cat figure appears to be at the very front. And black outline details tend to be used more. Represents the function of affirmation, stating that this figure is important. Relevance of text to image depicted irrelevant on the meaning and perception based on visual. The pictures does not contain a tendentious element or an attempt to coerce a certain opinion that can lead to destructive actions as well as protests or resistance. Because the creator seems emphasize the aesthetic elements that the means of the diction itself.

#### References

- [1] Wenger, Rudolfo. *The Regimes of Identification of Art and The Political Reconfiguration of The Aesthetics*. Panel Session 11, Relationship of Public and Private Sphere in Aesthetics. 2019.
- [2] Maghdalena, Suryadi, Puspita. *Analisis Estetik Karya Seni Lukis Moel Soenarko yang Bertema Heritage*. Diama Volume 1. Edisi: 2, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, 2019.
- [3] Hardoyo, AB. *The Popo and Komikazer Illustration on Tokai Gas Lighter that Influence Buyer Interest*. Proceeding Book The 3rd International Conference on Business, Economics, Social Sciences, and Humanities 2020. ISBN 978-623-95562-0-4, Bandung, 2020.
- [4] Thorndike, Chuck. *Cartooning, Caricature and animation Made Easy*. Dover Publication, Inc. United State of America.1997Kkkk
- [5] Holtzschue, Linda. *Understanding Color, an introduction for designers fourth edition*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. New Jersey, Kanada. 2011.
- [6] Danesi, Marcel. *Dictionary of Media and Communications*. M.S Sharpe, Inc. England. 2009
- [7] Langer, Susanne K. *Feeling and Form, a theory of Art*. Charles Scribner's Sons, USA. 1953.
- [8] Kem, Gary & Belshaw, Christopher. *12 Modern Philosophers*. Blackwell Publishing Ltd. 2009
- [9] Pikkov, Ulo. *Animasophy, Theoretical Writings on the Animated Film*. Estonian Academy of Arts. 2010.
- [10] Friberg, Carsten. *Design and the Question of Aesthetics*. Artifact Volume III, Issue 2, Pages 1-8. Aalborg University, Denmark. 2013.