Drawing Today: As Medium Creation

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Abstract

Drawing nowadays has a unique position in contemporary art. In the future, when imagination is the key to transformation because it is very human and irreplaceable. Drawing is one of the main concepts to realize imagination becomes any other, like preparation, representation, design, and explanation. Todays, drawing not only for the sketch, but the development of drawing also has expanded convention and connecting with the progress of technology and other medium. As a medium, because it very fluid drawing not only monopolized for the artists but also more common, architect, engineer, scientist, etc. In practice, drawing related to science, design even becomes an autonomous medium (artwork). Using literature and case study as a method, the character of drawing (convenient, direct bodily, reliable, and marking) make it easy to relate between imagination and another medium in everyday life.

Keyword: Contemporary Drawing, Convention, Expansion, Drawing and Science, Drawing and Design, Autonomous Medium

1 Introduction

Drawing is always explained as the way to express the idea and mind. By point, line, and marking, drawing made a mark on the surface. Drawing also the basic part of communication with a basic visual approach. Using a visual approach sometimes more effective than text. On the other hand, because nature drawings have spontaneous and simplicity to produce ideas, but also drawing is complex, energetic, and timeless. Nowadays, drawing expanded in a different form which is from simple form to a complex. From basic dot, the line to installation, from manual to digital.

Representation from an idea that is not limited, takes an agile and fluid medium. Increasingly the medium has that character, drawing open up more possibilities to manifest the form of something. As part of creation, drawing works as a conspiracy between eyes, mind, and hand. As a form, drawing also has full of expression, intension, and information. Because of that drawing branch out becomes an intermediate concept to represent the idea become visual or object. The visual aspects produced from drawing could use as part of explaining the idea, preparation, design even becomes autonomous as an artwork itself.

This article will explain the term of drawing of kind of creativity method to produce the visual agenda that connecting with the other medium, technology, and possibility
2 Method

Using an analytical approach from the visual result from drawing practice and literature and books references to observation and study about the development of drawing today. Visual references use to reveal the possibility of drawing today as the process of creation. Literature and book references are used to make a comparison between the aesthetical experience to aesthetically knowledge and source of information about the development of drawing in contemporary culture.

3 Definition of Drawing

Human is symbolic creatures. Every human being has a tendency to express their inner world. So, they need to present their intention about something. Sound and image that very common to do it. An Image is a very basic way to communicate every aspect that in the human mind becomes tangible and some reason for something more to understand. Producing an image is one of the ancient activities and the very first step to articulate the idea to others. The Image-making process always through a special aspect. Include material, technic, and method, The aspect of working always connect with everyday life and cultural context. In the cultural context and system of representation, a lot of mediums have a special technique, code, and strategies to interpret in process of visual art. Drawing, painting, sculpture, and printing was established major discipline on it.

The Drawing as common meaning as a renders visible thought by simple tools and free technique and the most direct externalization of the concept. Artist, Architect, Scientist, Designer use this medium in a basic way, for preparation part before their made painting, sculpture, object, draft, and plan.

Explain what is drawing today is a meandering question. On one side, drawing is a kind of practical aspect of image-making. From this perspective, drawing is an activity that produces an image by some marking on the surface. The marking involves dot, line, and sphere. The surface is a field where the marking exists. The combination of activity and material of this self-explanatory form become traditional classified.

Drawings were traditionally classified into four types: 1. Those that investigate, study, and the question of the real, visible, tangible world; 2. Those that record object or event; 3. Those that communicate ideas; 4. Those that are transcriptions from memory – a way of collecting and keeping impressions and ideas, a way of making visible the world of our imagination. [1]

Figure 1. The Drawing of Oesman Effendi “Dua Menjangan” ink on Paper 1958. Applied for illustration on Siasat Magazine 4th March 1959
Drawing has a technical and practical role that is related and applicable to another medium, so drawing proved as a flexible discipline. Because of the flexibility, drawing free to connect with the development of technology. New Graphic technology opens up the drawing praxis, not as pure graphic mode and works on paper, it connected with another medium like photography, print, and other digital ways. Even the material aspect (-surface-) of drawing expanded not only in surface likes paper, fabric, glass, but also in the device screen.

On the other hand, Drawing is a kind of conceptual aspect. Even though always linked with conservative medium, today it has changed. Drawing today expanded classification beyond traditional means. The definition of drawing today redefined and reinvented.

The most important overarching concept of the contemporary drawing is intentional. The artist who creates drawing work consciously and intentionally, making specific choices for a specific reason. Everything about contemporary drawing that makes it what it comes from choice, from artist choosing one surface over another, one scale over another, one material over another.[2]

For the artist, drawing its own art form, and is no longer merely preparation for painting, sculpture, or another medium. Scientists, designers, and architects need a drawing as the way to represent that not be seen.

4 Drawing and Science

The documentation is a key aspect when scientists doing some experiments. The science (- botanical, zoological, geological, and mathematic -) using drawing to projecting and communicating the process and evidence. Before the invention of photography, drawings are on important to record the findings. But this role replaceable by photographs than video, the question is about what still relevant for doing drawing in science.

The botanical, zoological, and geological needs some tools to articulate their looking to become concrete things. Drawing help realize the different aspect of a scientist, from memory to experience, handling to sensing, and measurement of scale. Photography is tracing from the real, it also reduces some aspect of reality. The camera capture and freeze the moment, then the video came with time-based, so the movement could be recorded.

The scientist also needs their subjective aspect to make their hypothesis. They need an intimate situation when observed the object to improving and doing the modification. Drawing with the flexibility of character could be part of their activity. Adding the text or writing, representing and scale form by hand, choose perspective and angle are easily doing in aspect spontaneous of drawing.

The mathematic needs drawing in a differently. They need to articulate from abstract things become visualizing. Structure, formula, calculation, and diagram need a logical theory that has to be correct. Drawing can help make a form of the diagram/calculation that could be as simplify the mathematicians communicate complex information then systematically subtracting the component to analysis. The form that drawing can do while match can’t.

It’s something to do with how the brain works in a visual context. It can suggest a connection with other things. You can have the feeling that this diagram looks familiar to another diagram you have seen and that much more productive for how I work than using a formula. It’s easier to spot similarities between one situation to another. Drawing can spark off new ideas in a way simply starting at a formula doesn’t. [3]
5 Drawing and Design

Design is an important part when designer, architect, and engineer works. In this part, the design is the process of communicating the idea. The situation of design needs some specific aspects and calculations. A sensitivity of form and selection to visual information is needed for stimulation of making object or structure.

Today, practice design is related to computers. The Computer program in design and engineering makes the process more simple, effective, and accurate. Drawing as handy tools, designer and engineer use it for sorting potential information to present than collaborate with the other platform. The manual way is more agile to make transcription to reality. The Agility supports the computer program which usually more rigid and limited. Simplicity articulation, direct and spontaneous that combine with computer program through accurate and measurable.

The epistemic capacity of drawing lies precisely in the spaces of manipulation, observation, and practice: through its way of representing objects or processes, drawing produces a genuine epistemic object that can become the target of argument eventually an object of knowledge. [4]

The Architect’s use of drawing is more valuable. Situational awareness is important before they make some design of building or landscape. The angle, level, and perspective is some code used for architects to decide the scale and calculating a position and form about their building design. By drawing, Architect can provide sensibility of direct bodily, from eyes to the hands by architectural drafting. The sensibility is tracing the historical information of space, locating vanishing points, and multiple perspectives, and structure in a section.

A drawing of the reading booths not only shows a figure seated, reading but also, drawn the same paper we see a hand turning page. The space a body takes up is cast as the form of the architecture; architecture the presence of human absence, a residue of movement, the setting for life. [5]
6 Drawing And Visual Art

In Contemporary art, plurality is appreciated, a lot of mediums more open and develop. Drawing in the visual art context always connects with image-making, exploration, and variable of representation. In visual art today, drawing is a preeminent medium. From the academy to the artist studio, drawing is one activity more common for transport to visual investigating, and final terminal as the purpose for artwork. For that reason, drawing becomes autonomous. It’s not only for sketch or preparation part means drawing becomes a final artwork itself. Its open experimentation a stretch even further.

Although in the development of visual art history, drawing is often immersed in the development of the other mediums. When, the emergence of representation becomes an issue in contemporary art, a lot of mediums focusing on image-making easier to accept. The main and popular medium is painting, which also affects drawing. The drawing it’s more moderate than the trend of visual art praxis, more complex, sophisticated, and monumental. Drawing present as the paradox of the trend that a lot of artists choose by the power of simplicity, adaptation, and hybridity.
By it, characteristic, drawing today are located in a difficult area to define clearly. But in the practice of contemporary art, a lot of artists choose this medium to articulate the idea. From Representation to abstract, from manual to digital, from paper to object, the drawing always has in “moving area”. It’s can autonomous as artwork its self, it’s part of the process of making artwork (preparation), or it’s can combine with the other medium.

7 Conclusion

Today, talking about drawing is about fluidity, and the potential to develop as a conceptual medium. As a tool that everyone’s can choose, drawing provide variety and option that always can deal with the development of medium and technology. Drawing works from basic skill, complex technique, communicate something, preparatory process, Autonomous even hybrid things with another. In the future, when we pushing toward to digital era, drawing still relevant with the agility and hybridity to adopt every change with simplicity, handwork, and uniqueness. Its means a lot, when human find how to be a human being.

8 References


