

# Importance of imagination in Swang and how it helps to create innovation in the Performance

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## ABSTRACT

In folk theatre Swang imagination is a cognitive function that leverages mental images and experiences to expand its scope. In this research paper analytical study, based on performance, library research, investigates from the artists, the influence of imagination on artistic realism results reveal that imagination plays a crucial role in evoking and empathizing in swang with dramatic characters, it is indicating that imagination is not only a vital tool for performance but also an essential skill for character portrayal. In swang performances which are close to realism, this becomes particularly significant as the actor's performance is rooted in their imagination, making it recognizable and assessable by the audience. Imagination creates innovation and it is very crucial for the vitality and relevance in folk theatre Swang. It allows in folk theatre to adapt to change the scenario, address contemporary issues and remain engaging of the audience.

**Keywords:** Innovation, swang, realism, empathy, folk theatre imagination

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## INTRODUCTION

Imagination and innovation are vital forces in art, shaping how artists conceive and produce their works. Imagination is very much important to both art practice and art education. This is where all the arts have a significant role to play. Engagement with the imagination, the arts, creativity and culture plays a crucial role in our personal, social and cultural development. Each art form has its own integrity and characteristics. Arts experiences enable us to understand that the imagination and creativity are not marginal but central to the development of the individual and society.

We rely on thinking for every task we perform, drawing from two main sources: memory and imagination. Throughout our lives, we accumulate a vast amount of information, a process known as "Information." The information that enters our brain acquires broader meanings and perceptions. A key aspect of this "Information" is the development of a mental blueprint or map in our minds of the existence of that thing; what this mental plan looks like and how we, as humans, adapt to it. This mental formation is referred to as the "reality scheme." However, it is not actual reality but rather individual mental perceptions shaped by one's unique interpretations of experiences, observations, and knowledge. Humans can reach a mutual agreement and shared understanding of what reality is, and this practice significantly aids in comprehending various issues.

In Swang, where the brain is the primary command center, actors must be well-acquainted with its functions. This is because speech, body, and movement the core elements of performance are all governed by the brain, which is fueled by thought, while actions and behaviors originate from human cognition. Therefore, imagination is essential source of thought.

### Importance of Imagination

Imagination is the capacity to go beyond the established, agreed reality and experiment with new combinations of meaning. When imagination is unleashed, meanings gain freedom and new knowledge can arise. This is because imagination adopts a fluid and less fixed view of meaning, encouraging ingenuity, spontaneity, and novelty. Imagination as world making form new images and scenarios never thought before and, by imagining these images and scenarios, we open the opportunity to bring them into reality. Imagination also gives space to emerging processes which are seeds of ideas that, when combined together, can bring new possibilities. Such processes generate new forms and shapes rather than focusing solely on what is already there. Imagination can enact powerful resources and favor possibilities of creation and change.

When many participants voice their views and ideas on a topic, the potential to create meaningful experiences is amplified. The process of creating art is entirely an imaginative one, and so the true products of that process are entirely imaginary; they need not have any physical manifestation outside the mind of their creator, nor are they located, once created, in a sort of abstract realm of imaginary objects. The Ideal Theory can be maintained even if it is also held that the process of creation involves expression, since such expression can be done internally.

### **Creativity through Imagination**

No creation or innovation is possible without imagination. Humans become creative and innovative, through imagination. Humans understood and transformed the world through their dreams, and with imagination, they were able to create a world that aligned with their desires and aspirations. By envisioning their dreams, individuals experience a joy similar to the memories imagination allow us to bring our dreams into reality. Artists also immerse themselves in artistic dreams, possessing the courage to unveil their imaginative world. In contrast, ordinary individuals sometimes resort to their imagination to navigate life's challenges, but they seldom articulate their fantasies. It is these unique and personal dreams of the artist that render an artwork distinctive. The power of imagination allows one to transcend the limitations of time and space. While time and space typically impose constraints on individuals, imagination enables rapid travel to distant pasts and futures, envisioning scenarios that do not exist in reality. Imagination links us to moments in the past and future where we cannot be physically present.

This desire to break free from temporal and spatial constraints has inspired the creation of science fiction and fantasy films, in which characters use time machines to journey to different eras. Today, humanity has partially addressed this need by inventing airplanes and jets, facilitating swift changes in location. Overall, imagination has consistently been humanity's foremost tool for adapting to their environment. In contemporary times, the swift pace of industrialization and inflexible social norms that restrict individuals have led many to retreat into their imaginations. People aspire to construct a better environment for themselves than the one they currently inhabit and envision a more promising future. Much like children who escape into the world of play to express their emotions and find solace and joy, imagination equips the mind with scenarios and events of our creation. Imagination serves as a guide to the unknown, a repository of images, or a source of play and entertainment. Imagination is an existential force that, through signs and symbols, aims to achieve the most extensive experience a human can have, thus surpassing current emotions and foreseeing future ones.

According to philosophers, imagination serves three primary functions:

1. The compensatory function, which enables us to manifest a reality in its absence.
2. The liberating function, allows us to explore and free ourselves within various possibilities.
3. The revealing function, which grants us access to the unseen dimensions of the world.

### **The Relationship between Imagination, Originality, and Innovation**

Innovation in art involves the introduction of new techniques, materials, or concepts. It pushes the boundaries of traditional artistic practices. Innovative artists often combine imagination and originality to create groundbreaking works. The relationship between imagination, originality, and innovation is reciprocal. Imagination fuels originality by providing the mental space for generating new ideas. Originality can lead to innovative developments in art by introducing audience approaches and perspectives. Innovation then inspires further imagination and originality by expanding the possibilities of artistic expression.

### **Role of Imagination in Swang for the performer in Achieving Role**

In Swang, a mental image can reflect one's self-perception, but more broadly, it is the perception manifested through action. The mind functions like a powerful and precise software within the body, continually processing internal information and receiving external data. Much of this information is stored in the subconscious, while other parts are processed by the conscious mind. In Swang, the role of imagination is to educate and sustain the psychology. Similar to other swang artistic activities that engage with the human inner world. However, the complexity of imagination in Swang, particularly in performance, is unparalleled. What a performer performs on stage mirrors the daily lives of various individuals. Nonetheless, to depict a character, swang must be created, which requires the performer to possess self-awareness and develop a broad mind capable of embodying in swang character. What frequently renders a character portrayed by a performer, unconvincing to the audience is the artificiality by his movements and expressions. This problem arises from an underdeveloped mind and a superficial comprehension of the assigned role. It also leads to ineffective interactions with fellow actors, props, and the stage environment. Imagination is a component of the mind that expands by drawing from mental images and experiences. An actor can strengthen their imagination by increasing their range of experiences and observations. The actor's imagination serves multiple functions, the most crucial being its transitional function, grasping the hypothetical events of the performance. Through the power of imagination, an actor breathes life into the elements of a performance, transforming mundane and lifeless events into something vibrant and captivating. Imagination is crucial for

evoking empathy and identification with the character, making it not only an essential tool for acting but also a vital skill for character portrayal. An artist operates along two distinct yet interconnected paths: one utilized in everyday life and the other driven by creative force, often referred to as the "higher self." For this higher self to develop and flourish, it is necessary to immerse oneself in the world of imagination, believe in mental activity, and understand the interactions among mental images.

### Characterization

In swang, the most demanding aspect of creating a character, which encompasses all their actions and behaviors, is the process of characterization. Essentially, defining the character's framework. The foundation of any character's performance lies in the formation of mental imagery. Skill of the performer such as speaking, writing, remembering, dreaming, and engaging in art, as well as all existential experiences, are unattainable without a mental image of oneself. A performer is shaped by its existential conditions, which arise from what is considered mentality, and mentality is derived from objectivity and imagination. Therefore, for a performer to effectively portray a character, they must possess a fertile imagination enriched with cultivated observations and fantasies. This is essential because an actor needs a reservoir of characters to draw upon for assigned roles, and achieving this is only possible for a professional actor with a fertile imagination.

### Science of Imagination and Realism in Swang

"What is truth?" when Philosophy, addressing the question, It reaches two broad and opposing conclusions depending on the perspective and approach to the issue of existence. The answer varies based on whether we consider truth from the perspective of science or art. Science uncovers truth through the process of recognition, whereas art creates truth through the process of production. Traditional realists assert that realist art loses its essence and becomes artificial and ineffective if it is not grounded in observation and scientific relationships. They argue that science and art must be in harmony, holding a raw, realistic belief that truth can only be understood through observation and comparison.

Thus, the truth they present corresponds with documented reality, which they depict in their art with precision and fidelity. In other words, they define reality using evidence that would be admissible in court and then adhere to it. Since their understanding is derived from objective perception and the fundamental principles that grant identity and legitimacy to most art, they adopt a democratic approach. This group's belief is founded on the premise that if art ignores or underestimates external or tangible reality and allows itself to exist without constraints, it will fall into vulgarity. They contend that sublime art is that which submits to the real world and balances its vague and unsteady imagination with the weight of truth, sacrificing forms and conventions in favor of reality.

## CONCLUSION

When we trying to deeply observe into the art forms and their constituent elements, we find a common thread called imagination, which appears to be pivotal in artistic creation and innovation. However, because imagination lacks a physical form, it remains highly controversial and thought-provoking. The application of imagination in art can differ based on the art form, and in some cases, imagination is more accessible or evident, partly due to the presence of existing resources. In the performing arts, especially in Swang, imagination holds significant importance. Nevertheless, the absence of comprehensive research and investigation in this area has led to numerous questions. Moreover, when imagination is applied within a realistic framework, it introduces additional layers of ambiguity. In acting education and discourse, the focus is typically on three essential pillars of an actor: speech, body (movement), and emotion. Although aspects such as improvisation, creativity, imagination, concentration, and breathing are also discussed alongside these core elements, it seems that a concept like imagination plays a substantial role in the performance of SWANG.

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