

Article

Semiotics Analysis on Maanagaram (2017)

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A B S T R A C T

The study based on the semiotic analysis of the movie Maanagaram (2017) by understanding the role of mise-en-scene in effective narration.. This is done in both the visual arts through storyboarding, visual theme, cinematography, as well as in narrative storytelling through direction. All though the script is complicated the screenplay was very engaging and a the characters in the movie were we developed and relatable to the audience. All though the script is complicated the screenplay was very engaging and all the characters in the movie were we developed and relatable to the audience. Semiotic analysis is an important approach for fully comprehending the nuance of a film. This method seeks to establish the relationship between the Signifier and the Signified, as well as how they produce a meaningful interpretation.

Keywords: Mise-En-Scene, Storytelling, Signifier, Signified, Saussure

Introduction

There aren't many study papers that additionally analyse the importance of Mise-en-scène in effective storytelling; instead, most research articles on film analysis focus on semiotically reading a film. To examine this paper, the researcher enjoys discussing certain fundamental ideas and literature from publications that are relevant to the subject.

The staging and arrangement of actors in scenes for a film production is known as mise en scène. Sets, people, objects, lighting, composition, costume, make-up, texture, every other prop that's placed and put together in front of a camera are all referred to as "mise-en-scène" in a motion picture. One step closer to how the director intended the audience to understand the story is made by the mise-en-scène, which communicates messages and hidden meaning to the viewer.

With the use of mise-en-scène, this research article analyzes the semiotics in the 2017 Film Maanagaram. Every frame in this movie contains a variety of artistic and aesthetically pleasing elements, however the researcher has taken screenshots of 50 shots in order to interpret the meaning. Pictures that stand out from the crowd in terms

of composition and how they hold narratively important signs are chosen.

Review of Literature

To study this paper, the researcher prefers to discuss some basic concepts and articles from journals related to the topic. Lokesh Kanagaraj wrote and directed Maanagaram (2017) Indian Tamil-language hyperlink action thriller film.

The Song of the sparrows(2008), According to mise-en-scene They were interpreted the elements like lighting, decor, space, costumes and acting. Using content analysis, specific scenes from the Iranian film 'The Song of Sparrows' are identified to discuss each of the five elements and their importance in the storyline, as well as their possible effects on the audience. The paper concludes that by interpreting these five mise-en-scene elements, meanings can be created. A close examination and analysis of these elements in the film could result in a significantly improved viewing experience.

The film 96 (2018), Using content analysis, specific scenes from the Tamil film '96 are identified to discuss each of the three elements and their importance in the storyline and potential effects on the audience. The paper concludes

that by interpreting these three mise-en-scene elements, meanings can be created. A close examination and analysis of these elements in the film could result in a significantly improved viewing experience.

Anjathe (2008) The identification and analysis of images/shots of this movie was interpreted. According to this research that Before analyzing the images, it is critical to understand the significance of frames in film language. The framing of an image determines where it begins and ends. Wilson (2011) considers the frame to be as important to the meaning of an image as the composition.

Objectives

- To identify the Signifiers in the mise-en-scène of every scene in the Maanagaram movie
- To analyze the signifier to interpret the signified in the movie

Methodology

The film Maanagaram is used in this study for semiotic analysis to determine the role of mise-en-scene in effective narration. Semiotic analysis employs qualitative methods. The Dyadic model of Ferdinand de Saussure will be used for analysis. Every scene is interpreted, only shots that contribute to the main narration are examined for the role of mise-en-scene in semiotically adding to the movie's narration. Qualitative research methods are designed to help you understand how a target audience behaves and thinks about a specific topic. The results of qualitative studies are more descriptive, conclusions can be drawn quite easily from the collected data. Qualitative methods are carried out in the following steps sampling, data collection, analysis, interpretation. Sampling would be accomplished by collecting sample frames from each scene of the film Maanagaram and analyzing the set for signifiers. 50 distinct shots that contribute to the main plot are identified, the signifiers in the scenes are semiotically interpreted to establish the role of mise-en-scene in storytelling.

Theoretical Framework

Figuring out signs, their connections, how they are utilized in correspondence is finished utilizing semiotics. The examination is to be finished by Ferdinand de Saussure's hypothesis of semiotics. Here the Signifier and what is connoted must be finished by deciphering the mise-en-scene of the film.

Semiotic Theory

The investigation of importance, correspondence, translation and importance. This exploration is finished through Ferdinand de Saussure which says that the Sign comprises the Signifier and the Implied. American logician Charles Sanders puncture which says Sign comprises three components - The representament, An article, an interpretant which is the triadic model.

Data Collection and Interpretation

The data collection can be summarised in a few sentences. 50 Screenshots from the film 'Maanagaram' are interpreted semiotically. The term mise-en-scene refers to the process of analysing a film and identifying signs in the frames. The researcher collects data based on the context of the situation or the presence of hidden meaning in the scene. Screenshots are collected for sampling. Each shot is interpreted based on the elements in the shot, their significance in the story's development, its resemblance to the modern world.

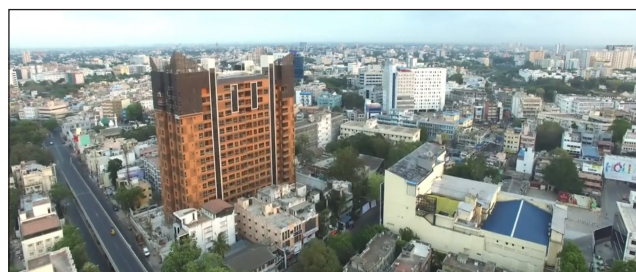


Figure 1

Mise-en-scene

Table I

S. No	Running Time	props	costumes	set design	Actor blocking	Lighting/colour	Composition
1.	00:00:25	—	—	—	—	using Natural lights	This is an establishing shot
Signifier					Signified		
This scene has tall building and surrounded by small buildings. This is establishing shot. It has a overview of Chennai city and that It office. Holi's sign board is seen in background.					• The tall building represents the IT office by showing their high and different colour • Mingling Small buildings and big buildings are represents the Chennai people lifestyle • Beach is also represents the maanagaram (chennai)		



Figure 2

Mise-en-scene

Table 2

S.No	Running time	props	costumes	set design	Actor blocking	lighting/ Colour	Composition
1.	00:00:46	Ac/Air conditions remote, pens and, table and laptop.	formal shirt and chudithar	IT Office interview setup/ Higher official cabin.	The one of the lead characters is shown in this scene.	Three pointing Light was used.(key light and fill light)It has high level of brightness.	over the shoulder shot and low angle shot.Hero have a formal wear.

Signifier	Signified
Regina changing the temperature of Ac. Sri answering to Regina.	Its the interview final round so he had a fear of that interview. He looks so abnormal and sweaty due to interview fear so Regina changing the temperature of AC



Figure 3

Mise-en-scene

Table 3

S. No	Running time	Props	Costumes	Set Deaign	Actor blocking	lighting/ Colour	Composition
3.	00:03:23	Drinks bottles, Bag, table and three chair.	formal and casual dress	local Bar / Wine shop	Sri is focusing on the stranger.	Key light is used as bar tube light setup and also used reflector	Shot is focused on the stranger so The shot is mid long shot

Signifier	Signified
Frame has the sign of Drink is injurious to health in Tamil words.Sri and his friends have some conversation about Chennai city.	Sri's friends are talking about Chennai city and telling about Chennai to Sri.he helping that stranger but his friends opposed that and said He is a fraud.

Data Interpretation of Signifier in the Mise-en-scène

Table 4

S.No	Running Time	Signifier	Interpretation
1..	00:01:50	Establishing The Chennai by bird eye angle. The entry of main character Sri. He is in interview final round with his HR Regina of that company. And finally he got a job.	Sri is so nervous about Chennai and his job opportunity because he is a new comer to Chennai from his natve place.He reply to Regina that only by Tamil.It indicates that he is not well in English fluency and confidence. Fortunately he got a job.he saw the company.
2.	00:04:19	Introduction of Karthi Character who is one of the main character. Karthi and his friends discuss about his lover Regina. They are drinking as well as smoking	Karthi have too tension and mental pressure of his love and his friends advising to him about his lover regina. he drinking so hardly and smoking too weirdly due to love pressure.
3.	00:05:24	conversation between Karthi and regina takes place in office with the help of his friend. Regina rejecting the love proposal of Karthi due to he didn't get job	Karthi opened half shirt button. He looks like rugged boy. He begging to love from Regina.she is rejecting That proposal due to that he didn't get a job.he have a careless mindset.
4.	00:07:19	The location of the scene is Office. The conversation takes places between Karthi and random office guys (three).	In office Karthi sighting his lover regina.That time strange office guys are came to asking about Karthi.They are looks like local rowdy.they done a acid attack on innocent girl.Karthi gave a punch to him. He is so rugged guy and helping mind guy.
5.	00:07:51	In chair Auto, Arrival of Gangster of Chennai.	Gangster, Coming with the mission.He smoking a kings cigarette it indicates that he is one of the king.He looks like rugged.They are all have normal type phone. It indicates that they didn't use smartphone because of Gps problem by police.

Findings

There are 1050 shots in the film that have been interpreted for scene interpretation. As the data collected from the shots is interpreted, it is a hyperlink movie which means two or more characters added along with their stories. Most of the shots only with low lighting and night setup. This movie is related for those who are coming to Chennai for job from their native place. In addition, 50 distinct shots that contribute to the main storyline are identified, the signifiers in the scenes are semiotically interpreted to establish the role of mise-en-scène in storytelling. All though the script is complicated the screenplay was very engaging and all the characters in the movie were well developed and relatable to the audience.

Conclusion

According to the interpretation and findings of the data collected from the film *Maanagaram* (2017), color, lighting, set design, other artistic aspects such as costumes and props all played a significant role in conveying the hidden message to the audience. This research was beneficial in that it investigated the use of mise-en-scène in films. Semiotic analysis is an important approach for fully comprehending the nuance of a film. This method seeks to establish the relationship between the Signifier and the Signified, as well as how they produce a meaningful interpretation.

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