

## **Abstract (in English)**

This bachelor thesis treats the topic of Sundanese horse dance known as “*reak*”. It describes the history of the dance as well as of the region called *Priangan*, where said dance has developed (today’s province of West Java). After that the focus briefly shifts to the usual form of Javanese horse dance (*jaranan*), on which it draws parallels between both phenomena and concludes that *reak* is in fact the latest variant of that art form. Next is the analysis of the performance itself, of its structure and general characteristics. The central theme of the third part are the characteristics of the main elements that together form *reak*, followed by describing their complex symbolism and interconnectivity. One whole chapter is dedicated to the phenomenon of altered state of consciousness, meaning possession. The focus is on the types of possessions that can occur in *reak*, also the means by which they are made possible and finishes with commenting on the kind of people who are suitable to host a strange entity. The last part is a reflection on various factors that caused changes in the structure and symbolism of the performance and also on possible future of the phenomenon.

**Key words:** *reak*, *jaranan*, culture, dance, Java, Indonesia