

# **“Beauty Along the Streets in Bangkok”**

By

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The street is a unique and powerful platform which artists allow exploring art as expressive objects in public. More people have the wrong attitude that fine art is only a matter of refined paintings only kept in the galleries to be viewed by elitists and foreign tourists. Such an attitude prevented people from enjoying the visual aesthetics along the street, which can be seen. So called “art street”, where communicated to public and everyday ways of living, is both an expression of culture and a counterculture in itself that we need closely attention to.

There are various types of art works that everyone may see while walking along the streets in Bangkok. From what observed, and found that there are nine types of art works. Architecture, Environmental Art, Sculpture, Decorative art, Advertising, Window Display, Interior Decoration, Graffiti and Painting. Collaboration artists and combination of all artworks can be viewed in a certain way of Thai culture. That is created for a specific site for the public to experience, in a cityscape such as Bangkok.

Architecture, a large-scale artwork of traditional and modern style, is quite a contrasting to combine and be seen everywhere in Bangkok. The buildings were constructed in the Rattankosin Island, where the style did popularity during the reign of King Rama V and modern style was came out in the past decade. One of the Bangkok’s most important

ancient landmark, the temple of the emerald Buddha adjacent to the Grand palace. This is well known for the tourist spot.

Sculpture is another art form; its function is to beautify the environment. Some works are modern and other are traditional. They were created in both figurative and abstract forms with different in contour.

Environment sculpture, one of the most beautiful ways of living, the pictorial of Thai tradition. Simply living of Thais for the past years use the Kwuen or animal-drawn cart before it replaced by tractors and left the family buffalo behinds. This “Kwuen” provided the principle means of transporting both people and produce, which had seen on portrayal.

Painting of different types and different purposes can be seen along the streets in Bangkok. For instance, the construction barriers to cover up the materials, dusts and bad pollution. At some point, the barriers can reveal the perspective view of future or creative outputs. It can make public spaces friendlier, more interesting place and bridge the gap between arts and construction site.

Some school's fences were painted with various anti-drugs subjects, for the religious and saving the environment. The purposes were to anti-drugs campaign. Some paintings depicted children are playing with all kinds of sports. Music is also another theme of the painting. They depicted children were practicing different kind of musical instruments. Other paintings suggest that art would be a suitable activity for school; children to involve in their leisure time rather than taking drugs. The last theme of anti-drugs campaign is to give love. Lack of communication and

understanding is major factor behind student drugs abuse. Parents must realize that their love and care is the most effective tool they have to shield their children from drugs.

Graffiti is another artwork that usually painted or sprayed on the wall of buildings and fences. Most of the graffiti were painted by teenagers who wanted to express themselves in the way of artistic talent under the sensitive emotions. Graffiti is strong in both form and idea to convey thought provoking messages about today's society. While there was general acceptance by participants that the significance of public art, also there was disagreement on some of the issues raised. For instance, "this brought the teenager aggressively" or "such a dirty". However, those teenagers needed to guidance and support into the right direction by public.

All types of art works, along the street in Bangkok, no matter what to create by aesthetic purposed or commercial purposed. They all offer optimistic visual to give more interesting places, shining the bright side of culture and bring the people together.