

Transcript : Public Art

Scene 1 – Introduction

Dialogue: public art is not a form of art that following the structure or pattern of a form of art but it is an art that can be crafted, built or painted in one specific area at any place such as the park, building or any street area. We can distinguished public art by consider about how the artist is willing to express by this unique form of art through the place where it is located, through how it is created and through the ideas of this art form. Moreover, public art also creates some values to the society and the environment surrounding it. It can be the decoration inside the park; it can be the huge sculpture that is placed in the middle of empty road. These are some benefits or values that will create some awareness and idea to people who walk pass these public art.¹

Scene 2 – Architecture

- Dialogue: Architecture is both the process and the product of planning, designing, and constructing buildings and other physical structure. Architecture is also part of public art as it plays an important role in designing plenty of structure and building in Thailand. Thailand is a country with long history, Bangkok alone was established almost 250 years ago. Hence, there are a lot of historical buildings in the form

¹ Assosiation for public art “What is public art” ,14 October 2014, <<http://associationforpublicart.org/public-art-gateway/what-is-public-art/>>

of public art that still remain, example: Wat Phra Kaew, the temple of the Emerald Buddha, a famous place to visit which construction was commence since the reign of the first king of Chakri Dynasty (in B.E.2325). Although Bangkok is an old city, it has been modernize in the last 50 years, many of the retracted building like royal temple and palace which are not allow citizen to visit in the past, are now transformed into tourist destination where everyone can visit. In other word, these Thai-style architecture are now act as a form of public art as well. Many new structures were erected with real modern. The beauty of Thai-historical- style of architecture which has been passed down makes people want to keep the Thai-style, but the moderns also have to be developed along with the rest of the world. These two conditions have made the combination of two styles become modern and beautiful neo-Thai architecture. Museum Of Contemporary Art, as an example, is very modernizing building; it is also one of modern-Thai museums that show a lot of modern-Thai style arts.²

Conclusion: As we look around, we can see that Thailand's architecture style is not just for the beauty of the landscape. The way that our architecture style had developed over time is mainly for the aim of enhancing our life.

To cite an example, the stilt, due to the fact that people in the past used to have the livestock inside their residential area, and with the limited space, the architecture of the stilt house had been designed in such a way that there are the area underneath the house for us to fully utilise the limited space in the olden days

² Chiangmai architecture, "Thai architecture", 14 October 2014, <<http://www.chiangmaiarchitects.com/thai-architecture>>

This is the example of how the architecture had developed in order to enhance our living quality and to fully utilize our resources. Furthermore, Thailand has plenty unique architecture style like kanok design, sala Thai and Temple.

Even though the globalization has brought plenty of modern style of architecture into Thailand, it is surprisingly that the modern art can actually blended with the old Thai style architecture.

Realizing that the modern art is very popular amongst the youngster, our group is making this documentary in order to encourage teenager to realize our style of architecture, not just the beauty of it, but also, the usage and reason behind each of the invaluable piece of architecture that our ancestor had passed on to us.

Scene 3 – Sculpture

- Dialogue: Let's take a look at the sculpture in Thailand. Sculpture is considered as interesting part of public art. It is the visual art of shaping the figures. With sensibility, meticulousness and similarity of the sculpture, it easily impresses the aesthete or normal people. In Thailand, We definitely will see many of Thai style sculptures at the temple as the Buddha image, seeing that the religion is substantially exerts impacts on the Thais' life style from the past until now. The Buddha image in Thailand also has various styles depending on the transformed period. Moreover, The material for shaping the design can be baked clay, stucco, wood, gold, and jewel. The Emerald Buddha is the most well-known Buddha statue in Thailand and is located in Wat Phra Kaew. Furthermore, we can

also tour around Wat Phra kaew area in order to see other type of art which can represent the belief and life style of the people in Thailand. Additionally, Thailand also has other type of art, such as, contemporary and modern art. For those who may want to explore more about other kinds of art, the Museum Of Contemporary Art can be the place that you could escape from life's confusion and enjoying the art instead. There are plenty of exquisite sculptures that are being arranged in a very well organized manner and well preserved.³

Conclusion: Thai sculpture style is crafted in the way that meant to imply the philosophy behind the cultural behaviour of Thai people. The crafter is usually aim to express the moral sense or the story which aim to teach the children. The story behind each piece of Thai style sculpture is usually influenced by Buddhism which is not only for the decoration purposes, the philosophy behind each of these sculpture will assist us in the way we act in our daily lives, as the buddhism believe that all men should try their best to do the good deed in order for humanity to live together in peace and harmony.

Interview :

Q: Where do you guys come from??

A: Canada

Q: What do you think about public art in Thailand and in Canada including the architecture.

³ Wikipedia, "Thai art", 15 October 2014, < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_art>

A: It's amazing. In Thailand it's amazing. I'm in love with the architecture just see all the temples it's really impressive. It's very beautiful

Q: Comparing to Canada?

A: combination, not combination. Co-existing of the modern like the skyscraper and all the modern architecture in the mall and they put newer building to come to the old city and look at all the temples and architecture is more stunning and it gives you a sense of the Thai culture because it is both. In Canada we have mostly newer architecture and it's all modern except for churches. So, it's very interesting.

Scene 4 – Painting

- Dialogue: Thai mural painting style is considered unique due to the fact that we have been invented our ways of painting. The perspective will be completely overlooked in this type of painting, which means ,there will usually be no shade and shadow in the picture. It does not have any specific interest in the anatomy, though the use of a refined and highly stylized line makes shapes of figures idealistic. Observational style of drawing would be totally ignored by the mural painting artist. The color will be used in order to represent the space ,scale to show importance ,and zigzag to indicate the changes in place in the Mural style of painting. The Ramakien will be used in most of this style of painting, which the Ramakien is the traditional Thai stories of the Buddha's ten past-lives before reaching Enlightenment that have been told for many generations. Traditionally, these type of painting are usually painted on the inside walls of temples. Many ancient

murals have been lost because their nature is temporary since the color might not be able to withstand the sunlight and will fade through times. The artists who have proved them to be skilful enough for such painting may sometimes be asked to restore historical murals.⁴

Conclusion: Paintings is one of the form of art that can be used in order to depict a story. History is one of the aspect that the painting has played an important role in catching the youngster attention in Thailand. In our modern society, the history class or any subject can no longer taught by just a word on the paper, the teacher must try their best to gain student's attention. Painting will also help to encourage the younger generation to practice their thinking capability as most of the Thai painting style are abstract, the audience may have to take their time in order to come up with the story that the artist trying to express. By looking at the piece of painting children will not only get a chance to relax themselves but also able to improve their imaginative way of thinking, as Eistein once said "imagination is more important than knowledge".

Scene 5 – Graffiti

-Dialogue : Graffiti is writing and illustrating that have been scrawled, scratched, or sprayed illegally on a wall or other surfaces such as street signs and bus shelters.

Graffiti ranges from writing simple words to complex and detailed wall paintings, which has been doing since early period of times. Furthermore, spaying paint Graffiti styles

⁴ Thai art, "Thai mural art", 19 October 2014, <<http://samforkner.org/thaiart/muraleng.html>>

could put across fundamental social and political posts, and a sort of artistic expression .It is a rapidly developing art form whose value is very competitive and abused by lots of authorities, while also an issue to defense. There's at least one in Thailand; the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre which is in a centre of Thailand, Bangkok. This art centre is unique and different from others because it has graffiti on the wall beside the pathway inside which slope spiraled as a circle along the way up from 7th to 9th floor.⁵

Conclusion: Though the graffiti is defined by the art that illustrated by scrawled, scratched, or sprayed illegally on a wall or other surfaces such as street signs and bus shelters. Though the graffiti is consider illegal, however, the gangster somehow have a gift and able to express it beautifully on the wall. Though the graffiti had become viral in the modern day, it is similar to the temple's wall painting which is the traditional art of Thai culture. Instead of calling it illegal, we think government should try to provide some special area for these artist to express their art properly in order to bring out the full potential of their own, by doing so, we might be able to create new tourist destination for Thailand.

Scene 6 – Conclusion

-Dialogue : There are indeed many kinds of public art here in Thailand. As we have been illustrated in the earlier part of our documentary, that the 4 main category of the public art are architecture, sculpture, painting and graffiti.It is undeniably, that the

⁵ Graffiti,"Graffiti",19 October 2014 <<http://en.wikipedia/wiki/graffiti.org>>

public art is everywhere around the city. Public art can express community values, enhance our environment, transform a landscape and even reflect the cultural value of the people in the country as each country has its uniqueness in their style. We have chosen Sanam Luang as our last shooting location because Sanam Luang has always be the public place which held many of the big ceremony of the country, especially ones which related to the royal family. Moreover, Sanam Luang is located in the centre of Phra Nakorn district which has plenty of art museum and temple. Therefore, we are trying to take Sanam Luang as the location that will express the crucial value of the public art in Thailand, thus, we have kept this place to make the conclusion part of our documentary.