

K 45056951: MAJOR: ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND TOURISM

KEYWORD: MUSEUM, ART SPACE, ARCHITECTURE, MODERN ART, CONTEMPORARY ART, BANGKOK.

ERIC TILBURY: THE FRAGMENTED MUSEUM: REASSESSING SPACES FOR MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART IN BANGKOK

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ISBN 974-11-6563-3

The modern and contemporary art museum is a successful institution among cultural tourism activities. It reflects present local values and simultaneously deals with future heritage issues. Considered as a 'seismograph' of the society, the art museum has been shaped in various architectural formulas through time. A unique relationship with the city housing it has been developed.

Post-modern issues regarding the architecture of art museums have led to the dissemination of the art spaces within the city, from the popular cafés-galleries to the cultural art centres. Each art space refers to specific architectural typologies and simultaneously reflects urban and social characteristics. All these cultural venues are parts of the contemporary 'fragmented museum'.

To demonstrate the existence of this 'fragmented museum', Bangkok megapolis is taken as a field of architectural exploration. Through the historical analysis and focus on relevant art spaces, the pieces of the 'fragmented museum' of Bangkok are assembled. A vision on the dynamic urban network devoted to cultural tourism is offered. It expresses Thai authenticity and Bangkok's dynamism.

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