



## **Cultura -** Stéphane Peray and his unique spatial and mystical cosmogony art exhibition in Bangkok

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News) The Parisian artist is long term living 35 years in Bangkok and is known as a cartoonist and allround artist. Many of his artistic experiences have recently been conveyed through social media platforms in unexpected and very intelligent ways

The exhibition "The Universe Is An Artist" is running in the Thai capital until December 14 at the Bangkok Art and Cultural Center (BACC) Two Thai Buddhist monks pause in front of the sculpture Stephane Peray Artist calls "Cosmic Buddha," chatting among themselves, seemingly uncertain, despite their serene smiles. The exhibition "The Universe Is An Artist" by French artist Stephane Peray (Steff) at the Bangkok Art and Cultural Center (BACC) is a tranquil space/time, visitors enter quietly, with the utmost respect, and step into Stephane Peray's cosmogony, pervaded by concepts that are both abstract and mystical, where the cosmos is populated by irony, forms deformed with sarcasm that fascinates and intrigues. Sometimes, in his art, we also find amusing and amusing phallic elements. Stephane Peray is a French cartoonist and artist who has lived in Bangkok for 35 years. He was born in Paris in 1964 and has lived in Asia since 1989. Before starting his career as a cartoonist and author of cartoons for the press in 1997 with the Far East Economic Review in Hong Kong, he was a photojournalist and collaborated with numerous foreign magazines and newspapers in various countries around the world. He is an active member of "Cartoonists for Peace," the association created by Kofi Annan. "Because of my views on Gaza and the horrors that have been perpetrated there, I have been harshly criticized and have even lost some acquaintances whose relationships with me have been severed because of my openly expressed ideas against all forms of violence," says Stéphane, with a look that is somewhere between surprise and sadness. Surprised because one would not expect to lose friends over such issues, and sad because some people suddenly disappear from your human and social scene. Stephane has been and still is a professional painter and has already had numerous exhibitions around the world. His works are considered to be inspired by graffiti artists such as Keith Haring and artists such as Victor Brauner and Wilfredo Lam, who were themselves strongly influenced by tribal art. Stephane himself is a collector of tribal art objects from Africa, Oceania, and Asia, all of which subsequently stimulated his artistic creativity, and Stephane has not stopped painting since 2010. In 2020, he began producing limited editions created and signed using digital art, with the aim of making his work more accessible to buyers on a limited budget. His experience on social media platforms deserves special mention. One of his recent experiences that contributed to his fame in Thailand was to post some of his works on walls, lampposts, and pillars around the Thai capital, Bangkok, and trigger a kind of "treasure hunt": Stephane posts a photo of the work displayed

## AGENZIA STAMPA QUOTIDIANA NAZIONALE



somewhere in Bangkok, asks his followers to guess where that single work has been displayed, and if they recognize the exact location, they can take it and keep it. In this way, his idea helped to attract attention on social media and gain increasing popularity even among non-experts. "Social media today gives everyone the opportunity to freely express their opinions, but very often," says Stephane Peray, "it also unleashes haters, problematic people who have a lot of anger inside them and who roam social platforms spreading existential poison, malice, and discontent. I, on the other hand, aim to communicate and spread art in a simple way, without too many snobbish artifices. Above all, I want to convey a peaceful and tranquil idea in an era marked by tragedies, wars, and environmental and social disasters. Art, as such, has no boundaries of religion, skin color, or nationality. For me, art is open to everyone." Stephane Peray is also a cartoonist who—in an ironic, sarcastic, and sometimes even caustic way—does not shy away from criticizing the quirks and oddities of power through his cartoons, sparing neither the Thai political scene nor any foreign nation, including Trump's United States. Stephane Peray thus confirms that satire has no boundaries and cannot have any.

di Francesco Tortora Lunedì 08 Dicembre 2025