ANTONY GORMLEY

PARAFFIN, 1997

The fluid distillation derived from petroleum is mixed with blue and black pigment, sometimes offset by a more concentrated black pigment and by a generous pouring of soya oil which acts as an aureole around the central grey areas. Themes of spirit and materialisation come to the fore here as the spreading fluid creates ambiguous, haunting shapes within each drawing. The initial idea behind this series was a "yoke or an area of potential surrounded by albumen or life-giving power. Drawing, pigment and medium are presented as independent agents, echoing conscious matter and the living body".'

Text by Anna Moszynska, from ANTONY GORMLEY DRAWING, published by The British Museum Press, London, 2002