ANTONY GORMLEY

REFLECTION, 2016

As a child, growing up next to the sea and often being alone on the beach at the end of the day, there was a sense of almost disappearing into the combination of light, ground and air. The REFLECTION drawings return to the theme of being invited to re-inhabit not just your body, but your time, your being. There's something about the way in which the oil behaves and the fact that these bodies are being absorbed by the paper and slowly bleeding to the point where they almost become invisible, that chimes with what they evoke.

Referring to the REFLECTION drawings and a number of earlier RED EARTH drawings exhibited together at the Royal Academy of Arts in 2019, Martin Caiger-Smith states, 'Often, the mark of a standing figure is set against an insistent horizon in a space of uncertain scale, asserting an identity between the two, marking an encounter and a passage of the body in space and time.'

See Martin Caiger-Smith, in 'Antony Gormley', Royal Academy of Arts, London, 2019, p. 228