ANTONY GORMLEY

FIRST PLASTER WORKS, 1973

I have been touched by the repeated sight all over India, in the streets and on railway platforms, of people asleep covered by thin cotton saris or dhotis. They described the minimum space necessary for a person to establish shelter.

The very first works that I made on returning, were plaster-soaked sheets that were laid over the bodies of friends to make simple hollow shells that were both abstract and yet specific. This was the first experiment in making minimal spaces that were particular to individual people, but formed real architecture.