

ANTONY GORMLEY

PROPPERS, 2010 - 2018

The PROPPERS can be traced back to the BLOCKWORKS of 2001. In these sculptures, the space displaced by the artist's body was materialized in 'physical pixellations' made from steel blocks.

By 2004, the blocks started to be arranged according to the logic of architectural construction using stacking, propping and cantilever, which allowed for a greater dynamic of parts and greater liberty with the body-volumes.

As always, the process begins with a moment of lived time: the moulding of the artist's body, but these new works developed the language of an intermediary series, the BEAMERS. These are pieces where beams, running in three axes, touch the body's boundary and form an axial stack. 'Propping' developed from trying to achieve the maximum difference of the beam section with the minimum number of elements to make a stack of beams within the bounding condition of a human body.

The work uses the tectonics of post and lintel architecture to translate body mass into the equivalent of a high-rise tower or cantilevered pontoon, but does so with the freedom of a child seeing how high his wooden blocks can reach.
