ANTONY GORMLEY

CUBE WORKS, 2012 - 2018

Intrigued by the ways in which iron pyrite forms in natural aggregates, the studio began to experiment with off-set cubes to create body masses. The aim was to translate the volumes of the body into strict cubic frames or solids.

Two types of CUBE WORKS have emerged from this process: standing forms, comprising unstable towers of orthogonal cubes that seem to be at the point of collapse, and bodies at rest, which have lost their orthogonality that are transformed into abstract matrices. The shift from strict grids into these jumbled abstractions was in part inspired by pyrite crystal agglomerations. The lying figures interrogate a human dependency on habitat.

The standing sculptures form unsteady stacks incorporating blocks at their base to exaggerate their precariousness, referencing Brancusi's interest in making the object's isolation from the floor part of a sculpture's structure.