

ANTONY GORMLEY

SCAFFOLD, 2014 - 2018

Having made what look like regular grids (with varied horizontal intervals) in the SET pieces and mined them in works like AIR, and then gone on to make the highly reduced measures of the MEAN pieces, the SCAFFOLD works avoid any regular horizontal or vertical interval while attempting to map the space of the body three-dimensionally.

I have always been inspired by the 'Pier and Ocean' works of Mondrian. In reconciling the action of light on water and the relationship of horizon to a vertical field of vision, these works seem to express an attitude to space that is both intrinsic to the elemental world while also speaking to the realities of an expanding universe.

The idea of the SCAFFOLD works is to reconcile the limitations of an internalised dark body space with space at large so that an implied continuity might be felt. The intention is to follow the structural imperative that the works are self-supporting, while at the same time creating an open structure where the body boundary is left porous, and relations of back to front, left paradoxical.

A scaffold is a structure on which we can hang weight and is associated with a machine for making death. I would like to think of these works as antennae or aerials for life, both transmitting the truth of a particular lived moment to other conscious bodies and also having the potential to be a catalyst for us to be aware of the space/time contained within our bodies.

Tuned to balance centre of gravity, the idea is that these works should be allied to general awareness, alertness and aliveness. They objectify the experience of space, light and time.

The works are best seen in simple surroundings and ideally placed centrally in a space so that circumnavigation is possible and encouraged.
