

ANTONY GORMLEY

STACK BLOCKWORKS, 2019

'Stack' works are massive, one and a half life-size sculptures built from solid cast iron blocks that each weigh between 11 and 700 hundred kilos. The component parts are loose and use dead weight as a principle of construction; it is the subtle inflection of how one block takes the load from another that suggests the attitudes of repose, lamentation or alertness of the whole. Freshly unearthed from foundry sand, the blocks have the appearance of stone in their organic, silvered surfaces. Evoking the idea of the column, Gormley sees them as 'reverse caryatids', sculpted figures that served as architectural pillars in the ancient world, but rather than offering reinforcement these 'Stacks' lean on the walls for support.
