

ANTONY GORMLEY

OUTSIDE THE OUTSIDE, ARTS 04, ST. REMY DE PROVENCE, FRANCE, 1996

16 July - 13 October 1996

Antony Gormley once said of OUTSIDE THE OUTSIDE:

'I am... interested in the relationship between energy and matter, and in making space palpable... My concern is, however, with an internal territory no less capable of producing sensation than the world revealed by light.

What you are given to look at, I admit, is profoundly unsatisfactory - a beaten surface of lead soldered or welded over a hollow form. Both the pieces here contain a void that my body once occupied; they are boxes for an absent subject, introduced into the space of an old storehouse. What for?

I want the work to activate the space and by implication, you the viewer, to become aware of your presence as much as the sculpture's, and to use the time you spend (ideally alone) with it as a time of reflection. I wonder if this is too much to ask and whether to throw your legitimate questions back at you also isn't a bit too much to ask. Can the question "what is this doing here?" be responded to by asking the same question of the viewer, so that in an atmosphere less of comfort than of interrogation, the silence becomes significant?
