

ANTONY GORMLEY

ALLOTMENT, HERNING MUSEUM, HERNING, DENMARK, 1997 - 1998

14 October 1997 - 22 June 1998

Describing ALLOTMENT (1995) and its installation at the Herning Museum, Antony Gormley has said:

'Modernism rejected the body, yet 90 per cent of the populations of the western world live within the urban grid. Within this particular spatial system, architecture protects and identifies us. To what extent do we form and to what extent do we conform to the dictates of its organized geometry? The body is our first habitation, the building our second. I wanted to use the form of this second body, architecture, to make concentrated volumes out of a personal space that carries the memory of an absent self, articulated through measurement. I hope that the exterior evokes the potential of a hidden interior the same way that a bunker does. Can we ever be outside the outside? Can we make the inside felt?

Bodies and buildings, cities and cells, monuments and intimacies - each of the volumes [rooms] in this piece is someone's, is connected to the moving body of an individual, alive and breathing. Each work acts as a marker in the flow of the life of that individual and acts as a witness to the evolution of life in general. In the context of this exhibition, the work has strong references to the German occupation of Denmark and the construction of the Atlantic Wall, but I hope it is capable of becoming a more open ground for reflections on the relationship between territory and imagination, or between identity and control.'
