

ANTONY GORMLEY

LAND, UK, 2015 - 2016

16 May 2015 - 15 May 2016

LAND, a commission by the Landmark Trust, comprises five life-size standing sculptures by Antony Gormley cast in iron and installed at five spectacular Landmark sites selected by the artist. Each sculpture has been specially designed and created for each building and its surroundings.

All five points are connected by water. Four of them stand sentinel on our coastline and the fifth - anchoring the whole installation - is on the South Stratford canal. The LAND sculptures are located at Martello Tower, Aldeburgh, Suffolk; Clavell Tower, Kimmeridge Bay, Dorset; Saddell Bay, Mull of Kintyre, Scotland; Lengthsman's Cottage, Lowsonford, Warwickshire; and Lundy Island, Bristol Channel.

The five life-size vertical body-forms add a point of focus to each location, each conceived in relation to their sites, encouraging visitors to engage with elemental conditions and the different qualities of the North Sea, the English Channel, the Kilbrannan Sound, and the Bristol Channel, and the open horizon between sea and sky. The fifth location is a quiet site in a Warwickshire village, where the sculpture stands looking into the depths of the man-made lock, in contrast to the wild, ruggedness of the coastal sites.

Antony Gormley said:

'I am excited about making sculpture that stands in the wind, the rain and snow, day and night. The sculptures will be like standing stones: markers in space and time, linking with specific places and their histories; catalysts for reflection.

LAND invites us to think about our identity and the mindset of a nation surrounded by water, and how it affects the way we make our choices. Water both divides from and connects us to the rest of the world. Water isolates us and makes us self-reliant, but with the invitation of the horizon, offers the chance to overcome our limitations and engage with the future. More generally, these sites with their industrially made body-forms provide a good place to reassess the human project.'

LAND shares many of the themes found in Landmark's work: an engagement with landscape and the habitats we create, and how, at a human level, we resonate with them. Landmark's buildings are often in remote locations, some of the buildings - notably towers and follies - were intentionally built to stand apart, some are positioned close to the coastline, making them a landmark or point from which to look out at the world. It is this distance in time and isolation and people's place within it that is celebrated in LAND, and which embodies Landmark's work over the past five decades.

All of the LAND sites are fully accessible and free to the general public from May 2015 to May 2016.
