The Model Room

The Model Room presents a range of trials mostly made in the year leading up to the Model exhibition but including some examples from as far back as ten years ago. The room presents a dialogue between dwelling in the body and dwelling in a building and explores the potential of sculpture as a form of psychological, reflexive architecture.

There are frames, solid plaster casts and architectural models that map the darkness of the body. Some of the blockworks shown in the corridor have counterparts in the model room, where their solid masses become hollow and form complex interiors. Three models for the interconnecting chambers of the large work *Model* are shown. Throughout the objects and drawings here there is a dialogue between extension and expansion, where the scale of the body is taken as a variable.

The room is a laboratory of possibility, showing the ways in which ideas cross-fertilise and produce ever more vigorous hybrids. It gives an insight into the workings of the studio as an open-ended exploratory playground in which space and object become interchangeable.

## WHITE CUBE Bermondsey

Antony Gormley *Model* 28 November 2012—10 February 2013

White Cube Bermondsey is pleased to present 'Model', an exhibition of major new works by Antony Gormley. Challenging the physical possibilities of the gallery space, this ambitious exhibition investigates our experience of architecture through the body and of the body through architecture.

Made in direct response to the space of South Gallery II is the vast, new work *Model* (2012), which is also the title of the exhibition. Fabricated from 100 tonnes of weathering sheet steel, the work is both sculpture and building, human in form but at no point visible as a total figure. Visitors will be able to enter the work through a 'foot' and journey through its inter-connected internal chambers, the sculpture demanding that we adjust our pace and bend our bodies to its awkward yet absolute geometry. The experience of this analogy for the 'dark interior of the body' is guided by anticipation and memory and the direct and indirect light which penetrates the structure and which leads us on, as if through a labyrinth.

The central corridor of the gallery will hold new sculptures built of solid iron blocks whose uncompromising orthogonals belie their emotional punch. Propping up the architecture, articulating a corner or lying flat on the ground, these dark works test the bounding condition of the space. Their sculptural language is highly reduced, in some cases so schematic that the body form is rendered purely abstract, but without any loss of human empathy.

The exhibition also features a selection of Gormley's working models, installed on a series of tables. Revealing processes that can be both playful and disciplined, the installation suggests a workshop full of ideas and procedures, methods and materials.

These works, together with a series of new expansion pieces, create an exhibition which powerfully extends Gormley's exploration of the body as a site of transformation.

Born in London in 1950, Antony Gormley's solo shows include Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia (2012), Deichtorhallen, Hamburg (2012), The State Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg (2011), Kunsthaus Bregenz, Austria (2010), Hayward Gallery, London (2007), Malmö Konsthall, Sweden (1993) and Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark (1989). Major public works include Angel of the North (1998, Gateshead, England), Another Place (2005, Crosby Beach, England) and Exposure (2010, Lelystad, The Netherlands). He has also participated in major group shows such as the 'Venice Biennale' (1982 and 1986) and 'Documenta 8', Kassel, Germany (1987). Gormley won the Turner Prize in 1994 and was made an Officer of the British Empire in 1997. Since 2003 he has been a member of the Royal Academy of Arts and since 2007 a British Museum Trustee.

A publication to accompany the exhibition, with an essay by art historian and critic, Michael Newman, will be available in January 2013. Please contact bookshop@whitecube.com for further information.

White Cube Bermondsey is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10am—6pm and Sunday, 12—6pm. For further information, please contact Honey Luard or Sara Macdonald on +44 (0)20 7930 5373.

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List of Works

## Overview



South Gallery I North Gallery 19 The Model Room \* Cumulate IV 2002—12 2012 Mixed media Cast iron Dimensions variable  $83^{15}/16 \times 26^{7}/8 \times 21^{13}/16$  in.  $(213.2 \times 68.3 \times 55.4 \text{ cm})$ <u>9×9×9</u> 20 Pose 2012 17 Mark Cast iron 2012 26 7/8 × 83 15/16 × 21 13/16 in.  $(68.3 \times 213.2 \times 55.4 \text{ cm})$ Cast iron  $236 \times 100^{3/8} \times 108^{7/8}$  in.  $(599.5 \times 255 \times 276.5 \text{ cm})$ 21 Push X 2012 South Gallery II Cast iron  $73^{5/8} \times 27^{3/8} \times 26^{15/16}$  in. (187 × 69.6 × 68.5 cm) 18 Model 2012 22 Weathering steel 197 <sup>5</sup>/8 × 1275 <sup>9</sup>/16 × 535 <sup>7</sup>/16 in. Loss III 2012  $(502 \times 3240 \times 1360 \text{ cm})$ Cast iron 74 × 27 <sup>3</sup>/8 × 26 <sup>15</sup>/16 in.  $(188 \times 69.6 \times 68.5 \text{ cm})$ 23 Pull 2012 Cast iron 34<sup>1</sup>/<sub>16</sub> × 29<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> × 72<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in.  $(86.5 \times 74.3 \times 183.5 \text{ cm})$ 24 Clasp VI 2012 Cast iron

79<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> × 24 × 26<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in.

 $(202 \times 61 \times 67.6 \text{ cm})$