

Spotlight On Antony Gormley:

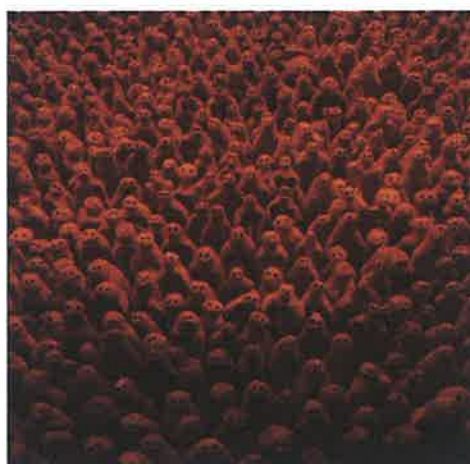
'Field For The British Isles'

From the Arts Council Collection

*A National Touring Exhibition from the Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre
Longside Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park*

9 July – 6 November 2005 (date extended from 18 September)

Field for the British Isles is one of Antony Gormley's best-loved works of art featuring 40,000 clay figures. In 1995 *Field* was purchased by the Arts Council Collection, run by the Hayward Gallery, with the support of the Henry Moore Foundation and the National Art Collections Fund. Since its acquisition *Field* has been seen by nearly 400,000 visitors in Aberystwyth, Carlisle, Colchester, Gateshead, Gloucester, Lincoln, London, Salisbury, Sheffield, Shrewsbury and St Ives, in venues as diverse as a trainshed, a church, a cathedral, a gallery, and a warehouse. *Field* comes to Longside Gallery in July 2005: framed by the Yorkshire landscape visible through the windows beyond, this extraordinary installation promises to command a spectacular presence.



Winner of the 1994 Turner Prize, Antony Gormley is renowned for his distinctive representations of the human form. Gormley has described *Field* as '...twenty-five tons of clay energised by fire, sensitised by touch and made conscious by being given eyes...a field of gazes which looks at the observer making him or her its subject'. This arresting installation comprises a sea of miniature terracotta figures, clustered together. Some stand out because of their size and character, others are greyer than the earthy reds of the majority. The overall sight is both captivating and mesmerising. The figures were handmade by 100 people, aged seven to 70, from a community in St Helen's, Merseyside in 1993. Every time *Field* is exhibited it takes about a week to install by a team of volunteers.

To celebrate the presentation *Field* at Longside Gallery, the Arts Council Collection will also display its series of twelve woodblock prints entitled *Bearing Light* (1990). The prints act as a kind of lexicon of Gormley's imagery and interests. They seek to achieve 'what all my work has tried to do: recover the body lost within the space created for art by modernism.' Other works by Antony Gormley will also be on display at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, including *One and Other* (2000), an iron cast of a man perched high atop a sycamore tree trunk.

Field for the British Isles is accompanied by a Spotlight leaflet with a text by Chief Art Critic of *The Guardian*, Adrian Searle, priced at £1.

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- Spotlight exhibitions focus on significant works by major artists in the Arts Council Collection, and tour to galleries all over the country. Some of these works have been acquired recently; others are among the most famous historical works in the Collection. *Spotlights* currently on tour include an investigation into the work of Eduardo Paolozzi and, from May 2005, a focus on Victor Pasmore.
- The Arts Council Collection is the largest national loan collection of modern and contemporary British art and is managed by the Hayward Gallery on behalf of the Arts Council of England. It has over 7500 paintings, drawings, sculptures and photographs by most of Britain's leading artists. The Collection has been built up since 1946 and lends work to public buildings around the country and to exhibitions in Britain and abroad. Longside provides an operating base for sculpture in the Collection and the adjacent Longside Gallery is shared by the Hayward and Yorkshire Sculpture Park for a series of thought-provoking exhibitions.
- For nearly 40 years, the Hayward Gallery has played a key role in creating imaginative, high profile exhibitions in London and, through National Touring Exhibitions, throughout the UK. Both NTE and the Arts Council Collection are managed by the Hayward Gallery on behalf of Arts Council England, and add to the Hayward's distinctive national remit.
- The Hayward Gallery is a constituent part of the South Bank Centre (SBC), which is also responsible for the Royal Festival Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, the Poetry Library, the Hungerford car park and Jubilee Gardens. Each year the Hayward Gallery presents up to six major art exhibitions as well as National Touring Exhibitions in more than 100 venues around the country. SBC also stages nearly 1000 ticketed performances of music, dance and literature and more than 300 free foyer events. It annually attracts more than three million visitors.

Longside Gallery
Yorkshire Sculpture Park
West Bretton
Wakefield
WF4 4LG
www.hayward.org.uk/longside
www.ysp.co.uk

Public enquiries: 01924 830900 or sculpture@hayward.org.uk

Longside Gallery daily opening hours:

Wintertime (until 27 March): 11am – 3pm

Summertime (from 28 March): 11am – 4pm

Admission free

For further press information and images (jpeg format) please contact Judith Holmes or Eleanor Bryson in the Hayward Gallery Press Office on 020 7921 0887/0631 or email press@hayward.org.uk