MIMMOSCOGNAMIGLIO ARTECONTEMPORANEA

press release

antony gormley - spacetime

mimmo scognamiglio artecontemporanea new space - milan opening monday 4 june 2007, 7 pm

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monday 4 june mimmo scognamiglio opens the doors to his new exhibition area in milan with a solo by antony gormley, one of the most significant contemporary artists of international fame. spacetime opens up an area of 200 square metres in corso di porta nuova, on the first floor of a building housing several other creative enterprises, destined to become a fresh, new hub for art lovers. after exhibiting in naples in 2002 and 2006 the british artist presents the public, international and milanese alike, with five hugely emotionally and visually impressive sculptures.

two sculptures that use physical pixels to destabilize a bodyform (one crouching, one lying, one in mild, one instainless steel) with every massive block expressing a tension between independence and connectivity while still retaining sufficient resolution to be considered a total form. two suspended linear wire works - one, horizontal, that uses 1.4 kilometres of square steel to evoke the zone of the body as a lateral energy field and the other,

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vertical, that uses the mapping of two zones of expansion to evoke the arrested space of a dive. the final work a "net" that confounds the discrete division of inner and outer bodyspace and makes the skin porous is a threedimensional fine steel wire drawing and activates the wall. there are also ten "drawings" or rather, "tracings ". all of these works start from a moment of lived time the artist using his own existence as his experimental material and chamber to test the reality of embodied consciousness in spacetime. through these works the artist continues to ask the following questions: can a thing in space among other things transform space and our experience of it? can an object instigate feeling? using discrete objects that form energy fields and matrices, gormley gives us objects as events in which we are implicated as participant and empathic observer. through the agency of the sculpture we are made to feel the provisionality of self-constitution. spacetime destroyed our illusions of the constancy of time and space and therefore our understanding of the dimensions and context life. in testing the discreteness of sculpture by rooting it in the specific of the subjective body and the dimensions of site, gormley is now making pieces and environments in which both objects and experiences (sometimes interchangeable) allow us to feel the shifting continuum of inner and outer worlds.this is particularly true of his recently opened show "blind light" at the hayward gallery in london (closing august 19th.) antony gormley's sculpture is all about shifts of perception and transformation, but at the same time it retains "thingness", apartness, autonomy. we enter its field and become part of its engagement with spacetime imaginative terms its space is our time.

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antony gormley (london 1950) is one of the most famous contemporary british sculptors. since the early seventies he has consistently developed his research into embodied space.

the work of antony gormley has been widely acclaimed in britain with solo exhibitions at the whitechapel, tate and hayward galleries as well as the british museum and the white cube. his exhibitions abroad have taken place at the louisiana museum of modern art at humlebaek, the corcoran gallery of art in washington, the irish museum of modern art in dublin and the kolnischer kunstverein in cologne. he also took part in the venice biennale and documenta 8 in kassel. in 1994 he won the turner prize and in 1999 the south bank prize for visual arts. one of his largest permanent installations another place is at crosby beach near liverpool. in 2006 another large installation, asian field, was included in the sydney biennale.

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