

Irish  
Museum  
of  
Modern  
Art

ANTONY GORMLEY SCULPTURE  
THE IRISH MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The most comprehensive exhibition to date of the work of **Antony Gormley**, one of Britain's foremost sculptors, opens to the public at the Irish Museum of Modern Art on Friday 15 April. The exhibition is a collaboration between IMMA, Malmö Konsthall and Tate Gallery Liverpool, and comprises 25 works; most made in the last four years and many being seen for the first time.

**Antony Gormley: Sculpture** explores Gormley's pioneering work from the human body. It includes recent lead pieces as well as developments into three new areas: concrete blocks containing the artist's body as a void, solid body forms in iron and the remarkable *Field for the British Isles* comprising 40,000 hand-sized terracotta figures made with the help of over 100 people from St Helen's, Merseyside, which completely fill a 130 foot-long corridor and return the viewer's gaze in a powerful and hypnotic manner.

Throughout the eighties Gormley's work developed a radical position - radical in its relation to the public and in relation to the spaces in which it is shown. His work repossesses the body not as an object, but as a place which becomes a focus for the subjective response of the viewer. It demonstrates a belief in the intrinsic power of sculpture to elicit thoughts and feelings in the viewer about our place in the world and Gormley's belief in the value of art as a vehicle of change for the individual and society.

Antony Gormley (b 1950) has shown widely internationally, and in the last two years alone has had one-person shows in Mexico City, San Diego, Tokyo, Washington, Montreal, Paris, Rome, Salzburg and Warsaw. Since 1981 he has had 10 solo exhibitions in the UK, but is, perhaps, best known there for his publicly-sited sculptures, such as those at Winchester Cathedral and Birmingham City Centre and at the city walls in Derry.

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