



lehmbbruckmuseum

GORMLEY / LEHMBRUCK: CALLING ON THE BODY

Running time: 23 September 2022 to 26 February 2023

Press conference: Wednesday, 21 September 2022, 11 a.m.

The Lehmbbruck Museum is pleased to present the most extensive exhibition by British sculptor Antony Gormley in Germany to date. Internationally renowned as one of the most significant and influential sculptors working today, Gormley has long expressed his admiration for, and interest in, Wilhelm Lehmbbruck and his work's inwardness, sense of calm, and reflexive potential.

This exhibition has been conceived as a dialogue between the two artists, showcasing key works created almost a century apart. It draws parallels between Gormley and Lehmbbruck, where both use the body as a site of transformation that seeks to evoke a state of being and quiet contemplation.

Calling on the Body will encompass the entire museum, covering an area of 3000 square metres, with Gormley's sculptures acting as punctuation points throughout the building. The exhibition includes a selection of works spanning the breadth of the artist's practice, from his seminal early lead works to the more recent *Slabwork* series that transform human body-space into architecture. Presented to the public for the first time in over 10 years is *Allotment II* (1996), an expansive installation comprised of 300 life-size concrete bunkers, whilst *Drift VI* (2010) floats in the museum's glass atrium – a transparent, fine steel sculpture that appears like a three-dimensional drawing in space. In all, 14 sculptures and installations, 111 models, 35 drawings and more than 260 of Antony Gormley's workbooks provide an up-to-date and comprehensive insight into his "sculpture as physical thinking".

"At different points in time – at the beginning of modernity and in late modernity – Wilhelm Lehmbbruck and Antony Gormley ask anew the fundamental question of what a human being is. The essence of the human being is central to the work of both artists," says Dr Söke Dinkla, director of the Lehmbbruck Museum. "One of Gormley's crucial goals is to stimulate emotions and physically connect us with our internal space – he considers the body less an object than a place".

Antony Gormley (b. 1950, London, UK) has been exhibited throughout the UK and internationally with recent exhibitions at Museum Voorlinden, the Netherlands (2022); National Gallery Singapore, Singapore (2021); The Royal Academy of Arts, London

(2019); Delos, Greece (2019) and Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia (2019). He was awarded the Turner Prize in 1994, the South Bank Prize for Visual Art in 1999, the Bernhard Heiliger Award for Sculpture in 2007, the Obayashi Prize in 2012 and the Praemium Imperiale in 2013. He was made a knight in the New Year's Honours list in 2014 and has been a Royal Academician since 2003.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a richly illustrated catalogue featuring new scholarship from Dr Söke Dinkla, Ronja Friedrichs and Jon Wood, as well as an insightful conversation between Antony Gormley and the journalist Tobias Haberl.

The museum would like to thank the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Rhineland Regional Council (LVR), the Cultural Foundation of the German Federal States, the Sparkasse Duisburg, the Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung Rheinland, duisport - Duisburger Hafen AG and Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac for their generous support.