Sean Kelly Gallery

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ANTONY GORMLEY

Blind Light October 26 – December 1, 2007



Sean Kelly is delighted to announce a major exhibition of new work by Antony Gormley. The opening of the exhibition will take place on Thursday, October 25th from 6pm until 8pm. The artist will be present.

The centerpiece of Gormley's ambitious exhibition is a room-sized installation that occupies the main gallery entitled *Blind Light*. *Blind Light* is a luminous glass room filled with a dense cloud of mist. Upon entering the room-within-a-room, the visitor is disoriented by the

visceral experience of the fully saturated air, in which visibility is limited to less than two feet. The very nature of one's sense of one's own body and its relationship in space to others is challenged. In Gormley's words:

Architecture is supposed to be the location of security and certainty about where you are. It is supposed to protect you from the weather, from darkness, from uncertainty. *Blind Light* undermines all of that. You enter this interior space that is the equivalent of being on top of a mountain, or at the bottom of the sea. It is very important for me that inside it you find the outside. Also you become the immersed figure in an endless ground, literally the subject of the work.

Blind Light was included this summer in Gormley's hugely acclaimed exhibition at the Hayward Gallery, London, to unprecedented public and critical approbation. Some 208,000 people experienced the installation, making it the most visited exhibition of a living artist in the Hayward's 39-year history. The exhibition was extensively covered by the media including CNN and Good Morning America. The Hayward Gallery also produced an accompanying catalog titled *Blind Light* that includes an essay by Anthony Vidler, the Dean of the School of Architecture at Cooper Union in New York. A five hundred-fifty page comprehensive monograph on Gormley's work was published concurrently by Steidl Mack.

In addition to *Blind Light*, there will be a number of new sculptures on view. These works, as with so much of Gormley's oeuvre, show the artist revitalizing the practice of figurative sculpture through his investigation of the body (often his own) as the locus of memory and transformation.

Antony Gormley is, without question, one of the most significant artists of our time. His work is included in many major public collections worldwide including The Tate Gallery, London, The Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, The Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis, The Museum of Modern Art, Fort Worth, and The Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego.

Please contact Maureen Bray at the gallery (212.239.1181) or maureen@skny.com for more information. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday from 11am until 6pm and Saturday from 10am until 6pm.