

ANTONY GORMLEY

BREATHING ROOM, 2006 - 2012

BREATHING ROOM was an attempt to make a three-dimensional drawing in space that was both a diagram and a thing.

It is an instrument that allows the viewers to become the viewed by creating an interpenetrating nest of seven space frames that occupy a central position in the room.

The volume outlined by the frame remains constant whilst being extended in each case on a different axis. A mandala-like drawing on the floor forms the groundplan from which the seven rooms grow. The structure is made from 25 mm x 25 mm square aluminium tube.

The object hovers between being architecture and being an image of architecture. It is a contained object in a defined internal space. In the Ropac Gallery installation, all electrical lights were removed and the frames were painted with two layers of phosphorescent paint that absorbed light during the day and emitted it at night. In its night state the work assumes an unstable position between the virtual and the real.

If perspective and orthogonal architecture in the West are the way in which space is described and contained, this is an attempt to open up those limiting characteristics.
