

# DEICHTORHALLEN INTERNATIONALE KUNST UND FOTOGRAFIE HAMBURG

**ANTONY GORMLEY**

**HORIZON FIELD HAMBURG**

APRIL 27 – SEPTEMBER 9, 2012

HALLE FÜR AKTUELLE KUNST

British artist Antony Gormley has developed a spectacular new installation especially for the large Deichtorhalle: »Horizon Field Hamburg«, which will be on view during the documenta.

Between April 27 and September 9, 2012, visitors will enter the north hall of the Deichtorhallen to be confronted by a space that is almost 4,000 sq. m. in size, nearly 19 meters high, and virtually empty. »It is critical that the experience of the space is utterly clear and that in there we see a void, clean building re-imagined as a kind of gymnasium for mind and body,« says Gormley.

In this open space a vast, black, reflective structure will float nearly 7.5 metres above the floor, inviting adventure. The suspended, slightly oscillating platform exploits the structural potential and architectural context of the Deichtorhallen building, now over a century old, taking visitors into a new spatiotemporal matrix.

The space below the work will be in shadow, sparsely illuminated by light that comes from the skylights far above. Here visitors can tarry and listen to the steps and voices of the invisible people above them. Every quality of the day or night, every sound and accident of light will become part of the work itself. »There is a double bind here. We have a real choice of how we wish to participate,« Gormley explains. »We can stay in an underworld or climb skywards. Both scenarios put the human subject into a dynamic position of jeopardy.«

»Horizon Field Hamburg« will provoke an experience of re-orientation and re-connection with walking, feeling, hearing and seeing. Individual and group experience will be mediated through vibration, sound and reflection. The entire project could be seen as a horizontal painting stretched taut in space, on which the visitor becomes a figure in a free floating, undefined ground.



This project is being organized by Deichtorhallen Hamburg in cooperation with Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac and was made possible by the generous patronage of NORDMETALL-Stiftung and Kulturstiftung des Bundes.

IN KOOPERATION MIT

**GALERIE THADDAEUS ROPAC**  
PARIS SALZBURG

ERMÖGLICHT DURCH

**NORDMETALL**  
Stiftung

GEFÖRDERT DURCH

**KULTURSTIFTUNG**  
DES  
BUNDES

STATISCH-KONSTRUKTIVE KONZEPTION



**schleich bergemann**  
und partner

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## PRECURSORS

»Horizon Field Hamburg« is the most recent in Antony Gormley's series of participatory works. »One & Other« in 2009 invited one person, for one hour, 24 hrs a day over 100 days to occupy a small raised platform on London's Trafalgar Square and become representations of themselves.



In the Hayward Gallery's »Blind Light« visitors were immersed in a cold, bright and dense cloud in which all visible objects disappeared and their perception of space expanded into a luminous, objectless space. The Hamburg project continues this theme of disorientation, making the viewer's consciousness into the subject of the work.

The immediate predecessor of the Hamburg project was »Horizon Field Vorarlberg«. This installation of 100 life-size iron bodies engaged the viewer in a perceptual field. »Horizon Field Hamburg« confronts the viewer with the built environment rather than the natural world – offering new perspectives on the interior of the building and the city landscape beyond.



## TECHNICAL REALIZATION

A technically ambitious project, Horizon Field Hamburg is realised in association with internationally acclaimed firm »schlaich bergemann und partner« who specialize in the construction of stadiums and bridges. A team at Harburg Technical University is also lending its support to the project.

Horizon Field Hamburg is supported by the NORDMETALL Foundation, which is providing both financial and intellectual support: »An increasing number of marvelous works are arising from the interaction between humans and technology, in the domains of both art and industry,« comments Dr. Thomas Klischan, Chairman of the NORDMETALL Foundation, which represents 250 companies in the North German metalworking and electronics industry.

»The steel structure for 'Horizon Field' is inconceivable without the artist's idea, and likewise there's no imagining it without the brilliant engineering efforts. In this way art and technology come to really appreciate each other,« Klischan concludes.