



Antony Gormley

Angel of the North





The Angel of the North

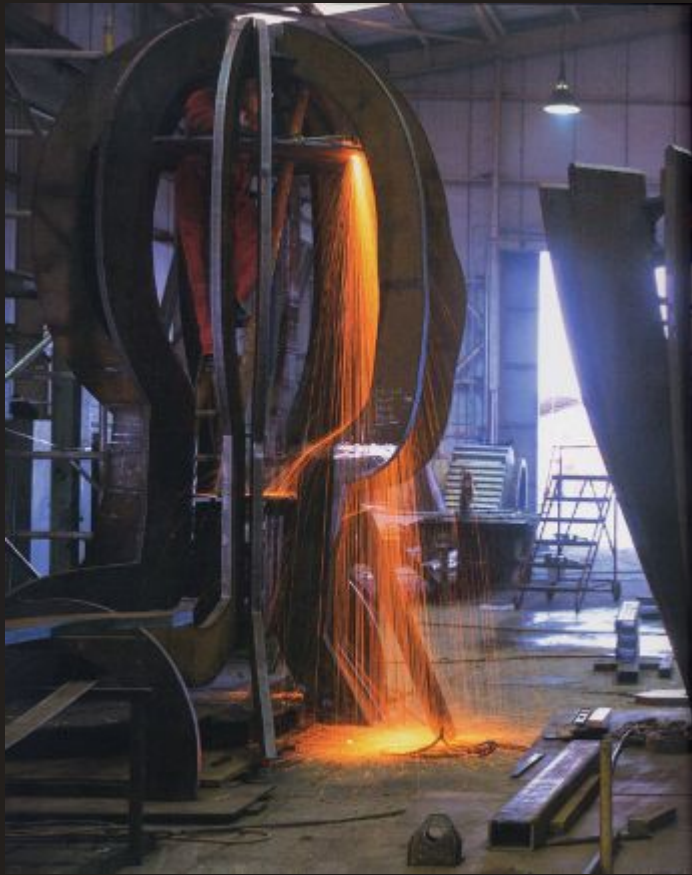


Why an Angel?

Is it possible to make a work with purpose in a time that demands doubt? I wanted to make an object that would be a focus of hope at a painful time of transition for the people of the north-east, abandoned in the gap between the industrial and the information ages.

About the Angel

The work is made of corten steel, weighs 200 tonnes and has 500 tonnes of concrete foundations. The mound near the A1 motorway which was the designated site of the sculpture was made after the closure of the Lower Tyne Colliery, out of the destroyed remains of the pithead baths. It is a tumulus marking the end of the era of coal mining in Britain.

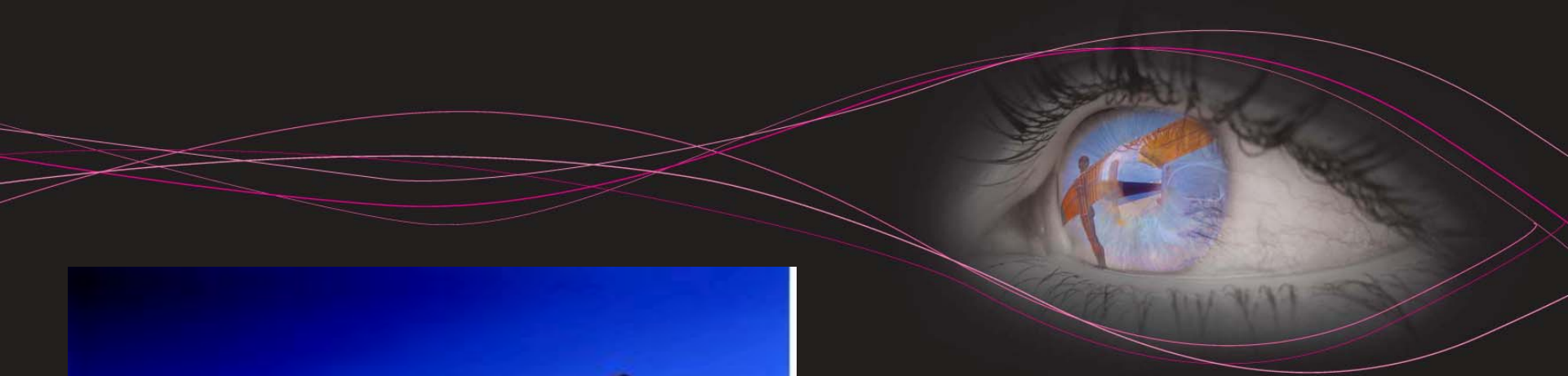




Angel stands alone

The Angel stands, without a spotlight or a plinth, day and night, in wind, rain and shine and has many friends. It is a huge inspiration to me that the *Angel* is rarely alone in daylight hours, and as with much of my work, it is given a great deal through the presence of those that visit it.

Antony Gormley



Angel of the
North in snow



About the Artist

Antony Gormley was born in London in 1950. Upon completing a degree in archaeology, anthropology and the history of art at Trinity College, Cambridge, he travelled to India, returning to London three years later to study at the Central School of Art, Goldsmiths College and the Slade School of Art.

Over the last 25 years Antony Gormley has revitalised the human image in sculpture through a radical investigation of the body as a place of memory and transformation, using his own body as subject, tool and material.



Work completed by Antony Gormley

