

*MOTHER'S PRIDE IV*, 2012, by Anthony Gormley  
Study Paper by Bev McGill, 2016



Born AUGUST 30, 1950

He grew up the youngest of six siblings.

His Father was Irish and his Mother was German.

He studied archaeology and art history at Trinity College.

Gormley was educated in Buddhism in Sri Lanka, India 1971-74.

The museum purchased Mother's Pride IV art work with funds provided by Donna MacMillan.

The art piece is constructed with white luncheon bread slices mounted by wax onto a white board. It involved 600 loaves of Mother's Pride bread slices and used teeth to make the bite marks.

The art piece was originally constructed in 1982; it became infested with Indian bookworm. The work was fumigated and then, after two treatments by Rentokil, it has been reconstructed. It is now kept in a glass box to protect the delicate art piece.

The artist is quoted saying, "The eating part was tedious. I swear, I never want to have anything to do with industrial produced bread again!"

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This work represents abstract expressionism. It is designed to make a place, free from knowledge, free from history, free from nationality to experiment freely with the time between "origin" and "becoming".

Anthony Gormley is a draughtsman and sculptor. He is best known for his Angel of the North sculpture. A common theme to his work relates to the relationship of the human body to space.

The artist has constructed 100 cast iron life size sculptures of his own body positioned to face the sea, which is spread along CROSBY BEACH, near Liverpool, England.

My first impressions of this art piece caused me to question why the use of a human form and white luncheon bread slices? A human form was placed upside down in a strange juxtaposition between infancy and adulthood and bites taken out of white luncheon bread slices to suggest different time periods and states of being.

I was drawn to this piece as an eye opening new concept, which seemed to be asking us to reconsider place in the world.

Resources include internet investigation;

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) [www.visual-arts-cork.com/sculpture/anthony\\_gormly.htm](http://www.visual-arts-cork.com/sculpture/anthony_gormly.htm)  
[www.theguardian.com/culture/2012/feb/06/vicken-persons-anthony-gr-ormly-bed](http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2012/feb/06/vicken-persons-anthony-gr-ormly-bed)