

Reflection And Distortion

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NEWS

BRIEF



Anish Kapoor, *Non-Object (Oval Twist, Door, Square Twist)*, 2008, stainless steel, 250 x 128 x 150 cm; 281.3 x 118.1 x 118.1 cm; and 250 x 144 x 100 cm. Photograph: Dave Morgan. Image © Anish Kapoor. Courtesy of Kukje Gallery.

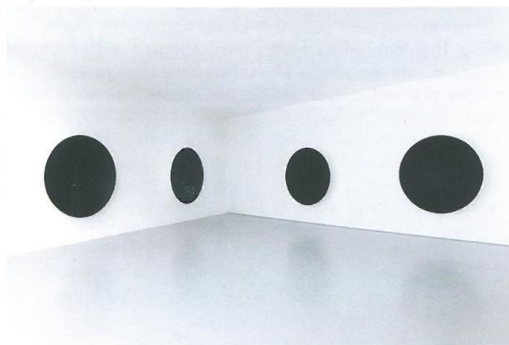
KOREA

Reflection And Distortion

Kukje Gallery is presenting an exhibition of recent works by Anish Kapoor through October 30, 2016. Titled *Gathering Clouds*, the exhibition showcases sculptures that reflect his mastery of formal investigation and material science.

The exhibition includes two unique yet related series that together cement his reputation further as a fearless interlocutor of materials and conceptual rigor. The new works reveal how Kapoor's work explores symbolic forms and advanced engineering as well as his ongoing investigation of how different materials impact reflection and distortion.

The first and primary grouping of works is a series of his new "twist" sculptures. Fabricated from stainless steel, these powerful works demand attention as they exhibit how force applied to mass can be captured as a manifestation of arrested movement. The artist has referred to similar bodies



Anish Kapoor, *Gathering Clouds I, II, III, IV*, 2014, fiberglass and paint, 188 x 188 x 39 cm each. Image © Anish Kapoor. Courtesy of Kukje Gallery.

of work as *Non-Objects* (2013–2014), referring to the in-between state where the internal geometry of a thing and its surface combine to interrupt the object's legibility, conspiring in its own disappearance. The twists resemble both symbols and bodies in space, evoking ancient mathematical axioms or manifestations of engineering; machined from solid blocks of steel, they shape an inchoate mass of metal into powerful but precise forms that twist in an unspecified number of degrees, without ever amounting to a full 90 degree turn. For the most part his twists resemble abstract part volume as personified

in geometry or the movement embodied in Baroque allegory. Kapoor taps into the same effect that Baroque architects achieved in their buildings by freezing radical movement and oblique planes.

Non-Object works seem to be held in a kind of suspended animation, their volume offset by the lightness and tensile fragility of their polished surface. Flawless, they nevertheless retain a glimmer of instability, conveying to the viewer an intimacy and physicality that is inexhaustible. Approximately 60 centimeters in height, the twelve twists are displayed on pedestals in K1 while the

three larger twists, measuring 2.5 meters, rest directly on the floor in K3 gallery. Alternating on these two levels, the twists fill their respective galleries, creating a kind of hallowed hall wherein one walks and is flanked by these silent but activated bodies.

Titled sequentially *I* to *IV*, *Gathering Clouds* consist of wall-mounted and pigment-coated fiberglass discs—a concave form often explored by the artist such as in his celebrated work *Sky Mirror*—that evoke a mysterious, unfathomable darkness. These powerful shapes resist easy interpretation, alternating the focus on surface and depth, exploring the emotional contours of whoever is looking at them. Kapoor has utilized intense monochromatic hues in many of his works ranging from *L'origine du monde* (2004) to the monumental *Leviathan* (2011). By skillfully balancing surfaces with expertly manipulated geometrical forms, the artist is able to transform the space, thereby, inducing a physical and emotional experience in the viewer.

Anish Kapoor was born in 1954, Mumbai, India, and moved to England in 1972 where he studied sculpture at Hornsey College of Art and then Chelsea College of Arts. He represented Britain in the *44th Venice Biennale* in 1990, winning the *Premio Duemila*. Kapoor was also awarded the Turner Prize in 1991.

Kukje Gallery is at 54 Samcheong-ro, Jongno-gu, Seoul. Tel: (82-2) 735 8449.

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