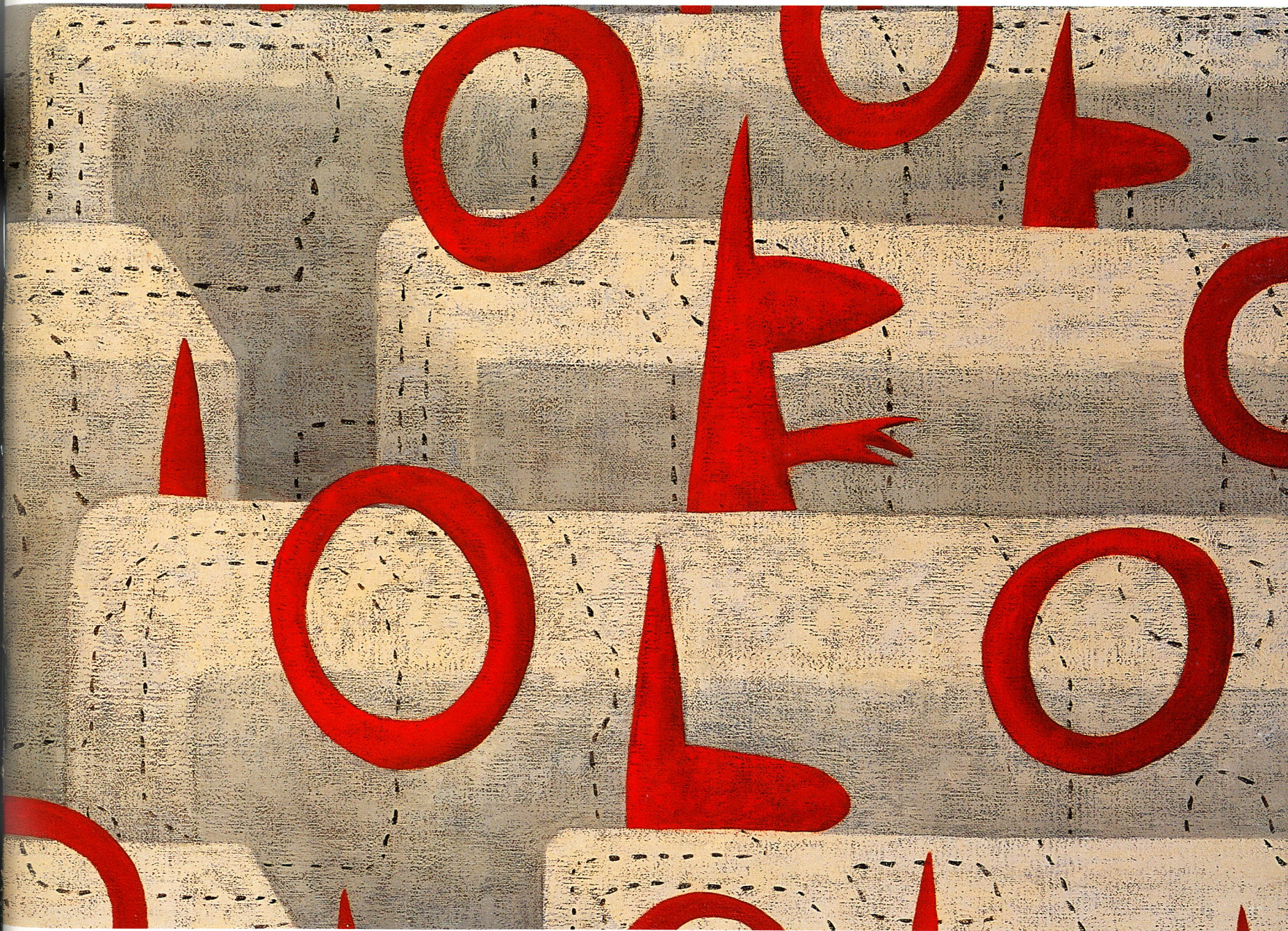


**JOHN KELLY** *THE NICE PAINTINGS – From The Top Paddock*





**John Kelly**

*The Nice Paintings – From The Top Paddock*

© John Kelly  
Niagara Publishing  
Niagara Galleries  
245 Punt Road Richmond 3121 Australia

Culture as Exhibit  
from The Darkening Ecliptic by Ern Malley  
© The Estate of James McAuley  
by arrangement with Curtis Brown (Aust) Pty Ltd

This catalogue is copyright.  
Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes  
of private study, research, criticism, or review  
as permitted by the Copyright Act,  
no part may be reproduced by any other  
process without written permission.

Design and printing  
Altshul Printers, Melbourne

Photography  
Mark Ashkanasy, Melbourne

Cover:  
*Breeding grounds* 2003  
oil on linen 91.5 x 183cm

ISBN 1920857 02 8



**JOHN KELLY**

*THE NICE PAINTINGS*  
*From The Top Paddock*

'Pooka – From old Celtic mythology. A fiery spirit in animal form; always very large.  
The Pooka appears here and there, now and then, to this one and that one.  
A benign but mischevious creature, very fond of rum-pots, crack-pots...'

Jesse White as Wilson  
From the film *Harvey*  
Starring James Stewart  
Universal Studios, 1950

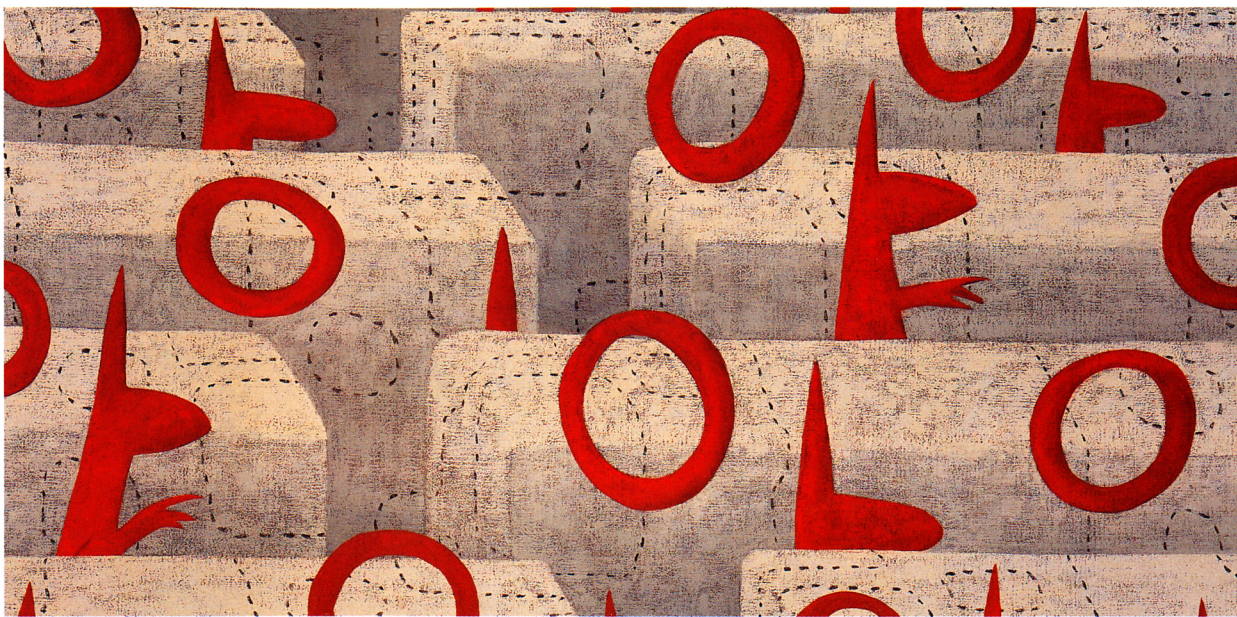












2 *Breeding grounds* 2003 oil on linen 91.5 x 183cm

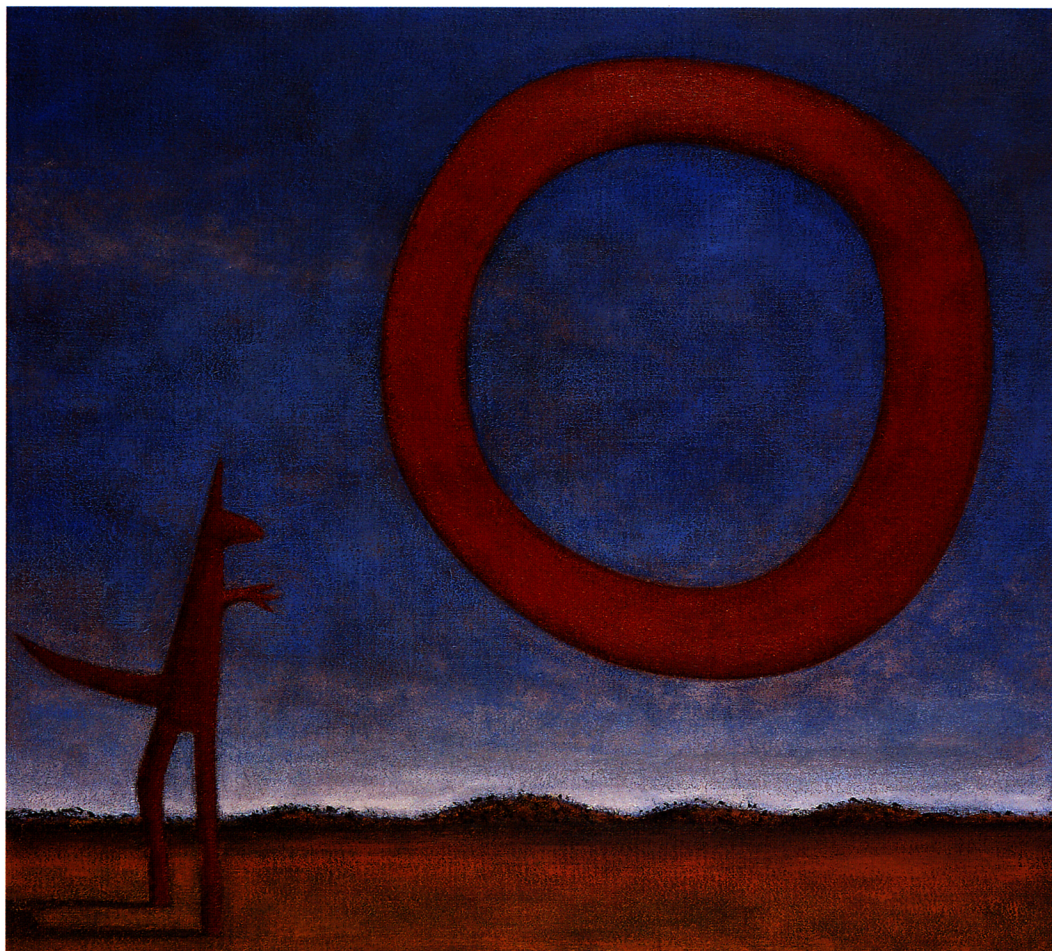




3 *Patines of etcetera* 2003 oil on linen 137 x 152cm















## **Culture as Exhibit**

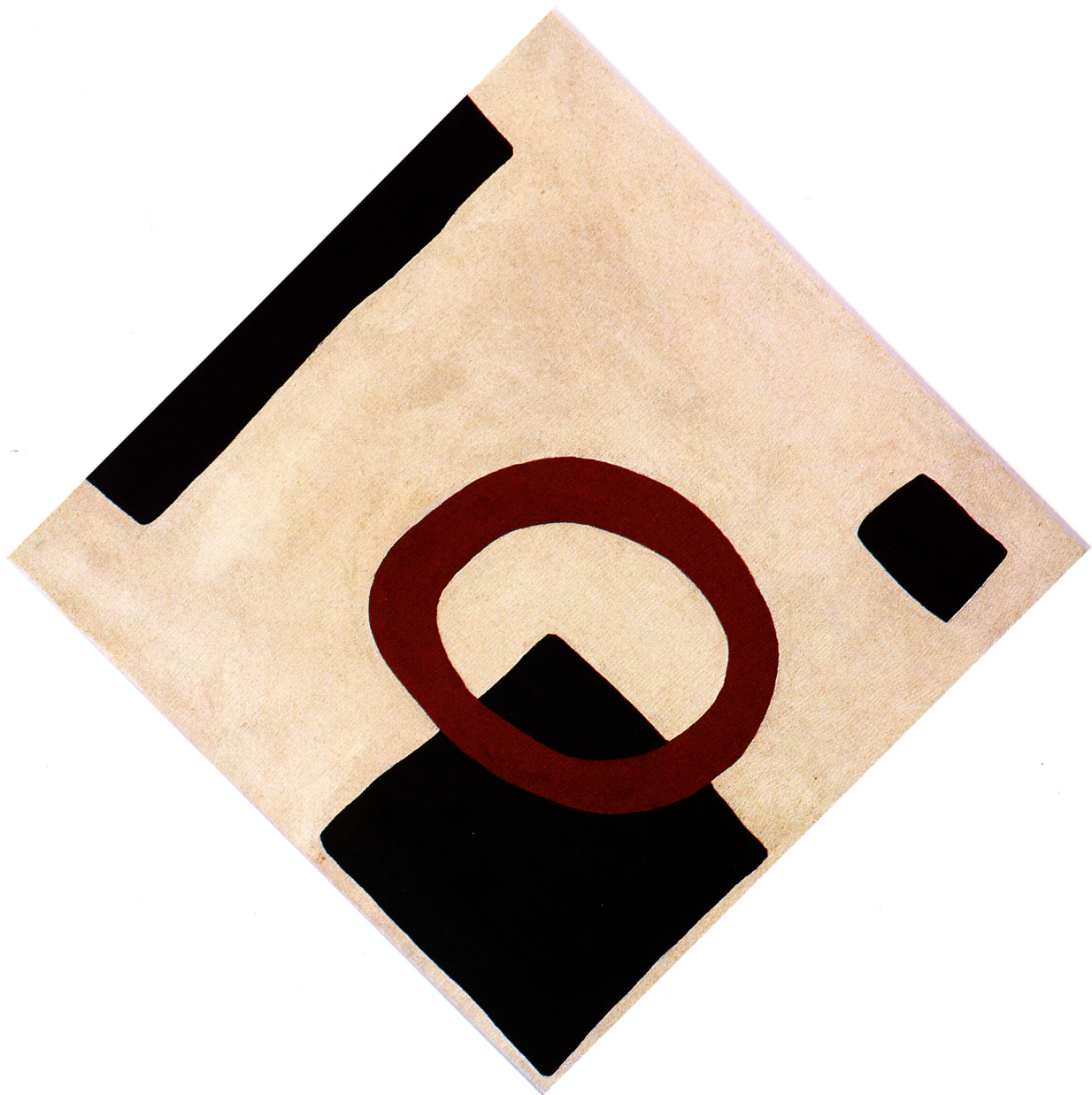
from *The Darkening Ecliptic*

by Ern Malley

'Swamps, marshes, borrow-pits and other  
Areas of stagnant water serve  
As breeding-grounds...' Now  
Have I found you, my Anopheles!  
(There is a meaning for the circumspect)  
Come, we will dance sedate quadrilles,  
A pallid polka or a yelping shimmy  
Over these sunken sodden breeding-grounds!  
We will be wraiths and wreaths of tissue-paper  
To clog the Town Council in their plans.  
Culture forsooth! Albert get my gun.

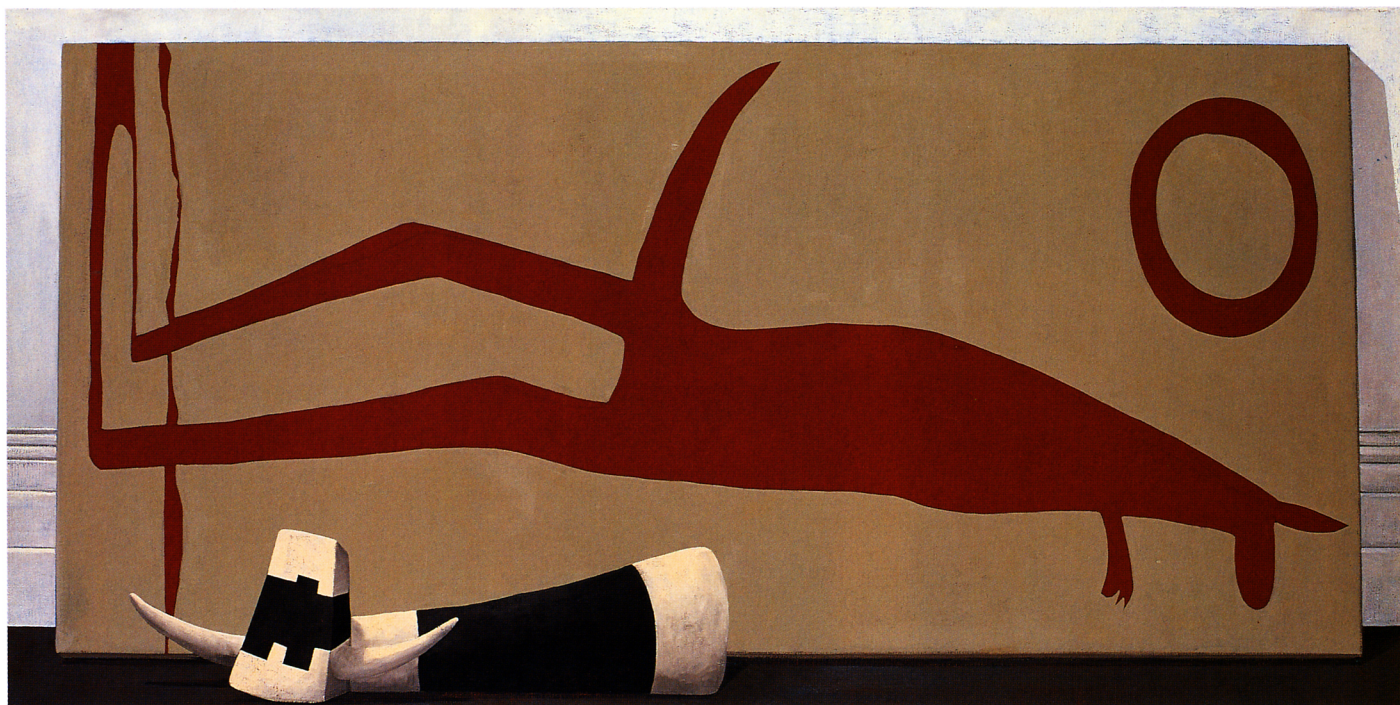
I have been noted in the reading-rooms  
As a borer of calf-bound volumes  
Full of scandals at the court. (Milord  
Had his hand upon the snowy globe  
Milady Lucy's sinister breast...) Attendants  
Have peered me over while I chewed  
Back-numbers of Florentine gazettes  
(Knowst not, my Lucia, that he  
Who has caparisoned a nun dies  
With his twankydillo at the ready?...)  
But in all of this I got no culture till  
I read a little pamphlet on my thighs  
Entitled: 'Friction as a Social Process.'  
What?

Look, my Anopheles,  
See how the floor of Heav'n is thick  
Inlaid with patines of etcetera...  
Sting them, sting them, my Anopheles.







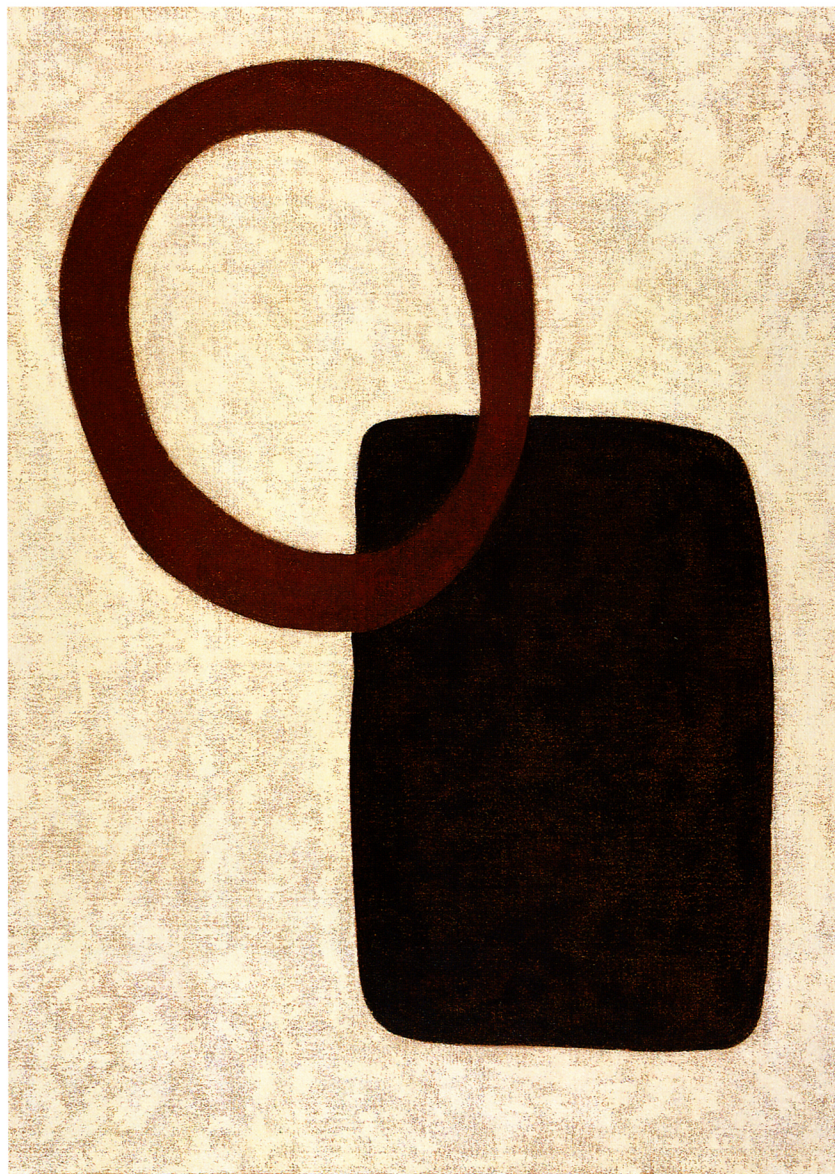












9 *Harold and James* 2003 oil on linen 167.5 x 121.5cm

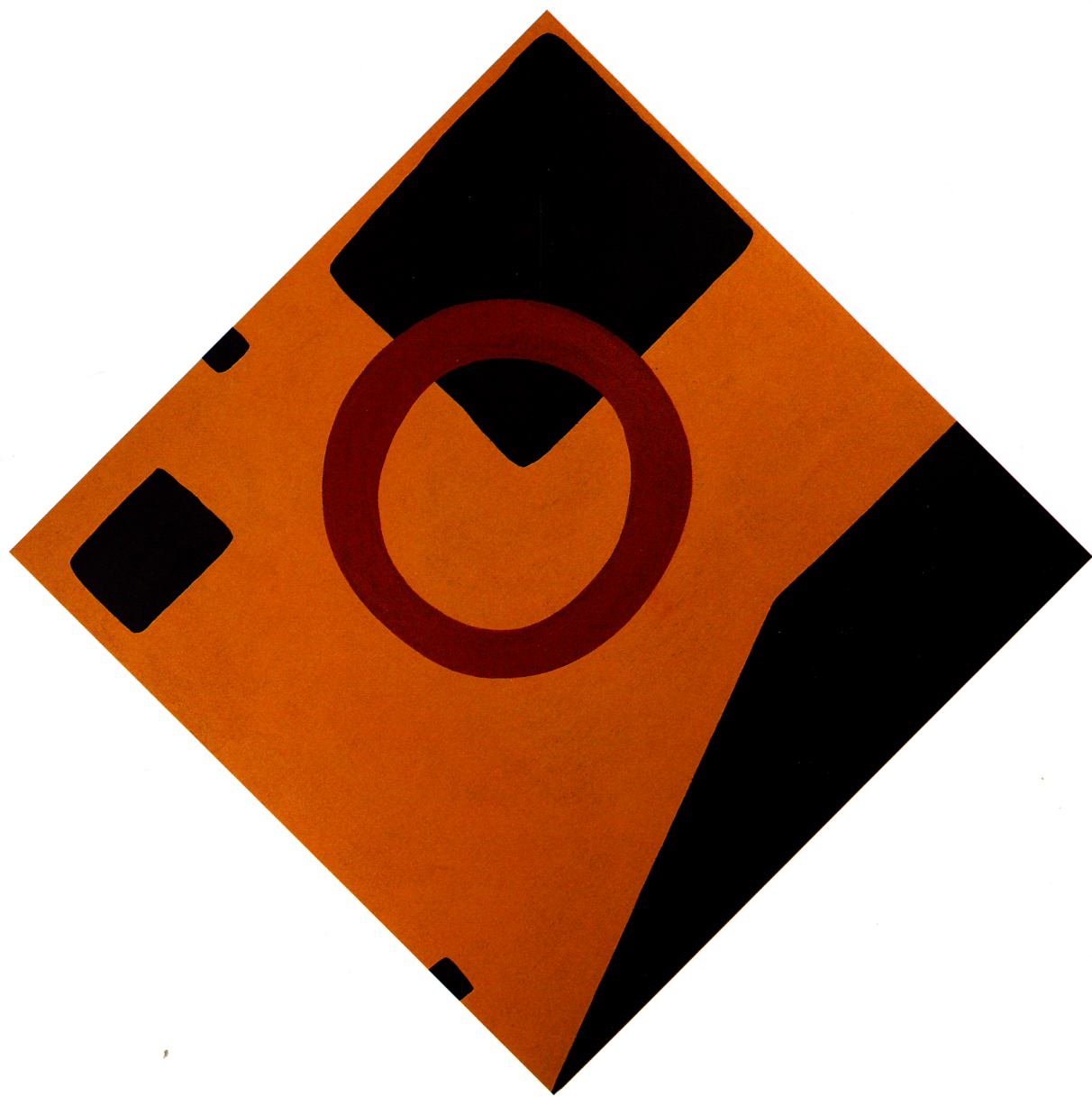




10 *Branding the arts* 2003 oil on linen 152 x 121.5cm





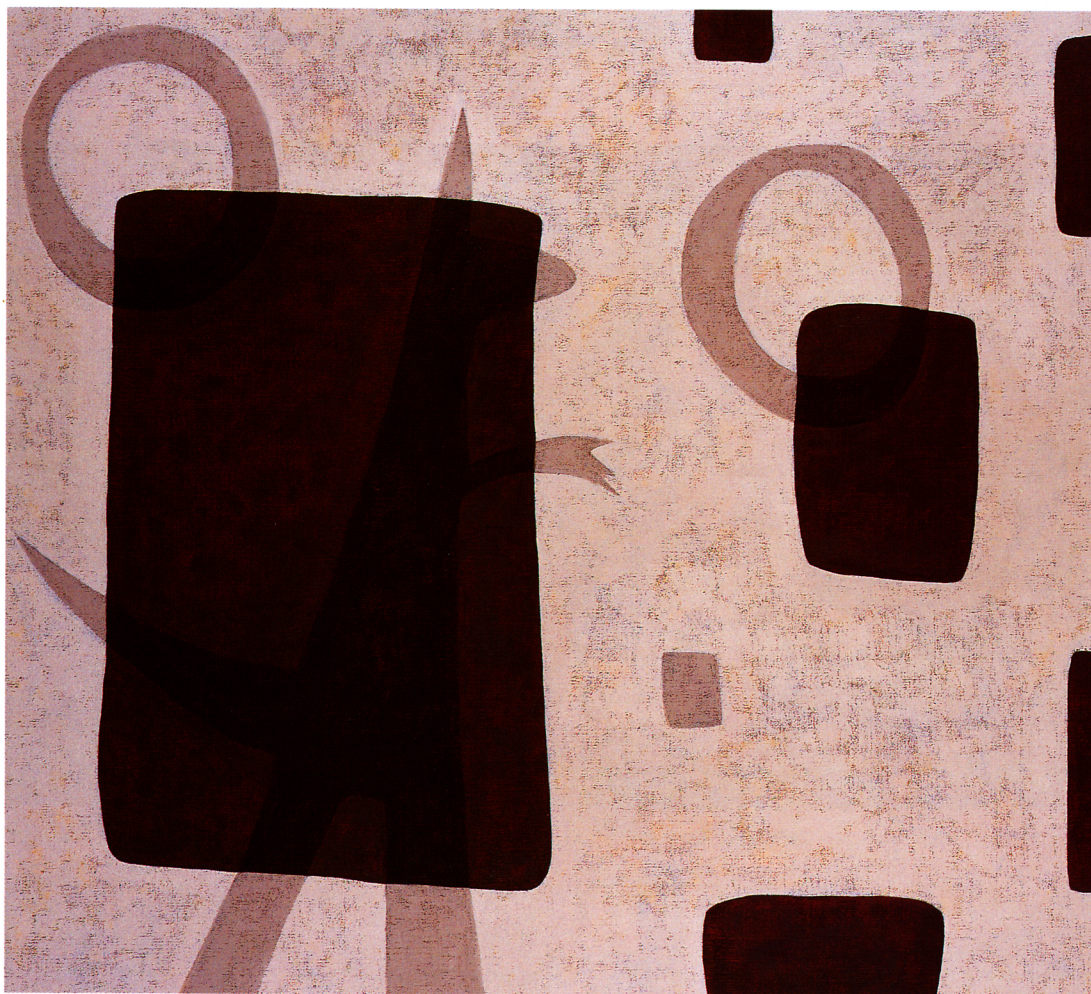












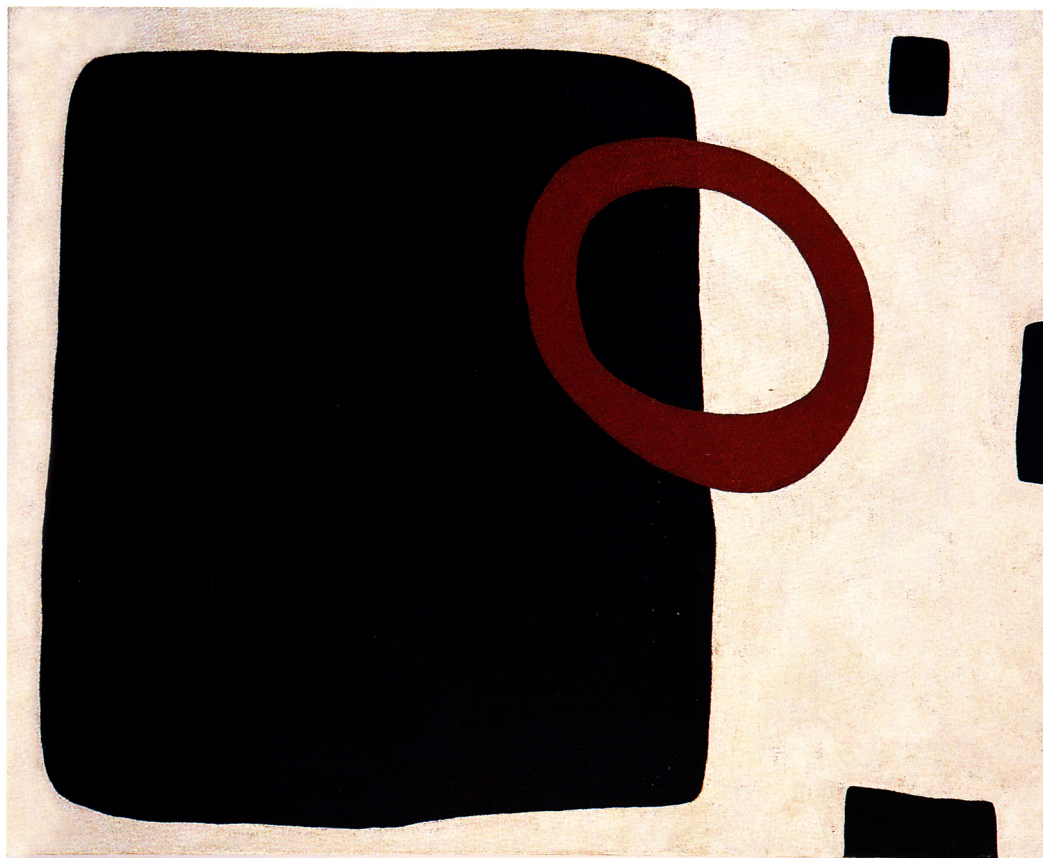
13 *Bureaucratic shadow* 2003 oil on linen 137 x 152.5cm



14 *Umbelliferous dark* 2003 oil on linen 137 x 152.5cm



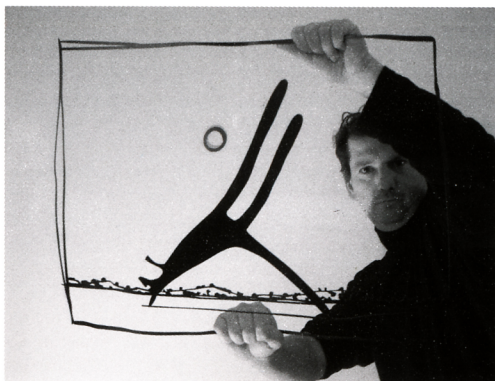












## JOHN KELLY

John Kelly was born in Bristol, UK in 1965 and his family immigrated to Australia the same year. In 1985 John obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts – Painting) from RMIT University, Melbourne where he also completed his Masters of Arts in 1995. As a winner of the 1995 Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship, he travelled to London to study as an Affiliate Student at the Slade School of Art from 1996 to 1997. John is currently undertaking major projects in Europe.

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2003 *The Nice Paintings – From The Top Paddock*, Liverpool Street Gallery, Sydney
- 2002 *Culture Jam*, The Piccadilly Gallery, London  
*Parades des Animaux*, Monte Carlo  
Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2000 The Piccadilly Gallery, London  
*More Fucking Cows!*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
*John Kelly*, L'espai centre culturel, Le Mans, France
- 1998 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1997 *Painting the Dead Horse*, The Piccadilly Gallery, London
- 1996 Masters Exhibition, RMIT, Melbourne  
Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1995 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
The Piccadilly Gallery, London
- 1994 Access Contemporary Art Gallery, Sydney
- 1993 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 1990 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
Essoign Club, Owen Dixon Chambers, Melbourne
- 1988 Niagara Galleries, Melbourne

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2003 *A Modelled World*, McClelland Gallery, Melbourne  
*Fair Game: Art & Sport*, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
*Blue Chip V: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne
- 2002 *Parade des Animaux*, Monte Carlo  
*Ready, Set, Go! Sporting Life and Australian Art*, Ipswich Global Arts Link, Queensland  
*Basel Art Fair*, Switzerland  
*Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London

- 2000 *Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London  
*Sulman Prize Exhibition*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Paysage*, Foundation Coprim, Paris  
*Accents Australiens*, l'Espace, Adamski Designs, Paris
- 1999 *Blue Chip II: The Collectors' Exhibition*, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne  
*Horses for Courses*, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria  
*Salon Grands et Jeunes d'Aujourd'hui*, Espace Eiffel, Paris  
*Les Champs de la Sculpture II*, Paris
- 1999 *Basel Art Fair*, Switzerland  
*Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London
- 1998 *Sulman Prize Exhibition*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Wynne Prize Exhibition*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Salon des Refusés*, SH Ervin Gallery, Sydney  
*Sixth Australian Contemporary Art Fair*, Melbourne  
*Basel Art Fair*, Switzerland  
Access Gallery, Sydney
- 1998 *Niagara at Hill-Smith Gallery*, Adelaide  
Virgin Airlines, Gatwick Airport, London  
*Figuring it Out*, Hammerson, 100 Park Lane, London  
*Propositions Australiennes*, Galerie Luc Queyral, Paris  
*Kuhkunst*, Galerie Commercio, Zurich
- 1997 *Oh La Vache!*, Halle Saint Pierre, Paris; Strausborg  
*Basel Art Fair*, Switzerland  
*Vaches du XXe Siècle et Drôles de Bovides*, Musée Municipal A.G. Poulain, Normandie, France  
*Glasgow Art Fair*, Scotland  
*Wynne Prize Exhibition*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
*Royal Overseas League Exhibition*, London; Edinburgh
- 1996 *20th Century British Art Fair*, Royal College of Art, London  
*Royal Overseas League Exhibition*, London; Edinburgh  
*Basel Art Fair*, Switzerland  
*Wynne Prize Exhibition*, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney



- 1995 12th Biennial Spring Festival of Drawing, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria  
Fifth Australian Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne  
The Herald Sun Art Prize, Melbourne  
Access Gallery, Sydney  
Royal Overseas League Exhibition, London; Edinburgh  
Piccadilly Gallery, London  
Basel Art Fair, Switzerland  
Deakin University: Recent Acquisitions, Geelong Art Gallery, Australia  
Piccadilly Gallery at Art '95, London  
Niagara at Australia Felix - Benalla Visual Arts Festival, Benalla, Victoria  
Sulman Prize Exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
Dobell Drawing Prize Exhibition, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney  
St. Kilda Postcard Show, Linden Gallery, Melbourne

## PUBLICATIONS

### CATALOGUES/BOOKS

- The Nice Paintings – From The Top Paddock, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Publishing, Melbourne 2003  
Laura Murray Cree, *Awesome! Australian Art for Contemporary Kids*, Craftsman House, Sydney, 2002  
More Fucking Cows!, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 2000  
John Kelly- *New Paintings and Sculpture*, exhibition catalogue, The Piccadilly Gallery, London, 2000  
Cow up a Tree, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1999  
Basel Art Fair catalogue, 1998  
John Kelly, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1998  
Royal Overseas League, exhibition catalogue, London, 1997  
Le Journal de L'exposition-Vaches du XXe.Siècle et Drôles de Bovides, Musée Municipal A.G. Poulain Vernon, Normandie, France, 1997  
Painting the Dead Horse, exhibition catalogue, The Piccadilly Gallery, London, 1997  
Royal Overseas League, exhibition catalogue, London, 1997  
Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship, exhibition catalogue, University of South Australia, 1996  
John Kelly, exhibition catalogue, The Piccadilly Gallery, London, 1995, 1997  
John Kelly, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1995  
Royal Overseas League, exhibition catalogue, London, 1995  
Australia Felix, exhibition catalogue, Benalla, 1995  
Australian Arts Diary, illustrated, 1995

- Moet et Chandon, exhibition catalogue, 1994  
Neville Drury, *Images 2 - Contemporary Australian Painting*, Craftsman House Press 1994  
John Kelly, exhibition catalogue, Niagara Galleries, Melbourne, 1993  
Moet et Chandon, exhibition catalogue, 1988

### ARTICLES/REVIEWS

- Georgina Safe, 'Painter mocks arts council bull', *The Australian*, 20 June 2003  
Bob Hart, 'In the bid time', *Herald Sun*, 3 May, 2003  
Louise Bellamy, 'Bull market for Niagara', *The Age*, 24 April, 2003  
Terry Ingram, 'Great Appreciations', *The Australian Financial Review*, 6 March 2003  
Michael Hutak, 'Holy cow: Nuttall on Kelly', *Australian Art Collector*, Issue 23, Jan-Mar 2003  
Terry Ingram, 'Art crowd fret till the cows come home', *The Australian Financial Review*, 12 December, 2002  
Louise Bellamy, 'The price of recognition', *The Age*, 9 September, 2002  
Jeff Makin, 'Roses all the way', *Herald Sun*, 4 February, 2002  
Susan McCulloch-Uehlin, 'Packing art and leaving home', *The Weekend Australian*, 2 June 2001  
'Docklands is out on a limb for art', *Melbourne Yarra Leader*, 12 February 2001  
Jeff Makin, 'Suspended Animation', *Herald Sun*, 20 November 2000  
Robert Nelson, 'Shock of the moo', *The Age*, 8 November 2000  
Anna Clabburn, 'Stripes and squares animate landscape carnival', *The Australian*, 10 November 2000  
John Kelly dans le cadre des Champs de la Sculpture 2000, press book, comprehensive collation of international media coverage, Agence Hymann, Ren.oult Associees, Paris, 2000  
'John Kelly L'Australie Aux Champs', *Connaissance Des Arts*, No 561, May 1999  
'Kelly: London to Brighton', *Artlink*, Vol 18, No 4, 1998  
'The Weekend's best: Art', *The Age*, 28 November 1998  
Barry Humphries 'The Art of John Kelly', Piccadilly Gallery, catalogue 1997.  
Susan McCulloch 'Metaphorically Phar-fetched', *The Australian*, 4 November, 1997  
Nicholas Usherwood 'Painting the Dead Horse', Piccadilly Gallery catalogue, 1997  
Andrew Block 'Cudding Edge', *Herald Sun*, 1 March, 1996  
John Russell Taylor 'Galleries', July 1995 (gallery guide, London, Paris, Glasgow, Bristol, etc.)  
Anna Clabburn *Asian Art News*, May 1995, Australian Supplement  
Robert Nelson 'Moet has depth and seduction', *The Age*, 4 January 1995  
Chris Johnston 'Painting a Cows Tale',

- Western Independent*, Melbourne  
Openline, RMIT 'John Storey winner milks memories of wartime cows', RMIT Universty 16 June, 1993  
Anna Clabburn 'Laughing at national sacred cows', *The Melbourne Times*, 23 June, 1993  
Alison Barclay *Herald Sun*, 8 June, 1993  
Gary Catalano *The Age*, 17 February, 1988

### COLLECTIONS:

- Artbank, Australia  
Baker and McKenzie, London  
Ballarat Art Gallery, Victoria  
Benalla Art Gallery, Victoria  
Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria  
City of Richmond Collection, Victoria  
Deakin University Art Collection, Victoria  
Gallery of Sport, Melbourne Cricket Ground  
Holmes a Court Collection, Western Australia  
La Trobe University Collection, Victoria  
Maharam Collection, New York  
Murdoch Collection, Australia  
Musee Municipal A.G. Poulain, Normandie, France  
Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Tasmania.  
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane  
Trinity College Collection, Melbourne  
Western Mining Collection, Australia  
Numerous Private and Corporate Collections in Australia, Europe & USA.

### COMMISSIONS / GRANTS / AWARDS:

- 2000 Australia Council, Visual Arts/Craft Board, Skills and Professional Development Grant  
1995 Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship Award  
St. Kilda Postcard Show  
1994 Australia Council, Visual Arts/Craft Board  
Barcelona Studio.  
1993 City of Richmond Acquisitive Art Award.  
John Storey Memorial Scholarship, RMIT  
The Queen's Trust Grant.  
1992 The Melbourne Theatre Company 1992 – 1993  
Season Programme, I Hate Hamlet  
1988 Project Grant, Visual Arts Board

## LIST OF WORKS

- 1 *Logo in the landscape* 2003  
acrylic on canvas 183 x 167cm
- 2 *Breeding grounds* 2003  
oil on linen 91.5 x 183cm
- 3 *Patines of etcetera* 2003  
oil on linen 137 x 152cm
- 4 *Twankydllo at the ready* 2003  
oil on linen 137 x 152cm
- 5 *Blot on the landscape* 2002  
painted bronze stainless steel  
height: 175cm
- 6 *Culture as exhibit* 2003  
acrylic on canvas 141.5 x 141.5cm
- 7 *Out of time* 2003  
oil on linen 97 x 195cm
- 8 *Night piece* 2003  
oil on linen 60.5 x 92.5cm
- 9 *Harold and James* 2003  
oil on linen 167.5 x 121.5cm
- 10 *Branding the arts* 2003  
oil on linen 152 x 121.5cm
- 11 *Our common wealth* 2003  
acrylic on canvas 237 x 237cm
- 12 *The town council* 2003  
oil on linen 107 x 213cm
- 13 *Bureaucratic shadow* 2003  
oil on linen 137 x 152.5cm
- 14 *Umbelliferous dark* 2003  
oil on linen 137 x 152.5cm
- 15 *Darkening ecliptic* 2003  
acrylic on canvas 130.5 x 162cm
- 16 *Blot on the landscape* 2003  
oil on linen 152.5 x 122cm



ISBN 1-920857-02-8

