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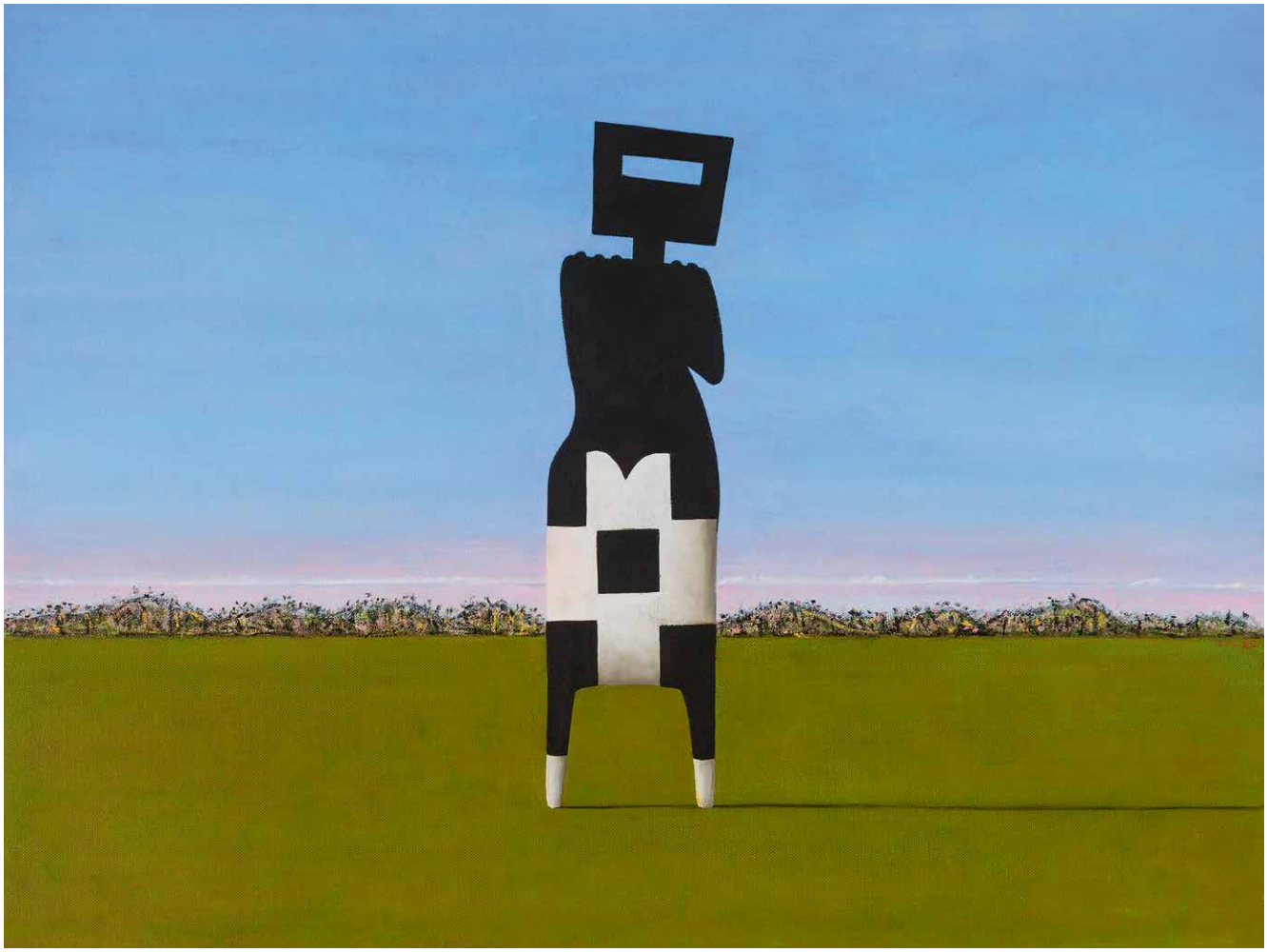
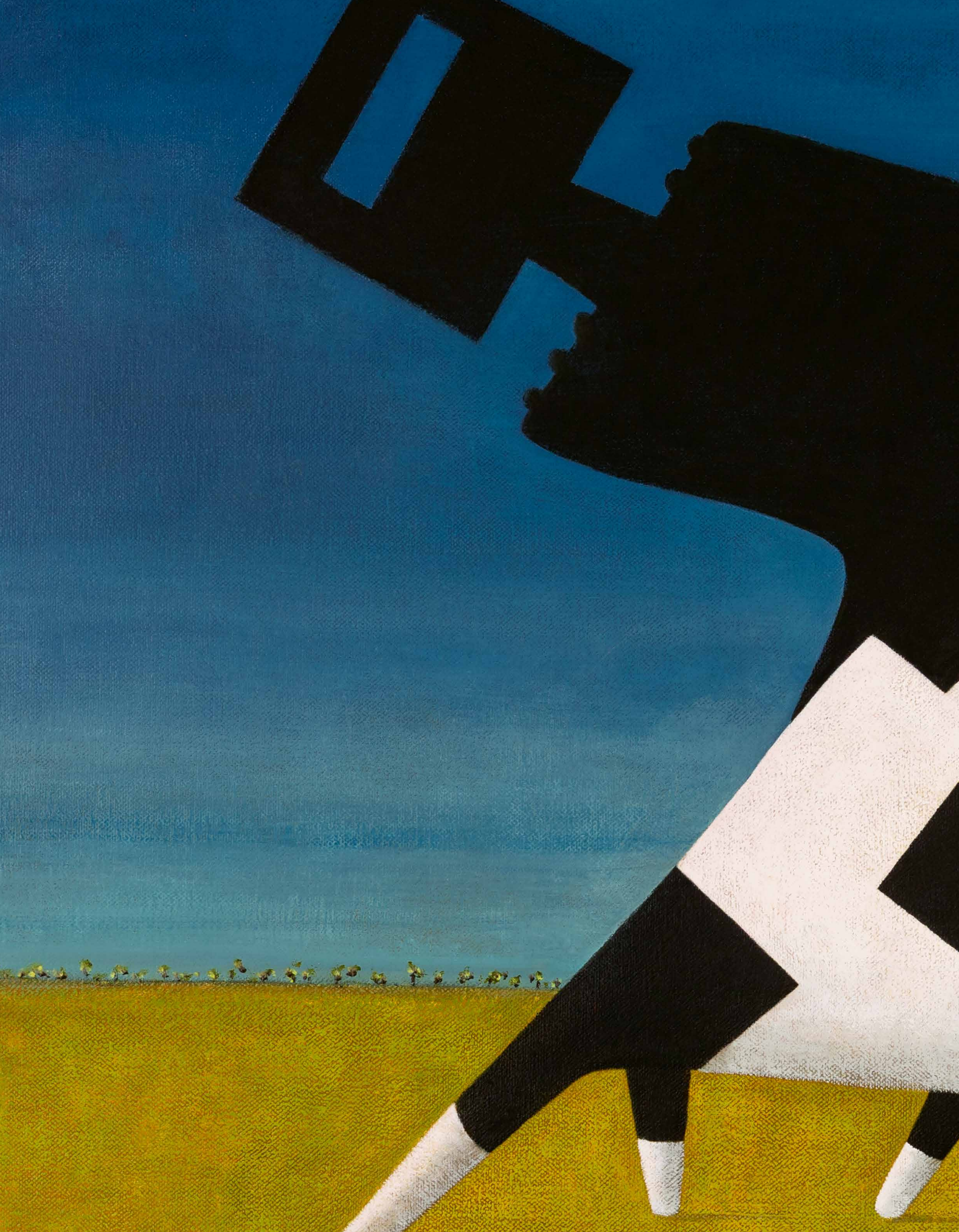


JOHN KELLY

KELLY'S LAST STAND



JOHN KELLY

KELLY'S LAST STAND

EXHIBITION

MELBOURNE

Monday 2 February – Saturday 21 February 2026
Monday to Saturday
10 am – 5 pm

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Smith&Singer

‘Every intelligent painter carries the whole culture of modern painting in his head.

It is his real subject, of which anything he paints is both a homage and a critique, and everything he says a gloss.’

Robert Motherwell, quoted in *The New York Times*, New York, 19 June 1977

STUART SMYTH
John Kelly 2025

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CATALOGUE PRICE
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First published 2025
by Smith & Singer Pty Ltd
33 Lansell Road, Toorak
Victoria 3142
ACN 004 742 509
ABN 48 004 742 509

Design
Sally Devers
Photography
Andrew Curtis
Stuart Smyth
Pre-press & Print
Southern Impact
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National Library of Australia
ISBN: 978-1-875848-01-0

FRONT COVER
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CAT. NO. 12 (Detail)

PAGE 6
CAT. NO. 20

BACK COVER
CAT. NO. 8

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1

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Head and Headless 2024

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 24' centre right; signed, dated and inscribed 'Head & Headless / 2024 / from Cork University / Hospital drawing / (2018) / Klly' verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

EXHIBITED
A Time Otherwise: Christina Todesco-Kelly & John Kelly,
Trinity College, Dublin, 9-13 June 2025

2

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Ned as Don Quixote 2024

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 24’ centre right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘NED AS / DON QUIXOTE / Klly / OCTOBER / 2024’ verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

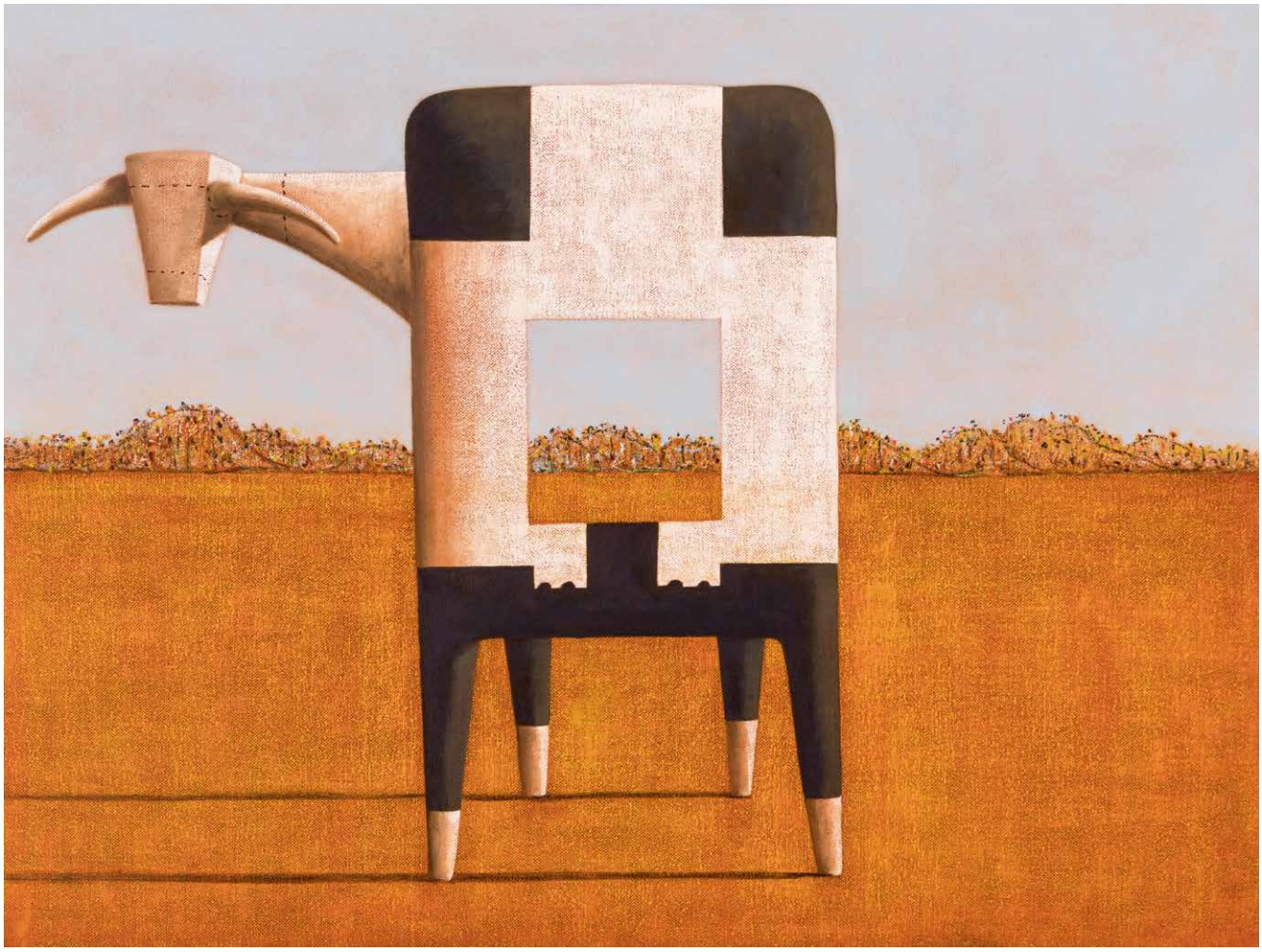
3

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

The Window to the Past and Future 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 25’ centre right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘‘The Window’ / ‘To The Past & / Future’ / Klly 2025’ verso
91.5 x 121.5 cm



4

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Ned Rides Again 2024

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 24’ centre right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly 24 / NED / Rides / agaiN / JK’ verso
91 x 122 cm

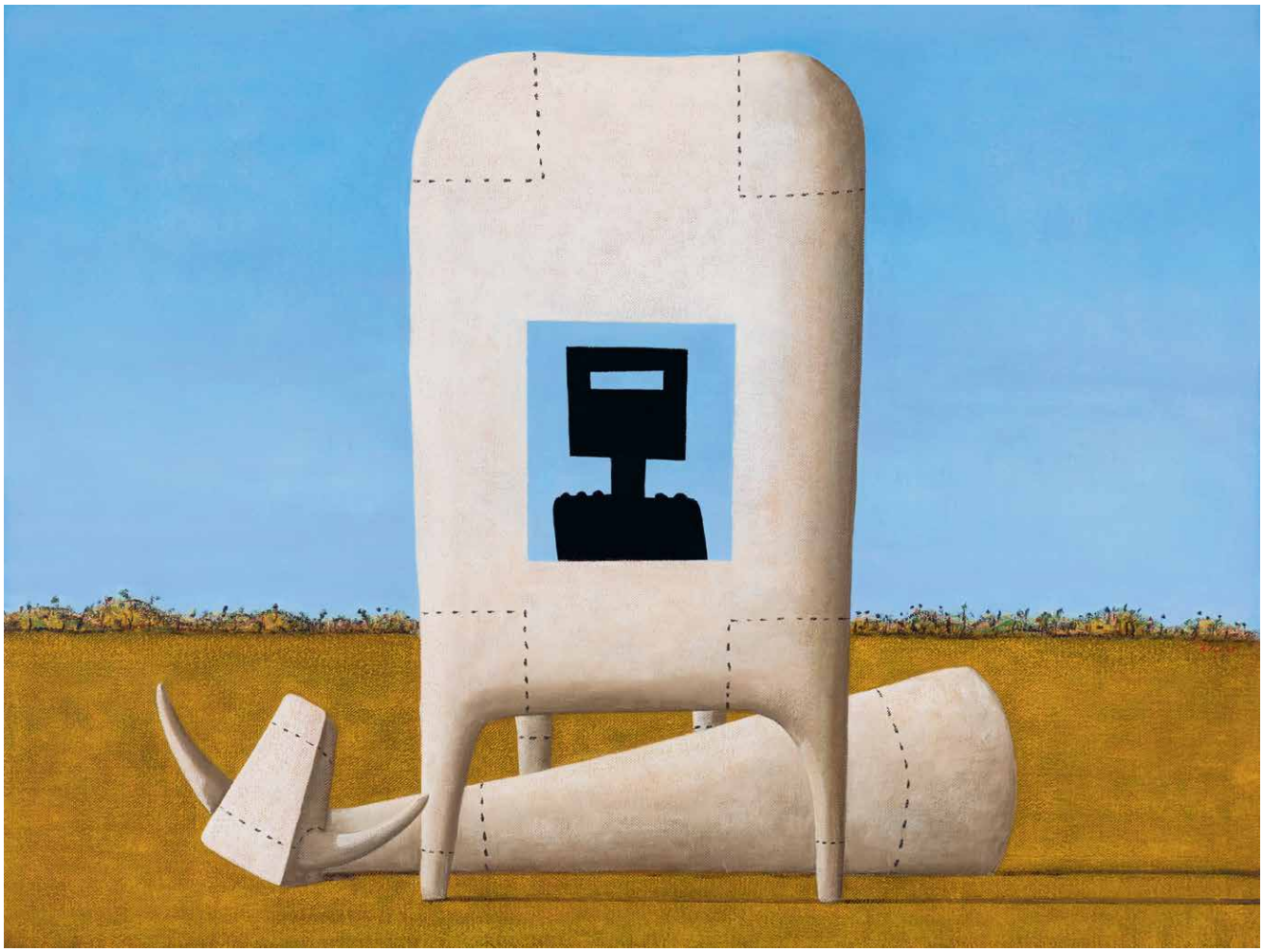
5

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Kelly Looking Back 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘KIly 25’ centre right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘KIly / LOOKING / BACK / 2025 / KIly’ verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm



6

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Heads in a Landscape 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 25’ lower right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly / 2025 / Heads / IN a / LANDSCAPE’ verso
91.5 x 121.5 cm

7

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Homage to Creative Australia 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘KIly 25’ lower right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘HOMAGE TO / CREATIVE / AUSTRALIA / KIly 2025’ verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

8

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Stack and Heads 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 25' lower right; signed, dated and inscribed 'STACK & Heads / 2025 / from CORK UNIVERSITY / HOSPITAL / Klly / (2018) sketch' verso
121.7 x 91.5 cm

EXHIBITED
A Time Otherwise: Christina Todesco-Kelly & John Kelly, Trinity College, Dublin, 9-13 June 2025

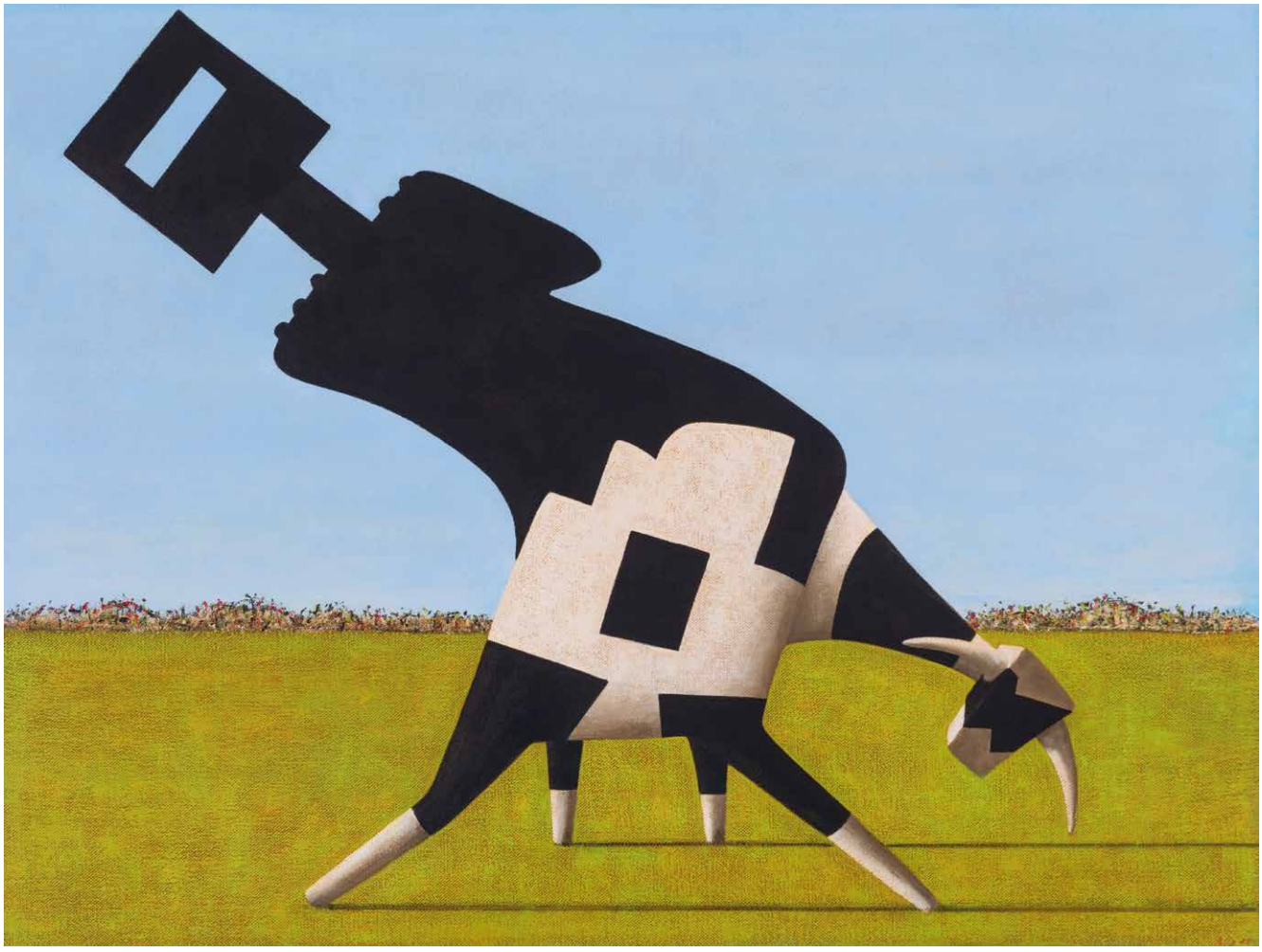
9

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

On the Look Out 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 25’ lower right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘ON THE / LOOK Out / Klly / 2025’ verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm



10

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Kelly's Last Stand 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 25' centre right; signed, dated and inscribed 'Klly's / Last STAND / Klly 2025' verso
91.8 x 122 cm

11

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

This is Not a Painting (Kelly's Last Stand)
2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 25' centre right
122.3 x 182.7 cm

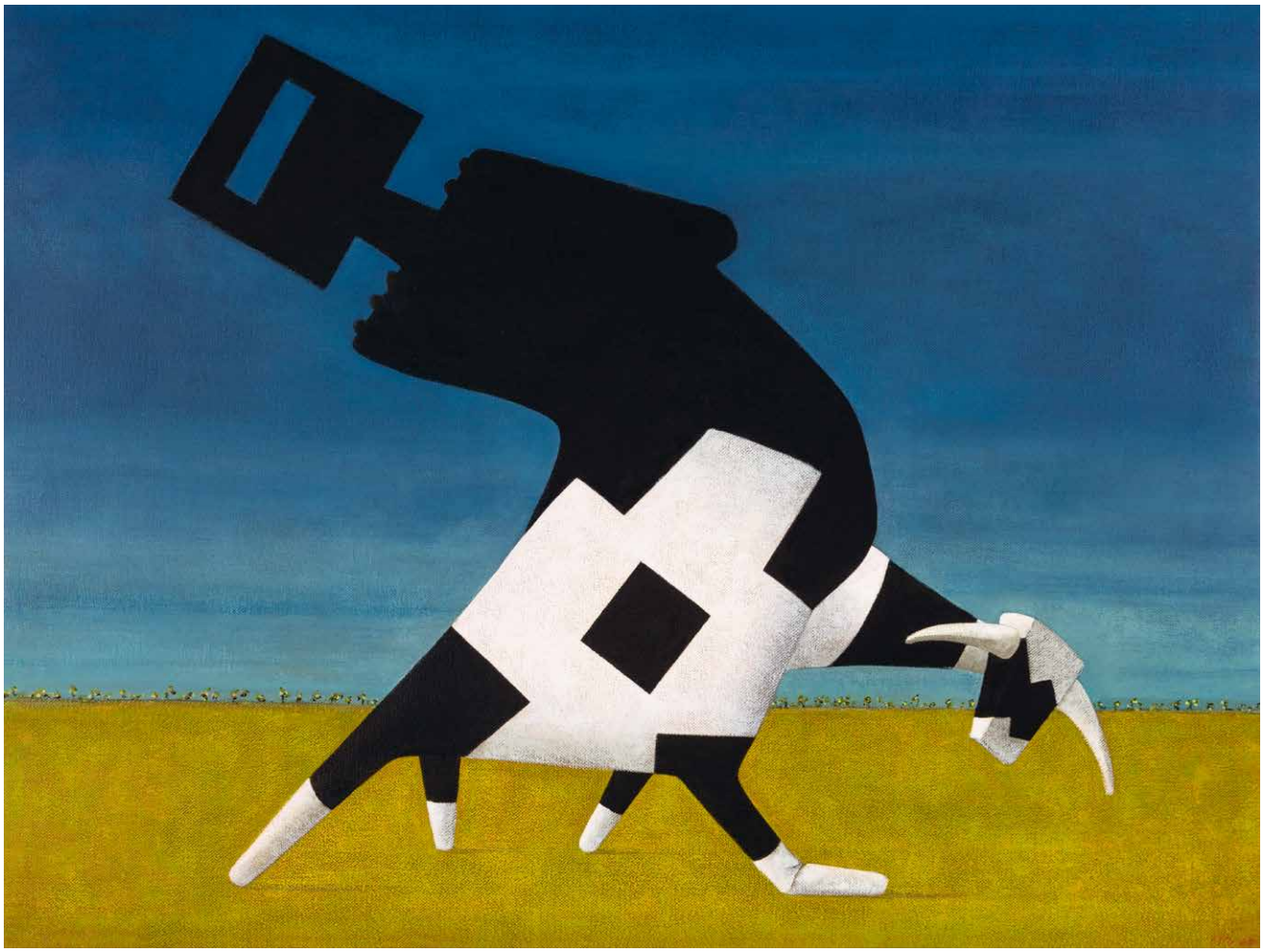
12

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

The Dismount 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 25’ lower right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly 25 / The DiSMOUNT’ verso
91.7 x 122.3 cm



13

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Kelly's Last Awkward Stand 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 25' lower right; signed, dated and inscribed 'Kelly's / LAST / AWKWARD / STAND / Klly 2025' verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

14

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Camo Landscape 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 25’ lower right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly / 25 / CAMO / LANDSCAPE’ verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

15

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Ned On a Stolen Fat Cow (Looking Forward) 2024

painted bronze, artist proof 1 of 3 from an edition of 9
signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly ‘24 AP1/3’ on base
55 x 20.5 x 60.5 cm

16

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Body and Head 2025

painted bronze, artist proof 1 of 3 from an edition of 9
signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly 1995-2025 AP 1/3’ on base
31 x 11 x 33.5 cm

17

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Ned On a Stolen Fat Cow (Looking Back)
2024

painted bronze, artist proof 1 of 3 from an edition of 9
signed, dated and inscribed ‘Klly ‘24 AP1/3’ on base
58 x 32 x 45 cm

18

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Cow Up a Tree, South Reen 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 25' lower right; signed, dated and inscribed 'COW UP A TREE / SOUTH Reen / SPRING / 2025 / Klly' verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

EXHIBITED
A Time Otherwise: Christina Todesco-Kelly & John Kelly, Trinity College, Dublin, 9-13 June 2025

19

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Cow Up a Tree, South Reen (Spring) 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated ‘Klly 25’ lower right; signed, dated and inscribed ‘COW UP A TREE / SOUTH REEN / SPRING / 2025 / Klly’ verso
91.5 x 121.7 cm

20

JOHN KELLY

born 1965

Cow Up a Tree (Autumn) 2025

oil on canvas
signed and dated 'Klly 25' lower left; signed, dated and inscribed 'Klly 2025 / COW UP A / TREE / 'AUTUMN'' verso
181 x 201.3 cm

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