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John Keats 0412 132 520  
John.Keats@sothebysaustralia.com.au

SOTHEBY'S AUSTRALIA PRESENTS

## John Kelly: Sculptures

A Selling Exhibition

Open Monday to Saturday 3-27 September 2018  
Sotheby's Australia, 14-16 Collins Street, Melbourne



JOHN KELLY, born 1965, *Three Skeletons in a Pile* 2016. For private sale. © John Kelly.

Sotheby's Australia is pleased to present ***John Kelly: Sculptures***, the first selling exhibition to be held at our newly restored heritage building on Collins Street, Melbourne. Renowned for his sculptures and paintings of cows, John Kelly has continued to explore the genre further, examining the skeletal form. Other highlights include the maquette of the sculpture *Man Lifting Cow* 2016, unveiled by Brimbank City Council in Sunshine to critical and public acclaim.

Geoffrey Smith, Chairman of Sotheby's Australia commented: 'The interest in John Kelly's works, both in Australia and overseas, has experienced steady growth in recent years, attracting attention from private collectors, corporations and public institutions. In 2016, *Man Lifting Cow* 2016 was unveiled by Brimbank City Council in the main street of Sunshine, its installation providing an extraordinary opportunity to generate cultural understanding and civic pride in a region which faces many challenges. During the past two decades John Kelly has developed a distinguished reputation in Australia and internationally for his sculptures that combine his unique intellect and humour.'

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Bristol born, Kelly moved to Australia with his parents in 1965, the same year he was born. Kelly now resides in west Cork, Ireland and has English, Australian and Irish nationality. It was during his time in Australia that Kelly developed his affinity with one of his most well recognised subjects, William Dobell's camouflaged cows. An important Australian artist, William Dobell was commissioned to make paper-mâché cows during World War II with the purpose of confusing enemy aircrafts about the locations of Australian airbases.



JOHN KELLY, born 1965, *Man Lifting Cow* 2014. For private sale. © John Kelly.

Working across a range of mediums, Kelly completed a Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts Painting) in 1985 and a Masters of Arts at RMIT University, Melbourne in 1995. Kelly went on to win an Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship and study as an Affiliate Student at the Slade School of Art in London. While in London Kelly exhibited at the prestigious Piccadilly Gallery and later was represented by Agnew's. Kelly continues to exhibit regularly in the United Kingdom.

Kelly's sculptures have also been featured on the Champs Elysées, Paris, in *Les Champs de la Sculpture*, 1999 and Monte Carlo, in *La Parade des Animaux*, 2002, as well as *The Hague* 2007, Melbourne Docklands (2001 to present) and a recent unveiling in *Sunshine*. Kelly's three-dimensional work has also featured in the Guangzhou Triennale (2008) and the Goteborg Biennale 2011.



JOHN KELLY, born 1965, *Form and Function (Skeletons)* 2016. For private sale. © John Kelly.

## AT A GLANCE

### John Kelly: Sculptures

Selling exhibition in Melbourne, Monday to Saturday 3-27 September, 10 am – 5 pm  
14-16 Collins Street, Melbourne

Sotheby's Australia is the exclusive Australian agent for the promotion and sale of sculptures by internationally renowned artist John Kelly.

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