


Ara Dolatian - At The First Flood of Daylight

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At The First Flood of Daylight sees Ara Dolatian examine the ancient *Epic of Gilgamesh*, written in c. 2100–1200 BC. The timeless narrative centres on the legendary king of Uruk, who was deified after death. The story originates from what is now Iraq, often referred to as Mesopotamia or "the ancient Near East". This region is a cradle of interwoven cultural systems.

These ceramics respond to the queer and feminist interpretations of the *Epic of Gilgamesh*. The *Epic* remains strikingly contemporary. It resonates with themes of grief, loss, and the emotional connections between men. The works shown here create unfamiliar archetypes and homoerotic narratives. They bring to light both factual and fictional histories, through a queer lens.

Growing up in Baghdad and now living in Melbourne, Dolatian reflects on mythology and identity. *At The First Flood of Daylight* blurs the lines between simplicity and complexity. It asserts sexual difference and gender multiplicity as a pathway to finding deeper human connections.

Join us in conversation with Ara Dolatian on Sat 25 January from 2 - 3pm. Free to attend, all welcome. [Click here](#) to register your attendance.



Ara Dolatian was awarded the 2024 Bundoora Homestead Art Prize Award at the Midsumma and Australia Post Art Award.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.

Image: Ara Dolatian, *Humbaba* 2024. Glazed ceramics. Courtesy the artist and James Makin Gallery

Past event dates

Saturday, 30 November 2024 | 11:00 AM - Saturday, 22 February 2025 | 04:00 PM

Location

Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, 7 Prospect Hill Drive, Bundoora, 3083, [View Map](#)

Date & Time

30 Nov 24 - 22 Feb 25

Open Wed - Fri: 11am - 4pm

Sat: 10am - 4pm