



# Bilkent University

## Program in Cultures, Civilizations, and Ideas

presents a talk by:

### Professor Andrew George

*Professor of Babylonian, School of Oriental and African Studies,  
University of London, School of History, Religions & Philosophies*

**Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 17:45**  
**Bilkent University, C Blok Amfi**

### THE EPIC OF GILGAMESH: RECOVERING THE MASTERPIECE OF BABYLONIAN POETRY

The Epic of Gilgamesh is a 4,000-year-old Mesopotamian poem about a hero who embarks on an arduous quest to find the secret of immortality.

Preserved on clay tablets in cuneiform script, it is the oldest long narrative poem in human history. This illustrated lecture explores four themes related to this Babylonian masterpiece: the archaeology of the poem's recovery, the reconstruction of its text, the story it tells, and its enduring message about life, death and the human condition.

Professor Andrew George is the author of many scholarly books and articles, notably, a critical edition of the *Gilgamesh* epic for Oxford University Press (2003), and a prize-winning translation of the *Epic of Gilgamesh* for the Penguin Classics series (2000).

He is a Fellow of the British Academy and an Honorary Member of the American Oriental Society.

**This talk will be for a general audience and all are welcome to attend.**

