



# GILGAMESH I

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A Journal of Modern Iraqi Art

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Front Cover: Shakir Hassan al-Isawi, *Abraham (1966)*, 100 x 130 x 54 cm.

Back Cover: Mohammed Saïd al-Sagor - *Arabic Calligraphy*

Inside Front Cover: Babylon Reconstructed

Inside Back Cover: The Ancient City of Babylon

Poetry and Short Story (Drawings by Ibrahim Rashid)

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Perhaps Shakir Hassan al-Isawi is the only Iraqi artist whose style has changed so dramatically over the years. His early works show the great influence he owed toward Islam in his paintings. Later he tended to adopt a more figurative style trying to highlight the aesthetic aspects of Arabic letters in his works.



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Does Iraq novel have a special structure of its own? Shajiq al-Jasim tries to answer this question through the novels he read in Iraq. He also traces the development of this genre and gives examples of the early novels by Iraqi writers.



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Arabic and translations from many parts of the world published in Babylon to present musical activities which were the applause of the audience. Among the groups which came to Iraq for this purpose were the Russian Leningrad Ensemble, the French Paris Opera Ballet and the Italian Maria Pieraloni.



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Theatre had its fair share of the artistic activities in Iraq during the past three months. Several new plays were staged among which *The Song of the Roaring Chair* was the most successful. Other productions included *Redemption*, *Gilgamesh* and *Nabukadnesser* in addition to a number of plays which have been on stage for more than three months.

