

# Heather + Kate Dorrough Lineage



**13 July - 27 October 2024**



ararat gallery tama

# Heather + Kate Dorrrough

## Lineage

In conversations across time, the multi-disciplinary works of mother and daughter Heather and Kate Dorrrough explore the nexus between the arts and crafts movements, female creative lineage, body and landscape, river and fertility, and environmental issues and activism. This dynamic contemporary exhibition encompasses fibre art, paintings, prints, ceramics, sculpture and video.

Heather Dorrrough (1933 - 2018) is an artist renowned for working with textiles, sculpture and print, noted for her contributions to the shift from a craft-based tradition to the arts in the 1970s to 1980s. This exhibition includes her earlier fabric hangings and low relief sculptures that were her most significant works, including the textile works, 'The Wool Corporation' 1976 and 'Dusk' 1978 held in the Ararat Gallery TAMA Collection.



Image: Kate Dorrrough, *The Enduring Echo*, 2019, stoneware ceramic with glaze, 36 x 49 x 20 cm

Cover Image: Heather Dorrrough, *Self Portrait No 6 (Buzzflies)* (detail)

1982, textile, dye, photographic silk screen printing, machine embroidery, 212 x 54 cm

Kate Dorrrough, *The Enduring Echo* (detail), 2019, stoneware ceramic with glaze, 36 x 49 x 20 cm

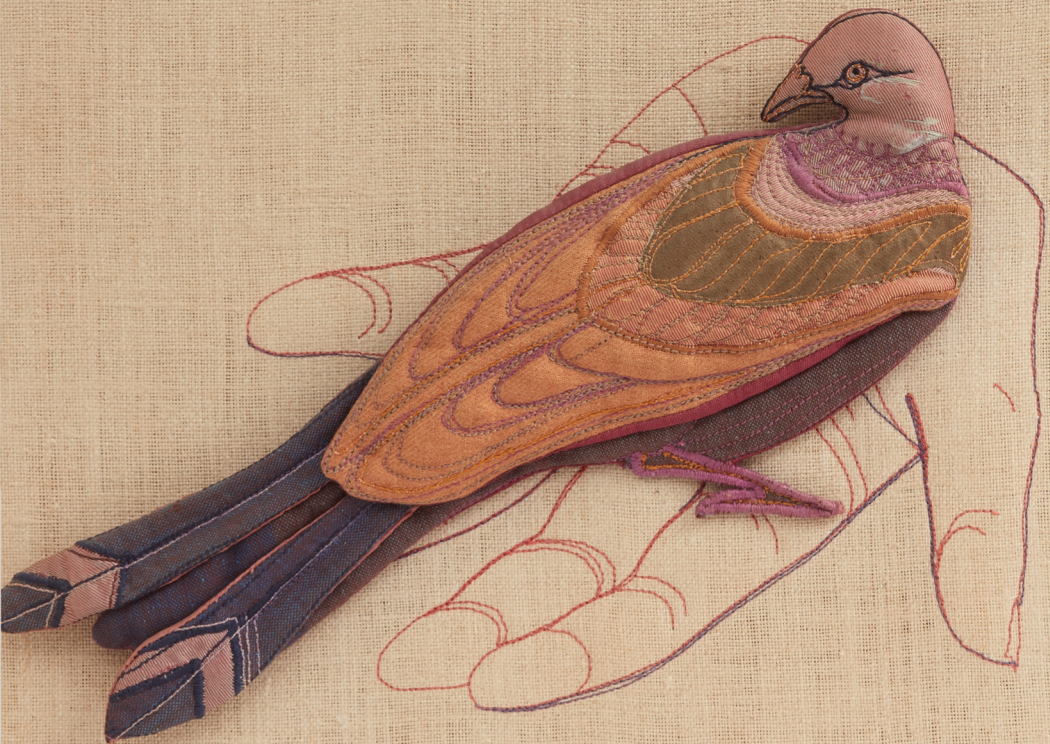


Image: Heather Dorrough, *Bird in the Hand*, 1975, with removable bird brooch, fabric, dye, machine embroidery, 30 x 20 cm

Originally trained as an interior designer, Heather worked in London and New York before arriving in Australia in 1962, and began making fabric and fibre works after the birth of daughter Kate. Dorrough developed her own individual techniques with machine embroidery, painting with dyes, and sculptural use of fabric. Her work is represented in national, state and regional gallery collections, including significant public commissions.

The practice of Sydney-based artist Kate Dorrough (b.1964) sustains a conversation between paint and clay, launching an inquiry into the interplay and tension between the gestural mark and the hand built ceramic form. The artist's recent work explores the river as metaphor, bestowal of fertility with a cyclicity of renewal and destruction.

Kate's painterly gestural marks evoke totemic symbols and an inferred language of an enduring landscape. Dorrough's work as a painter and ceramicist has led to an extensive career exhibiting work at leading galleries in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra, as well as a number of residencies and prizes. In this exhibition her work will directly respond to her mother's, creating a dialogue exploring memory and the personal in recognition of her mother as mentor.

The exhibition coincides with a new book on Heather's extensive career spanning sixty years, including essays by art writers and curators Christine France, Julie Ewington, Dr Peter Emmett, and Anne Brennan.



Image: Kate Dorrough, *Recollections* (detail), 2023, textile hangings, with stitching, paper, ink and acrylic paint, beads and sequins, 330 x 550 x 100cm

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facility of Ararat Rural City Council

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