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[EMBRACING THE REAL ART- ANOLI PERERA.](#)

FORECAST

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TRENDING ESSENCE CONTACT

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Anoli Perera's art forms are very close to the human emotional states. She draws inspiration from personal contexts.

Let's hear it from Anoli Perera:



I see through the lace curtains
the floral designs, the crystal glasses and the hands that hold
the threads.

I try to see the patterned world beyond.

I see the spinning web and the cocoons of comfort that lies within.

I feel the pains of entanglement, the strains of confinement.

I feel the nostalgic urge to memorize and remember
the homemaker of the patterned world.

Dinner for Six is the first conceptualization of a series of works that I subsequently continued under the title Comfort Zones that looked back at the (middle class) home-making woman of the previous generations. My perception of her is built on memories, memorizing, nostalgia and understanding and misunderstanding. I am looking at women from

families related to my own. They belong to a generation who grew up with convent education, crochet curtains, home science and cookery books. Both Dinner for Six and Comfort Zones unveil my familiarity and proximity to this home-maker's world and the anxieties and expectations that manifest in different stages of her life. They are the wives, mothers, grandmothers and aunts of a bygone era...the comfort providers. I remember with nostalgia and guilt the comfort of this home-maker's world. I memorialize this nostalgia and guilt in my art. As I lay caught between two worlds with my hands knotting together the crochet pieces my thoughts ponder, "Am I carrying the legacy of the comfort provider? Do I belong to a different generation... a different world, or am I the last link of that home-makers' world?"

HOME

Home to me is a comfort zone. Home has to be different from any place else on earth...Only home would feel home, a place that completely and utterly fulfills one's sense of belonging, a place of emotional mooring. I come from a middle class family background with a mother who was homemaking. Home with a home-making mother: my sense of home has a lot to do with her. It's intrinsically bound to that comfort zone I talk about in my work. The lace curtains and crochet-edged cushions, the little comfort foods and tea served in the lazy afternoons... Someone could say it's a colonial construction! But then, it is also part of my reality and memory.

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