

Each contributor was asked to consider a place or places within Los Angeles that reminded them of home or made them feel "at home;" or alternatively, a place which reminded them of a lover or a loved one.

Home in this case was to be a place they had physically left behind, or it could be a place of fantasy or desire. The project was purposely broad, and I was interested as much in the feelings or questions evoked by a place as in the place itself. I was also interested in the nature of desire and nostalgia, how we incorporate into our everyday lives those longings for people or places that "never were," and which exist only within our imaginations. As one person said about the project, "It's so soppy!" But it was that very "soppiness" that I wanted revealed, all those squelchy, squirmy emotions that drain our brains; those icky feelings that pounce on us at street corners, while we drive on the freeway, stand in line at the store or at the bus stop, stroll on the beach or hike in the mountains; those sticky thoughts that come unbidden, leaving us hot, and a little bothered. The works collected here, then, are not simple descriptions of Los Angeles neighborhoods. They are, perhaps more accurately, strolls through and field trips in those interior and virtual neighborhoods that-like Los Angeles itself behind its brash facades-enable us to create our most vital communities.

Allan deSouza, February 1998.

## **Bia Gayotto**



Gayotto presents five images that play off notions of interior and exterior, private and public spaces. Imagine being physically in one and mentally or emotionally in another. Or even in that archetypal public but interior space, the cinema: alone in the auditorium faced with a blank screen which awaits your own projections.