

Textile designs inspired by food

The isolation brought about by the pandemic forced US-based textile designer Anushka Divecha to “turn to food for comfort”. Memories of food are said to be strong as they involve all five senses. Anushka used her food memories as an inspiration for her textile designs. She not only wanted to invite people to experience the warmth of her kitchen, but also to design fabrics they could use in their spaces to comfort themselves when they felt isolated.

“My inspiration stems from travel, Nature, architecture as well as memories and nostalgia. I love working with textiles because the patterns, illustrations and colours come to life with the use of tangible materials and different

weave structures”, she says.

Anushka could “capture the comfort of scent” working with the spices common in her family’s cooking and incorporating them into textiles. “Just the smell of spices can trigger fond, powerful memories and transport you to a specific place and time. Working with jute and sisal was reminiscent of the coconut trees I could see from my kitchen back home in India. Now, these fabrics are not only meant for display in spaces, they have also become meaningful objects that serve as a reminder of home and the warmth it brings.

“These textiles are materialisations of nostalgia through food”, Anushka says.



This textile, titled ‘Aromatics’, is made for a wall, to envelop a space with warmth and the aroma of spices, evoking nostalgia.