

Brenda V. Fajardo
"Ka Oryang"

My work is a salute to noble women like Ka Oryang and Nay Isa (Teresa Magbanua). They are brave women who fought in the battlefields to achieve freedom and independence, truly admirable during a period when the woman is traditionally confined to the home.

Ka Oryang or Gregoria de Jesus is an admirable woman in the history of the Philippine Revolution. She was elected the Lakambini of the Katipunan founded by her husband, Andres Bonifacio.

Around Oryang are the cards of Filipino life. There is also the image showing Andres' deeply felt hatred against the colonizers.

The portrait is a *estampita*¹ of honor for heroes like Ka Oryang who endured hardship and profound anguish; who was dishonored, widowed due to her husband's murder, and who recovered, re-married and nurtured her beloved spouse and children. God bless you, Oryang!

¹From the Spanish, a small portrait or print of a saint.

