



# The mysterious beauty of the female in transition

Rania Matar's mesmerizing photographs attempt to answer the question of what it means to be a woman

By Nikkitha Bakshani | February 26, 2014

**I**n 1995, Maya Angelou wrote, "The span of my hips, the stride of my step, the curl of my lips. I'm a woman, phenomenally."

It is in that vein that photographer [Rania Matar](#) enters the homes of her female subjects — who span the ages of 8 to 50 — to capture them at moments of transition, when girlhood and womanhood are gracefully — phenomenally — confused.



Marina, Brookline MA 2013, from the series, "Woman Coming of Age" | (c) Rania Matar, courtesy of the artist and Carroll and Sons Gallery, Boston