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# LaiSun Keane

## PRESS RELEASE

July 22, 2023, Boston, MA - Opening on September 1st at LaiSun Keane, ***Home For Dinner*** will be Queens-based artist **Kyra Gregory**'s first solo exhibition in Boston and in New England. The exhibition will feature 18 new and recent Gregory's print collage and mixed media paintings running from **September 1st to October 1st, 2023**.

Depicting their friends, roommates, lovers, and themselves conducting everyday tasks, Gregory highlights the beauty of queer domesticity and intimacy. Their tenderly rendered, expressive portraits recall the work of Alice Neel, speaking to legacies of community care and self-fashioning.

However, they destabilize the perceived contentment of their scenes by juxtaposing woodblock printed images of despair, solidarity, and Catholic iconography as surreal patterns on walls and furniture. With saints as dual symbols of protective spirituality and the existence of a larger, hostile society, Gregory speaks to the resilience of queer communities in times of crisis, a timely and hard-hitting message given the rise of systemized, anti-LGBTQ violence across the United States in the past year.

Simultaneously nourishing and destructive, eating encapsulates this duality of peace and chaos. In works like *Cause for Celebration* and *Clementine*, Gregory relishes in the ritual of consumption, a symbolism that ultimately informs the name of this exhibition, *Home For Dinner*.

As a queer and trans person themselves, Gregory's meditations on joy are deeply vulnerable and impactful, transporting viewers to landscapes of unabashed care while also forcing them to grapple with underlying struggles.

Gregory graduated summa cum laude from Princeton University with a BA in Studio Art, Art History, and Gender and Sexuality Studies in 2019. During their studies, they received the Lucas Award in Visual Arts and a grant from the Mary Quaintance '84 Fund for the Creative Arts in order to pursue their independent printmaking projects. They have exhibited with the SPRING/BREAK ART SHOW (Los Angeles, 2022), 8 Ball Community (New York, 2020), Atelier Canal (Brooklyn, 2020), and Lucas Gallery (Princeton, 2019). They have also previously exhibited at LaiSun Keane in the 2021 group show, *In Close Proximity*.

*Home For Dinner* will be on display at the gallery from September 1st to October 1st, 2023. The artist will be present at the Opening Reception on First Friday, September 1st from 5 pm to 8 pm, and an in gallery conversation will take place on Saturday, September 2nd at 1 pm. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit the gallery's website or contact us at [info@laisunkeane.com](mailto:info@laisunkeane.com).

### KYRA GREGORY

***Home For Dinner***

**September 1 to October 1, 2023.**

At LaiSun Keane

460C Harrison Ave C8A Boston MA 02118

Normal gallery hours: Wednesday to Saturday 11am - 5pm, Sunday 11am- 4pm or by appointment

LaiSun Keane  
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*Cause for Celebration, 2023*  
Woodblock print collage and acrylic on canvas  
48 x 36 in

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# LaiSun Keane



*Clementine, 2023*

Woodblock print collage and acrylic on canvas

36 x 26 in

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*Oral Hygiene*, 2023  
Acrylic on canvas  
24 x 48 in

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