



Łukasz Leja 'satyriasis' 12.12.2025 - 18.01.2026

Łukasz Leja (he/him) is a Polish figurative painter based in New York City. Working primarily in oil on canvas, his practice draws on his background in architecture and centers on themes of gueer love, intimacy, and kink.

Łukasz often incorporates himself into the work through staged photographs taken with completed paintings, creating a visual record of his own transformation over time. He is the recipient of the 2022 Tom of Finland Emerging Artist Award and has since presented two solo exhibitions: home is where the h<3rd is in New York City and Luke of Poland in Los Angeles. His work has also been included in group exhibitions in Paris, London, and Berlin.

Łukasz's paintings honor both everyday moments and the more vulnerable—often taboo—expressions of intimacy and desire within the queer community. The figures I depict are gentle yet unafraid, drawn from my personal life and relationships. They are set primarily within the interiors of my New York apartments over the years—spaces that hold my world and my chosen family. Through romance, tenderness, and nostalgia, I hope to create an emotional connection and offer a sense of recognition and closeness.

- Curated by Yann Chevallier