

# Happy Hour

May 1 – May 7, 2026

13 Grattan St, #402, Brooklyn, New York



*Melancholy Eve 3, 15 x 21 inches, 2018, Oil on Hand-carved Mahogany, Maxwell Stevens*

## Artist

Kelly Ahern  
Camille Andersen  
Angelina Byun  
Alex Boller  
Xiao Chen  
Chonghao Hua  
Gopa Praturi  
Maxwell Stevens  
Luyi Wang  
Weiyuan Wang  
Kaiyuan Yang  
Yanice Yang  
He Zhou

## Juror

Xianglong Li

## Assistant

Qi Ling

## Opening Reception: May 1st, 6-8pm

New York, NY — A Space Gallery is pleased to present Happy Hour, a group exhibition featuring works by Kelly Ahern, Camille Andersen, Angelina Byun, Alex Boller, Xiao Chen, Chonghao Hua, Gopa Praturi, Maxwell Stevens, Luyi Wang, Weiyuan Wang, Kaiyuan Yang, Yanice Yang, and He Zhou.

Bringing together painting, printmaking, digital illustration, photography, video, and interactive design, the exhibition considers “happy hour” not only as a social ritual, but also as a psychological threshold: a moment when pleasure, release, performance, intimacy, exhaustion, and self-awareness begin to blur.

Taking its title from the familiar ritual of after-work drinking, *Happy Hour* looks at the temporary promise of ease. Alcohol can stimulate the brain’s reward system, producing feelings of pleasure, relaxation, and lowered inhibition; yet this sensation is fragile, often followed by emotional decline, fatigue, or anxiety as the effect fades. Within creative culture, alcohol has also been romanticized as a kind of “liquid muse,” a tool for quieting self-criticism, loosening control, and accessing rawer emotional states. The exhibition approaches this mythology with both humor and skepticism, asking what people reach for when they want to feel lighter, freer, more social, or briefly less aware of themselves.

Several works in the exhibition move directly through scenes of social looseness and emotional performance. Kelly Ahern’s *Play Pals* transforms a flirtatious, absurd encounter with miniature pig figurines into an image of humor, awkwardness, and desire. Gopa Praturi’s *Create Your Own AI With AI Studio* captures an uneasy happy hour emotion through a human face caught between social performance and digital-age absurdity. Camille Andersen’s *Bar Seats* focuses on two friends in conversation, allowing the surrounding restaurant to dissolve as intimacy becomes the only thing fully in focus.



Other works consider the afterglow of confession, solitude, and altered perception. Angelina Byun's *I Love Create Mode* links the feeling of being slightly tipsy to the compulsive clarity of posting on Instagram, where private thoughts become public performance against a bright digital surface. Maxwell Stevens' *Melancholy Eve 3*, painted on repurposed mahogany from a former bar, presents drinking not as celebration but as quiet reflection, where a glass of wine, domestic space, and dreamlike abstraction create a mood of suspended consciousness. He Zhou's *One More Drink* captures the moment when no one is ready to leave, when conversation stretches a little longer and ease, distance, openness, and self-awareness quietly coexist.

Together, the works in Happy Hour linger in the space between release and return. The exhibition does not treat pleasure as false, nor escape as purely negative. Instead, it looks at the emotional systems people build around temporary relief: the drink, the post, the conversation, the performance, the pause before going home. In this suspended hour, happiness is real but unstable, and what follows may reveal more than the moment of pleasure itself.

**A Space**, founded in 2024, is a pioneering incubator dedicated to discovering and supporting emerging artists in the contemporary art world. As a forward-thinking platform, we provide young talents with the space and opportunities to experiment, grow, and connect with a wider audience. Through collaborations with visionary artists and brands, we curate cutting-edge exhibitions, immersive art events, and dynamic cultural experiences that push the boundaries of artistic expression. More than just a gallery, A Space Gallery is a hub for creativity, dialogue, and innovation, shaping the future of contemporary art.

# HAPPYHOUR

May 1 – May 7, 2026

MENU

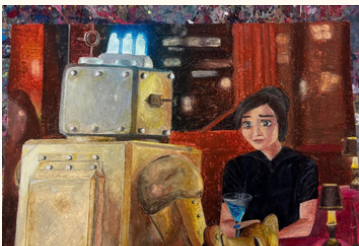
## DRINK MENU



### Play Pals

Kelly Ahern, 2026  
Oil on canvas, 36 x 24 inches

From 1 \$



### Create Your Own AI With AI Studio

Gopa Praturi, 2024  
Oil pastel, 16 x 24 inches

250 \$



### Bar Seats

Camille Andersen, 2025  
Oil Pastel and Acrylic on Canvas, 16x20 inches

800 \$



### Melancholy Eve 3

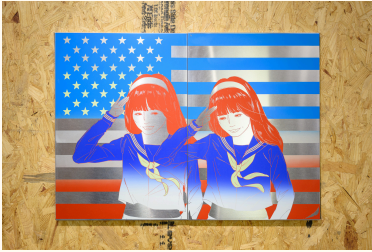
Maxwell Stevens, 2018  
Oil on Hand-carved Mahogany, 15 x 21 inches

NFS

# HAPPYHOUR

CATALOG

## DRINK MENU



### **New York's light is Taipei's dark**

NFS

Weiyuan Wang, 2026

Aluminum, Silkscreen printing, 34 x 24 x 2 inches



### **One More Drink**

NFS

He Zhou, 2026

Digital illustration (Procreate), 7:5 ratio digital illustration



### **I Love Create Mode**

NFS

Angelina Byun, 2026

Toner Transfer on Cotton, 5" x 5" individually, 15" x 15" total



### **Breezy**

NFS

Yanice Yang, 2026

Digital Print, 8 x 10 inches

# HAPPYHOUR

CATALOG

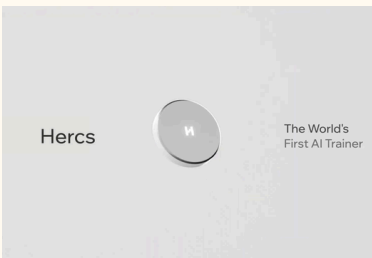
## DRINK MENU



### Ghost Marriage

NFS

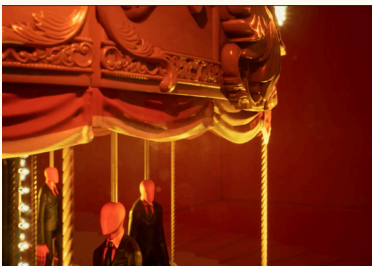
Kaiyuan Yang, 2024  
Printing on art paper, 8 x 10 inches



### HerCs

NFS

Xiao Chen, 2026  
Video, 2m10s



### Self in Alienation

NFS

Chonghao Hua, 2026  
Video, 5m27s



### New Colonial

NFS

LuYi Wang, 2024  
Installation, 20 x 80 x 130 inches

# HAPPYHOUR

CATALOG

## DRINK MENU



### THC06

Alex Boller, 2025  
Printing on art paper, 8 x 10 inches

800 \$