



A Savage Kind of Grace **Kottie Paloma**

Sala Nova

Andrea Festa Fine Art inaugurates Sala Nova with the solo exhibition "A Savage Kind of Grace" by Kottie Paloma.

The Opening Ceremony is held on July 8th, 2025, from 6 to 9 p.m., and on view until September 15th, 2025, hosted at Lungotevere degli Altoviti 1, Rome, Italy.

For this occasion, 11 pencil-on-paper drawings are presented, offering to exploration of fractured realities, cultural archetypes, and the absurdities embedded in contemporary life.

Kottie Paloma's new body of drawings continues an ongoing exploration of fractured realities, cultural archetypes, and the absurdities embedded in contemporary life. Rendered in pencil on paper, these drawings serve as both intimate confessions and brutal social commentaries. Titles like *The Fall of Liberty*, *Cult Leader*, and *Shit Theme* point to a deliberate tension between satire and sincerity—a recurring theme in his practice.

There's a visual rawness to these works that echoes the psychological charge of his large-scale acrylic on canvas paintings. Like his paintings, this series of works is anchored in conscious, calculated storytelling. Each drawing emerges from a process that is at once intuitive and referential, reaching into dreams, news cycles, apocalyptic mythologies, and his lexicon. Figures appear in turmoil or transition: priests, farmers, gatekeepers, beasts. These recurring characters function as metaphors for power, vulnerability, and the rituals we rely on to make sense of chaos.

By using a deceptively simple medium—pencil on paper—Paloma can strip away artifice and focus the viewer's attention on gesture, symbolism, and narrative dissonance. There's a sense of dark humor throughout this series, but it's never divorced from empathy. These drawings ask: What are we clinging to when the structures around us begin to crumble?

Ultimately, this series is about survival, not just physical, but emotional and ideological. It's about holding space for contradiction, absurdity, and unexpected beauty in a world that feels increasingly surreal.

SALA NOVA: A Savage Kind of Grace

July 8th – September 15th, 2025

Andrea Festa Fine Art

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