



CHARLES LY

Harper's Chelsea 534
Jan 20 - Feb 19, 2022

HARPER'S

Charles Ly

January 20–February 19, 2022

Harper's Chelsea 534

534 West 22nd Street

New York, NY 10011

Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–6pm

Dear Chris,

Hope you're doing well, and congratulations on all your successes. It's been quite a year, to say the least. I have been learning how to sit in the discomfort. It hasn't been easy, but I've noticed that I'm happiest when I stay present in my thoughts and don't future trip too hard. I have also allowed my imagination to be a bit freer, for obvious reasons of course. I mean before the pandemic I had so many plans, so did Harper! To travel, see new places, meet new people, eat new foods, and smell new smells. But the irony of it all is we now face a pandemic that has taken our ability for the most part to do those specific things and it can actually remove your taste and smell. I mean wtf!!!

I think it was these moments of imaginative reflection, that I really started to fall for Charlie Ly's paintings and drawings. I wanted to really look deeper into the details I perhaps took for granted. Charlie would paint a place that was more than a place but was like a memory of a place that I had never been to before. All of a sudden, I cared about the patterns of people's pajamas because they were different than mine. I cared to see the foods other people ate because they tasted different than mine (this is assuming I still possessed taste). I almost needed Charlie's paintings. They really became a window for me. Chris! I am tired of theories, and conflict, simply surviving is a theory and a conflict. Chris: thank you for showing me Charlie. Thank you for giving me information and sensations when everyone and everything else seems to be doing the opposite.

Stay free Chris,
Joel Mesler

Charles Ly (b. 1984, San Jose, CA) received a BFA from Laguna College of Art and Design in 2008, and is currently based in East Hampton, NY. Most recently, his work has been exhibited at Harper's, Los Angeles, New York, and East Hampton (2021 and 2020); Halsey McKay Gallery, East Hampton (2021); Rental Gallery, East Hampton (2020); and Guild Hall, East Hampton (2016).



Charles Ly
Bãi Tú Sác
2021
Oil on canvas
70h x 46w in







Charles Ly
Vit
2021
Oil on canvas
55h x 42w in







Charles Ly
Xe Lua
2021
Oil on Arches paper
39.50h x 30w in





Charles Ly
Cháo
2021
Oil on Arches paper
40h x 29.50w in



CHARLES LY

b. 1984, San Jose, CA

Lives and works in East Hampton, NY

EDUCATION

2008 BFA, Laguna College of Art and Design, Laguna Beach, CA

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Charles Ly*, Harper's, New York, NY
2021 *Melrose*, Harper's, Los Angeles, CA
Ten Years, Halsey McKay Gallery, East Hampton, NY
EXPO Chicago (online)
2020 *12 Artists*, Harper's Apartment, New York, NY
Love Will Turn You Around, Rental Gallery, East Hampton, NY
2016 *Humans and Hides*, Guild Hall, East Hampton, NY
2011 *America*, Silas Marder Gallery, Bridgehampton, NY
The Big Six, Silas Marder Gallery, Bridgehampton, NY

SELECTED PRESS

- 2016 "Charles Ly: Hamptons Best Art Instagram Accounts," *Dan's Papers*,
September 17, 2016
"Charles Ly's 'Humans and Hides' Hangs at Guild Hall," *Southampton Press*,
September 12, 2016