

SASKIA NEUMAN GALLERY

Kayo Mpoyi

Älskad//Treasured

05.03 – 11.04.2026

Kayo Mpoyi presents her first solo exhibition at Saskia Neuman Gallery with a suite of paintings and drawings that take their starting point in her mother's family photo-album. In *Älskad // Treasured* Mpoyi examines how memories change over time. By working in layers of charcoal and oil she breaks down the photograph's clarity and lets the subjects shift between recognition and dissolution. Faces are displaced, details are blurred, and new narratives emerge.

The process is central – overpainting, scraping and drawing. What is concealed and painted over becomes just as significant as that which is visible. A stillness emerges in the works where the body's gestures — a glance, a hand, a tilted head — carry the story, rather than document it.

The exhibition addresses questions of memory, identity and belonging, with the family archive functioning as living material, rather than a fixed historical document. The everyday space — the kitchen, the chair, the home — becomes a site of care, resistance and vindication.

The title *Älskad//Treasured* acts as an affirmation. An attempt to hold together what risks falling apart, and to insist on love as both a method and a driving force in the painting.

Kayo Mpoyi (b. 1986, Congo-Kinshasa) is based in Stockholm and received her MFA from the Royal Institute of Art in 2025. She is also the author of several noted books and has participated in a number of institutional group exhibitions between 2023 – 2025. Kayo Mpoyi will present works in the forthcoming exhibition Family – for better and worse at Sven-Harry's Konstmuseum, Stockholm in March 2026.

