

MAYUMI SASAGE

San Francisco Zine Fest Application Statement

I'm excited to apply again to exhibit at SFZF. Having participated as an exhibitor for the past two years, I deeply appreciate the festival's vibrant community and its platform for diverse voices. The direct interactions with visitors have been truly invaluable.

My Zine Creations

I've created two zines focused on Japanese culture. My first explores "cat owner commonalities" with Japanese onomatopoeia. The second is a travel guide for cat lovers, highlighting spots in Japan like cat merchandise shops, stray cat areas, and cat-themed art museums.

This Year's Projects

This year, I'll introduce two new zines and a limited series of prints. One new zine will blend Japanese manga-style paneling and Ukiyo-e inspiration to connect cats with Japanese culture, fusing traditional aesthetics with contemporary culture. The other one is going to be hand printed, highlighting the beauty of imperfection and the charm of manual processes.

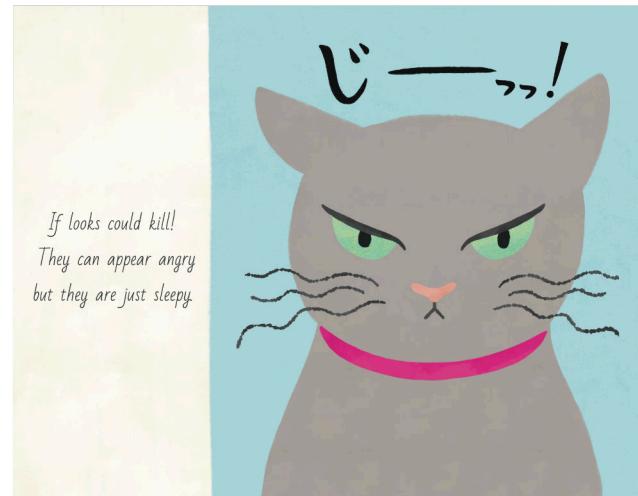
I'll also be selling "Love is Love" prints. This piece expresses my wish for people worldwide to live freely with those they love, regardless of gender. Notably, it's a reinterpretation of my work that received an Honorable Mention at the 2022 3x3 International Illustration Show.

I look forward to sharing my work and message with the SFZF community. Thank you for your consideration.

Seven Classic Cat Antics With Japanese onomatopoeias

This zine explores the "common everyday occurrences" familiar to cat owners, incorporating unique Japanese onomatopoeia. It's designed to allow readers to enjoy those small, daily moments with cats, enhanced by the distinct flavor of Japanese linguistic sounds.

5.5"x8.5", full color, 16 pages

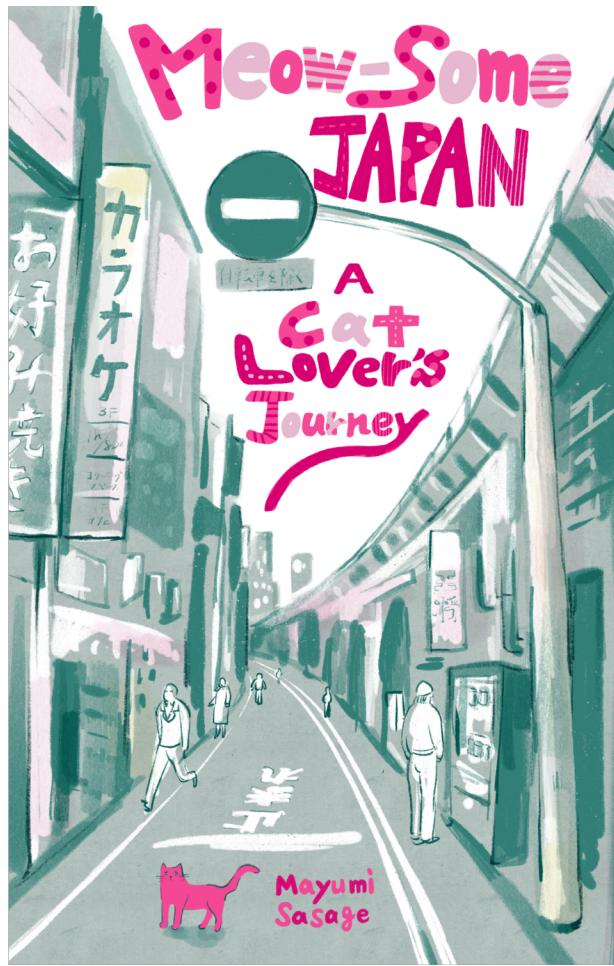


Meow Some Japan

A Cat Lover's Journey

This zine explores cat-related spots in Japan that cat lovers might want to visit if they travel there. It highlights places like shops rich with cat merchandise, areas where stray cats gather, and museums featuring cat-themed art, offering a curated list of enjoyable locations for fellow feline enthusiasts.

5.5" x 8.5, full color, 8 pages



Nezu Shrine (ねづじんじゃ) ③

Nezu Shrine is a beautiful and historic site in Tokyo, known for its stunning red torii gates and vibrant azalea gardens in spring. As you explore the peaceful grounds, you might also encounter some friendly stray cats that roam the area. The combination of traditional architecture, lush nature, and the occasional cat sighting makes Nezu Shrine a charming and unique destination to visit.

Gallery Nekomachi (ねこまち ギャラリー) ④

Located in Yanaka, Tokyo, is a charming art space dedicated to showcasing art works related to cats. The gallery features a variety of cat-themed art, including paintings, sculptures, and prints, created by both local and international artists. Its cozy atmosphere makes it a popular spot for cat enthusiasts and art lovers alike.

Kamawaru (カマワヌ) ⑤

A specialty Teruugi shop I always visit when I'm in the area. A Teruugi is a thin, versatile Japanese hand towel made from cotton, used for drying hands, wrapping items, or decoration! Teruugi often feature colorful patterns and designs. They have cat designs, too.

Yadorige Cafe (宿木場 カフェ) ⑥

pasta 

A restaurant where you can enjoy delicious Italian cuisine while interacting with rescue cats. Reservations are required.

Cafe Nito (二ト茶 ニト) ⑦

Cream soda! 

It has nothing to do with cats, but it's a cafe I want to visit. The blue tiles and the rabbit sign, the melon soda and pudding look delicious!

喫茶店 (けいさてん) ひなみや -yā-!

Yanaka Sippo-Ya (やなか しppo-ya) ⑧

This is a specialty baked donut shop inspired by cat tails. Ideal for enjoying while strolling through Yanaka!

Le Prive (ル・プリヴ) ⑨

A retro-style cafe where three resident cats will welcome you. 



Love is Love

This print, titled "Love is Love," carries the wish for people around the world to live their daily lives freely with those they love, regardless of gender. Notably, this specific "Love is Love" piece is a reinterpretation of my work that received an Honorable Mention at the 2022 3x3 International Illustration Show.

9"x12", etching, hand printing



