

# MING ZU

**Location:** Sendai, Japan

**Email:** mingzumwd@gmail.com

**Portfolio:** <http://catbox.world>

**Source code:** <https://github.com/nicetoolman/Personal-Portfolio-Website>

## PROFILE

A cross-disciplinary creator transitioning from materials science research into the creative industry.

Strong in **visual problem-solving**, illustration, and building structured visual narratives.

Experienced in creating original content (CATBOX), designing logos, and developing my own portfolio website using **Next.js × Payload CMS × Figma**.

Passionate about **Creative × Tech**, world-building, and designing meaningful visual/interactive experiences.

## SKILLS

**Creative** - Visual Storytelling · Graphic Design · Logo Design · Concept Making / Ideation · Structured Thinking

**Research** - Analytical thinking · Experimentation · Multilingual presentation

**Technical** - Figma · Procreate · Adobe PS/AI · Cursor-assisted development · HTML/CSS · basic React · Payload CMS

## EDUCATION

**Tohoku University — Doctoral Program in Materials Science**

2022–present

**Research theme:** thermodynamic modeling of Co-based superalloys.

Currently shifting career direction into creative design.

## LANGUAGES

- Chinese (Native)
- Japanese (Business level)
- English (Conversational; presentation, reading, writing fluent)

## PROJECTS

**Portfolio Website — Cursor + Next.js + Payload CMS (2025.10 – present)**

Designed and developed a full portfolio website using a modern full-stack workflow.

Built modular blocks, CMS structure, responsive layouts, and content editing pipeline.

Role: UX planning, design, coding, CMS setup, deployment.

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**CATBOX — Personal Creative Project (2025.05 – present)**

Daily experimental illustration project exploring emotion, world-building, and narrative drawing.

Grew into zines, small exhibitions, and a consistent visual art direction.

Role: Concept, illustration, visual direction, writing.

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**Aoba Walkers — Logo Design (2025.07)**

Logo and visual identity for the outdoor activity group at Tohoku University.

Integrated local nature & humorous tone into a functional, reproducible design.

Role: Concept, illustration, logo design.

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**Sunny Anyway — Music Single Cover (2025.09)**

Cover art for a jazz/hip-hop style independent music release.

Role: Illustration, composition, typography.

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**Tohoku Chinese Student Association — Logo Design (2025.08)**

Formal logo used in presentations and official communication.

Role: Concept, vector design, visual direction.

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**Full works and ongoing projects available at: <http://catbox.world>**