

Aesthetically Portrayed, Sweet, Suspects in Ulla Katz's Convicted Feline Series

By Nicole Borgenicht

Internationally renowned fine artist, Ulla Katz, has a special fondness for cats. Her insight of cat behavior is peeled off layer by layer, through texture, volume, and space revealing the cat personality core, with distinction and humor.

The series originally had been inspired by a mugshot of young Frank Sinatra, which Katz describes as "handsome" and "mischievous." She says, "I was fascinated by his clear (and feline-like) gaze. My thought process was that no matter how cute, fun, or handsome a cat may be, to a mouse or a bird, any cat is a potential criminal and should not be trusted."

Allowable humor is particularly hot these days. We all need it and love the little felines.

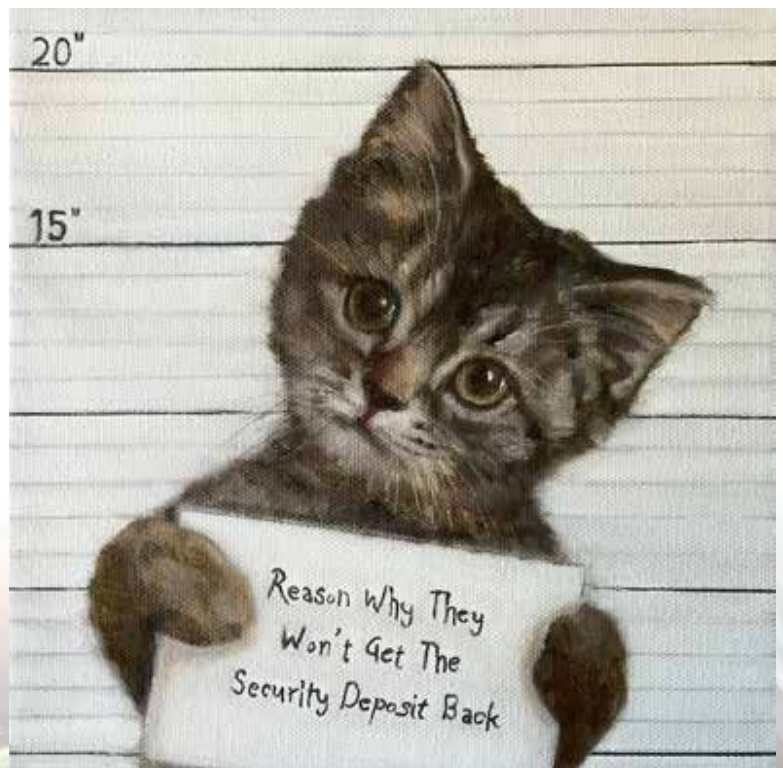
There is a gentle irony Ulla Katz portrays with pictures and words. It reveals both dichotomy and connection, between

innocence and naughtiness, through her chosen artistic means.

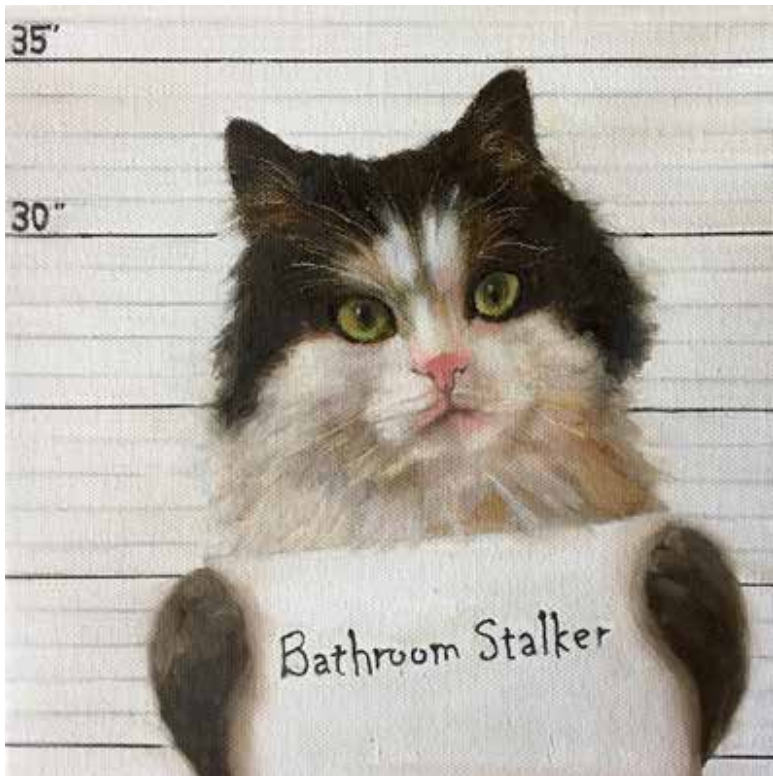
Katz says, "Naughtiness and cuteness go hand in hand, in kids as well as in kitty cats. Innocence and mischief are universal, and most parents (to children and cats) can relate." As a matter of interest, Katz also wrote short stories about cats that she had read to her daughter while she was growing up.

Checkmate. This painting is of the sweetest, furriest most darling kitty, embracing one subtle glint of a secret. Katz shares her artist tools in creating such soft fur and guiltless eyes filled with emotion.

"After I outline the cat shape (thin washes of darker undertones), I usually like to paint the eyes. If the eyes look correct, the kitty starts to come alive. Painting fur is similar to laying shingles on a roof: I go from the bottom up when I place my brush strokes. I work from dark to light and from thin to fat. I prefer old paintbrushes for the fur and expensive new ones for the eyes. I use only synthetic brushes for personal ethical considerations."



In **Bathroom Stalker**, the cat's wonderfully telling expression goes perfectly with the sign. Here's a quick anecdote: I was in Artize Gallery, looking



cat. This is particularly true for teenage cats. In my attempted portrayal of cat personalities, I am particularly fond of young cats who lack both the majesty of older felines and the carefree spontaneity of kittens. In *Cakewalk*, I tried to convey the odd physical characteristics of such a teenage cat (big ears, juvenile face, skinny paws, and neck.)"

While she captures age and personality in artistic detail, it never supersedes the magnitude of Katz's interpretations via overlapping tones, for delightful though suspicious characters. It's no surprise, Katz's latest work is a large Crime Family painting, with an end game of choosing the guilty suspect. Ulla Katz's amalgamation of fine art technique and universal nuances in cat behavior provides the viewer with a magical story. The *Convicted Feline Series* inaugurates us with artistic charms, into the mysteries of cat wonderment

To see more of the Ulla Katz series: <https://www.katzscats.com>

peacefully at the beautiful art and fell into hysterics viewing this paradoxical, yet darling, portrait. Full of vitality, the "stalker" has a certain density and looks like it could pounce out of the picture!

Katz shares an art technique for this life-like cat enigma. "I do start with drawing gradients, shadows, and light in order to simulate a tri-dimensional volume." says Katz.

Cake Walk is just so cute, and perfectly like a cat, to walk on cake. You've got to think: if I were a cat, what would feel any better? Here Ulla Katz skillfully blends her keen observation of character traits and physical details.

Katz describes, "Cats are unpredictable. It is part of their charm. There is no limit to their feline creativity. They are also very swift and will always surprise you, no matter how well you think you know your

