

QUEENLY KITTY

Now this one really did have me stumped for a while. I will not – *will not!* – wear one of those collars from the vet. I don't care what's wrong with me. I won't wear it. So when JM first approached me with this little number, I rather lashed out. Yes, I regret it now, but you can't blame me for my mistake.

Anyhoo, this, apparently, is an Elizabethan standing collar and robe. Handmade by himself, with all the attention to detail that this kitty loves so much; once I'd got it on I didn't want to take it off! The red braiding and gold button make me feel empowered – go you regal feline!



FRIDA KATLO

The name Frida Kahlo was new to me, to be honest, but I know JM is a huge fan – always talking about her work and how she was such an inspiration to Him when He started out as an artist. Well, what could I say? ‘Go on then,’ was all that sprang to mind.

However, as you know by now, I couldn’t possibly enter into the spirit of another artist without further research of my own: and frankly I was blown away by what I found out about Ms Kahlo. Born in Mexico ... indigenous art ... uncompromising depiction of the female form ... ‘This is the gal for me!’, thought I. So as you look at this portrait, I hope you can see that I plunged myself into it, even allowing Him to use a red rose (one of Frida’s iconic accessories) as a hat on my head.

I think I nailed it, don’t you?



COUNT CATULA

'I want to suck your *blood!!!!*' Don't be silly, it's only me, but I'm loving this *Dracula* get-up – aren't you? I really do think red is my colour, and those pearls! Bram Stoker's *Dracula* is one of JM's favourite films, so this outfit was a shoe-in for the book. But as we were shooting he kept saying 'More, give me more!' and I didn't quite know what to do. Anyway, then He had a thought and rubbed some of my favourite kitty treats at the side of my mouth so that I would lick my lips. I thought it was a cheap trick at first but wowser! Look at the result!

I'm not *really* an evil puss ... I promise ...



MADAME HUMMUS

This photograph was taken as a tribute to Madame Lucia Elizabeth Vestris, an opera singer, burlesque performer and theatre manager *par excellence*. By all accounts Madame Vestris was a very sassy lady and a class act – two among many of the traits we have in common. And she loved a hat – as do I. Not many kitties can carry off a feathered hat but I feel I do, with aplomb!



SHIP AHOY!

A sailor's life for me! I do love this one. Sometimes I think I was built for comfort not for speed – and this costume was divinely comfy. The T-shirt fit my contours like a glove. And the hat – it's so Gaultier, don't you think?

I want to say something about my costumes. Throughout the book you will have seen me in some awesomely stylish clothes and these are all made especially for me by my dear JM. He is such a treasure. I know I can be rude to him at times but He knows I don't mean it ... well, hardly ever. As long as He continues to make me fabulous I will be his favourite feline. There, I've said it, now move on.



AUDREY CATBURN

I love this shot. I know I shouldn't say it, but I *love* this shot! We'd had a long day in the studio, He had had me in and out of innumerable costumes and by this time I wasn't talking to Him – I'd really had enough. But ... somehow He manages to catch me in just the right pose – sparkling, wistful eyes; ears pert and alert to the slightest sound; whiskers all present and correct. That collar looks as if it was made for me (which in fact it was) and the golden studs – a masterstroke!



JEDI

Can you feel the force? Move over Obi-Wan there's a new Jedi in town! I really feel I caught the mood here. Of course, JM loves the whole Star Wars thing to bits so I wanted to make this one work, just for him. See? I'm an old softie really.

Give me a light saber and I'll give any menace a run for his money.



HEADPIECE HEAVEN

This one was inspired by a Viktor & Rolf ready-to-wear collection ... Well, I was ready, and I wore it! You wouldn't believe how much lace and velvet was used to make this costume. I fought against wearing the headpiece for a while but in the end I'm glad I did as it captures the real me: the innocent look of that cameo brooch set against the steely, determined eyes of sweet pusskins Hummus.

It helped that He had a handful of kitty treats to offer me during the shoot, I won't deny it. A girl has to have some pleasures in life!

