

Famous Cat Lovers During Time

While the first recorded illustrations of cats as pets was found in the Egyptian tombs, during history the cat has played an important role in the lives of many famous people. Here are a few that were known as big cat lovers.

Winston Churchill - Prime Minister: He owned several cats, and was particularly fond of orange ones. One ginger cat named Jock, stayed in Churchill's bed with him towards the end of his life, and he was mentioned in Churchill's will.

Edward Lear: Artist, illustrator and writer - Edwards' tabby cat "Foss" became well known because of the cartoons drawn by Lear, especially those which accompany his rhyme, The Owl and the Pussycat. Mr. Lear loved the cat so much that when he moved to a different home he instructed the architects to design it as an exact replica of his previous one. This was supposedly to make the move to the new place as easy as possible for "Foss".

James Mason: Actor - Siamese cat "Flower-Face" talked about in Mason's 'The Cats in our Lives' 1949.

Pierre Auguste Renoir: Artist - This French artist loved cats and depicted them in several paintings including 'Woman with a Cat'.

Vivien Leigh: Actress - Famed for her cat like smile; a lover of cats, owned several Siamese including "Boy"

William Butler Yeats: Poet - Several cats including "Minnaloushe" from the poem The cat and the moon.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox: Poet - Several cats including "Banjo" and "Ajax"

Colette: Author - Several cats including "La Chatte"

Marilyn Monroe: Actress - White Persian cat "Mitsou"

Bill Clinton: President USA (1993-2001) - black and white cat "Socks"

Freddie Mercury: was best known as the frontman, pianist, and vocalist for the English rock band Queen - owned many cats throughout his life. His solo album Mr Bad Guy is dedicated to cat-lovers all over the world.

T.S. Eliot: British Poet and Playwright - was a cat lover and wrote an entire book of poems about cats; including his own cat, "Jellylorum". Andrew Lloyd Webber was clearly a fan of this great poet and author. He was inspired to produce the musical Cats which was based on the characters from Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats.

Victor Hugo: Author of Les Miserables - Several cats including "Chanoine" originally called "Gavroche" but was renamed because it was so indolent.

Théophile Gautier: Author - Several cats including three black kittens. The kittens were born in the early days of Les Miserables when everybody was talking of the new masterpiece. The two little males were called "Enjolras" and "Gavroche", and their sister received the name of "Eponine".