



# Toronto Zine Library

## Newsletter

Winter 2024

**SHOCKING STUDY FINDS:**

**THE ZINE-OFF  
LIVES AGAIN**



The leaves are changing colours and falling... is sweater weather finally here? Or is that wishful thinking of me?

A lot has happened in the zine community and many people have mixed feelings about big zine groups and events ending. In situations like this, it's important to reach out to people and communities who share the same values as you as a means to recharge.

We at the Toronto Zine Library want to fill these last months of 2024 with zine events and connecting with our fellow zinesters in Toronto and abroad. We're especially working hard as a small group of volunteers to create zine events that we feel zinesters deserve. I'm especially excited for the revival of the Zine-Off, which hasn't happened since 2018! As well as a potential new print place for accessible printer services! Big thanks to Meredith and Karena for helping launch this latest issue :)

- Amanda

# NOTES FROM TZL

TZL 101



Masking is highly encouraged when coming to the library. All volunteers are always masked and the library has spare masks located next to the entrance. Or you can ask us for one!



Home About Us + Catalogue Visit Us Support Us Resources -

Zine Resources (Living Document)

Zine-Making

Some Upcoming Zine-Related Events & Calls for Submissions

## Resources

We made updates to our website and included our list of zine-related resources! The first is our "Zine Resource", a list of libraries, shops, distros and websites with a zine collection. The second is the "Upcoming Zine-Related Events & Calls for Submissions", a list of places and groups currently calling for zine submissions or hosting zine events across Canada and the U.S.

We update these resources regularly.



# NOTES FROM TZL

TZL 101

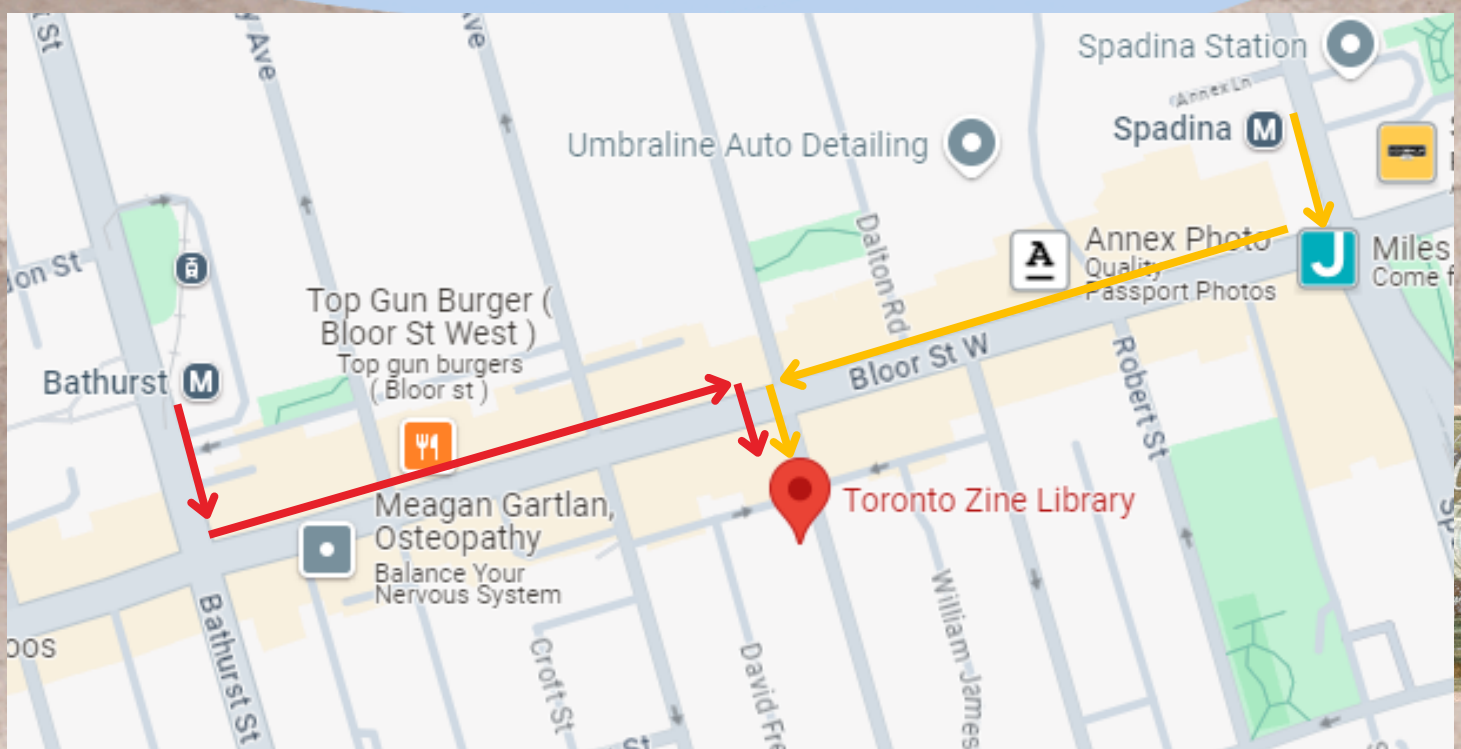
The Toronto Zine Library has been located at the Tranzac Club since 2006. We'll show you how to get to the Tranzac building by the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) (292 Brunswick Ave):

## Option 1:

- Taking the TTC, make your way to Spadina station.
- From Spadina station, exit the station and walk on Bloor Street westbound until you reach the intersection Bloor Street and Brunswick Avenue.
- Walk southbound on Brunswick Avenue, the Tranzac Club will be on your right just southbound of Barbara Barrett Lane.

## Option 2:

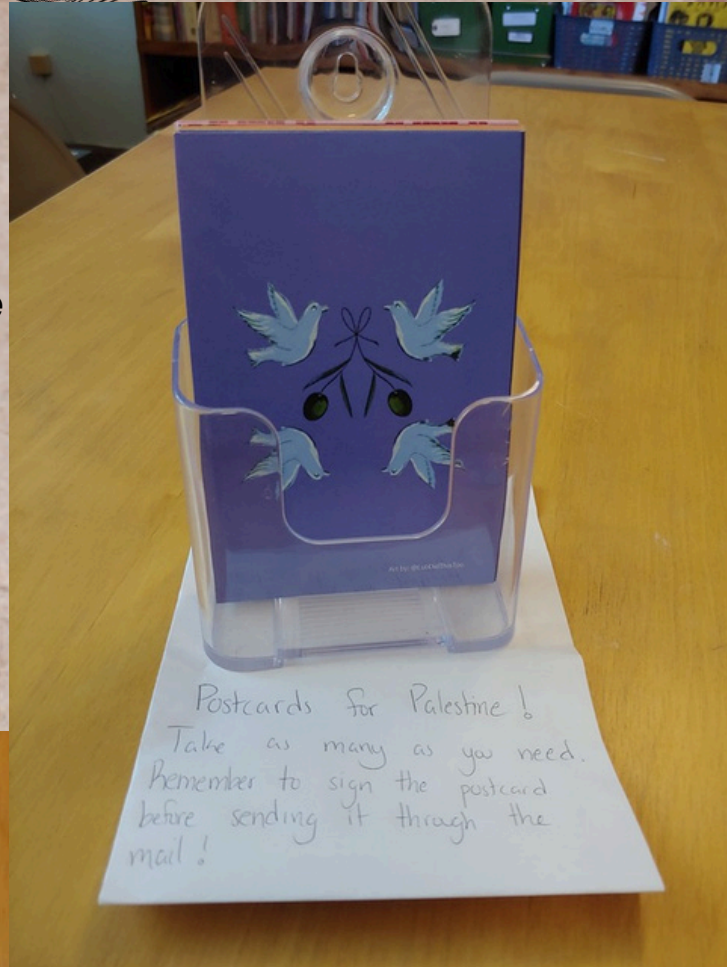
- Taking the TTC, make your way to Bathurst station.
- From Bathurst station, exit the station and walk southbound until you reach the intersection Bathurst Street and Bloor Street.
- Walk eastbound on Bloor Street until you reach the intersection Bloor Street and Brunswick Avenue.
- Walk southbound on Brunswick Avenue, the Tranzac Club will be on your right just southbound of Barbara Barrett Lane.



# NOTES FROM TZL

TZL 101

We're now a pick-up location for Postcards for Palestine! Please take as many postcards as you like to mail out. You can pickup postcards during our open hours (Tuesdays and Fridays from 6pm-8pm).



## Bring Postcards for Palestine into your community!



Join us in sending postcards to Canadian politicians to advocate for a free Palestine

### 1. Grab a stack of postcards

Folks can sign more than one postcard—take a generous amount!

### 2. Gather signatures at events or community spaces

Be sure to collect signed postcards instead of giving them away—that way you can ensure they're mailed out and not just taken home to sit on a table. Consider rallies, places of worship, schools, and local businesses as places to bring postcards!

### 3. Check each postcard

Make sure that each postcard is signed legibly and includes at least a name and a postal code to ensure that Members of Parliament and their staff log our demands.

### 4. Mail them to Parliament

Mail to federal politicians in Canada is postage-free—simply drop them off at any Canada Post mailbox or post office!

### 5. Support the campaign

- ★ Help us track the reach & impact of our campaign by letting us know how many postcards you mail out & sending us photos of postcards in your community
- ★ Donate to our next printing
- ★ Volunteer with us



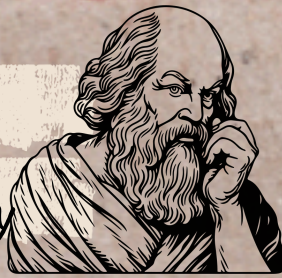
[LinkTr.ee/PostcardsForPalestine](https://LinkTr.ee/PostcardsForPalestine)

[@Postcards\\_For\\_Palestine](mailto:@Postcards_For_Palestine) | [ActionNow472@gmail.com](mailto:ActionNow472@gmail.com)



# TZL EVENT:

Written by Hailey



The Toronto Zine Library presents  
The Toronto Zine Off!

Join us on November 16 2024 from 5-7pm in the Living Room of the Tranzac!

The Toronto Zine Off is a big swap between zinesters and fellow zine-lovers. This is a pay-what-you-can event. Masking is highly preferred and we will have masks available if needed.

We will have light snacks, collaborative zine making on the theme of Community, and zine swapping!

There is limited capacity. Registration is closed but the event is still open for incoming visitors.

## A little history of the Toronto Zine Off:

The Toronto Zine Off is a self-enforced deadline designed to push your creative side and an opportunity to exchange your work. Originally run by zinester JP, the last Toronto Zine Off was held in 2018, before being handed off to TZL. This year we have changed the event to do a zine swap AND a collective zine making event.

## Please Note:

The TZL does not have the capacity to screen every zine brought to the event, and as such we are not responsible for content of the zines or audience reaction to the zines. Hate speech, racism, cissexism etc. has no place in the community. Please contact TZL volunteers during the event if you feel your safety is threatened.

*The Toronto Zine Library presents*



## *The Toronto Zine Off*

In the Living Room at the  
Tranzac  
292 Brunswick Ave Toronto

You have one month-ish to  
make a zine! Bring it to the  
zine off to swap and make  
friends!



# NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY



Help Jordan make print plaza  
a reality!

*Written by Jordan*

My name is Jordan and many people recognize me as an employee at Net Plaza, a beloved print shop at Spadina and College providing the zinester community with accessible printing services. I'm asking for your help today because the owner of Net Plaza has offered to sell me the space, including all the machines and equipment, at a very reasonable price. I now have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take on the old Net Plaza shop and transform it into my own space, Print Plaza.

What your donation will allow me to do:

- Make the space more usable for the community we serve and artist-friendly while still maintaining the low prices that all customers expect.
- Shift the focus to printing and finishing services (hence the name change) while still keeping computers available for use
- Relocate the Canada Comics Open Library to Print Plaza as a permanent home, so that they can continue to loan books and expand their collection
- Update Canada Comics Open Library's membership fee so that it's more accessible
- Clean up the floors and walls, including a bathroom revamp
- Host curatorial projects for emerging artists
- Acquire equipment relevant to the needs of artists (e.g. risograph printers)
- Eventually host small shows, and other community events in the evenings.

# NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY



Starting a small business is no easy task, and I want to be fully transparent about my history and personal background.

- I was a patron at Net Plaza for 7 years before I started working there as a manager 3 years ago. In this time I've learned the ins and outs of the business and the potential risk factors, and I'm confident that this endeavour will succeed.
- I've been a cartoonist and zinester for the last 20 years and I know how important it is to keep costs as low as possible while maintaining quality services for artists.
- I've worked at Gwartzman's Art Supplies for 7 years so I have a long history of serving the community.
- Printing has been a passion of mine for the majority of my life and I greatly look forward to serving the public in Print Plaza for years to come.

Please check out my GoFundMe page to email me directly if you have any questions!

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-jordan-make-print-plaza-a-reality>



# ZINE RESOURCES

Written By Amanda, photos by Sylvia

## COMPOSITION BOOK

Toronto Public  
Library

Wide Ruled • 100 Sheets  
9.75 in x 7.25 in



### More info and a PDF Catalogue:

[https://](https://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/arts_culture/2015/03/zines-at-trl-a-pdf-catalogue-and-a-major-donation.html)

[torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/arts\\_culture/2015/03/zines-at-trl-a-pdf-catalogue-and-a-major-donation.html](https://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/arts_culture/2015/03/zines-at-trl-a-pdf-catalogue-and-a-major-donation.html)

Toronto Public Library has a zine collection located at its Reference Library branch at 789 Yonge Street. Look in the Arts department on the fifth floor, zines have their own dedicated shelf beside the graphic novels collection. Items in the zine collection cannot leave the library, but access to the collection is open to the public.

This collection was launched in 2015; after the Reference Library received a major donation of zines, most of them documenting the punk and new wave music scene of the 1980s in Toronto and across Canada.

Reference: Toronto Public Library. (2015, March 25). *Zines at TRL: A PDF Catalogue and Major Donation*. [https://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/arts\\_culture/2015/03/zines-at-trl-a-pdf-catalogue-and-a-major-donation.html](https://torontopubliclibrary.typepad.com/arts_culture/2015/03/zines-at-trl-a-pdf-catalogue-and-a-major-donation.html)

# CALLS FOR SUBMISSION

## Zine Submission

Name: FeelsZine

Deadline: January 31, 2025

Contact: [submittofeels@gmail.com](mailto:submittofeels@gmail.com)

## Zine submission

Name: DumDum Zine

Deadline: December 1, 2024

Contact: Contact Editor at [info@dumdumzine.com](mailto:info@dumdumzine.com)

Note: The theme is "The Music Issue"

Issue No. 8:  
**THE MUSIC ISSUE**

**dum dum ZINE**

SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED  
IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

- LYRICS
- FICTION
- ESSAYS
- POETRY
- LETTERS
- MICRO-FICTION
- REVIEWS
- NON-FICTION
- CONCRETE POETRY
- PROSE POETRY
- ESSAYS
- EXPERIMENTAL SCORES

2,000 words or less!

**DEADLINE:**  
1 DECEMBER 2024  
11:59 PM

Send all submissions to [submit@dumdumzine.com](mailto:submit@dumdumzine.com)  
For more info, visit [dumdumzine.com](http://dumdumzine.com)

SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR

# HARD MEDIA

THE SECOND ISSUE OF FILM FVCKERS: A ZINE ABOUT FILM

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

Stories, interviews, reviews, or articles related to the theme of "HARD MEDIA" aka physical media (VHS, DVD, LaserDiscs, Video Stores, Boutique BluRay labels etc.) to be paired with original artwork and design related to the above articles.

If you would like to pitch an article or have your art paired with someone's please email us at [filmfvckers@gmail.com](mailto:filmfvckers@gmail.com)

**DEADLINE**

MONDAY NOVEMBER 18TH

**RELEASE DATE**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24TH

## Zine submission

Name: Flim Fvckers Zine

Deadline: November 18, 2024

Contact:

[filmfvckers@gmail.com](mailto:filmfvckers@gmail.com)

Note: The theme is "Hard Media"

# UPCOMING ZINE EVENTS/WORKSHOPS



**Event:** A little Makers' Market featuring ace & aro community makers

**Date:** Sunday, November 10th from 2:15–4:15 pm

**Location:** 519 Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto ON M4Y 2C9

**Notes:** Includes a variety of crafts, art, zines, etc., including a table by the Ace Zine Archive. We are still working to confirm ASL interpreters for this event

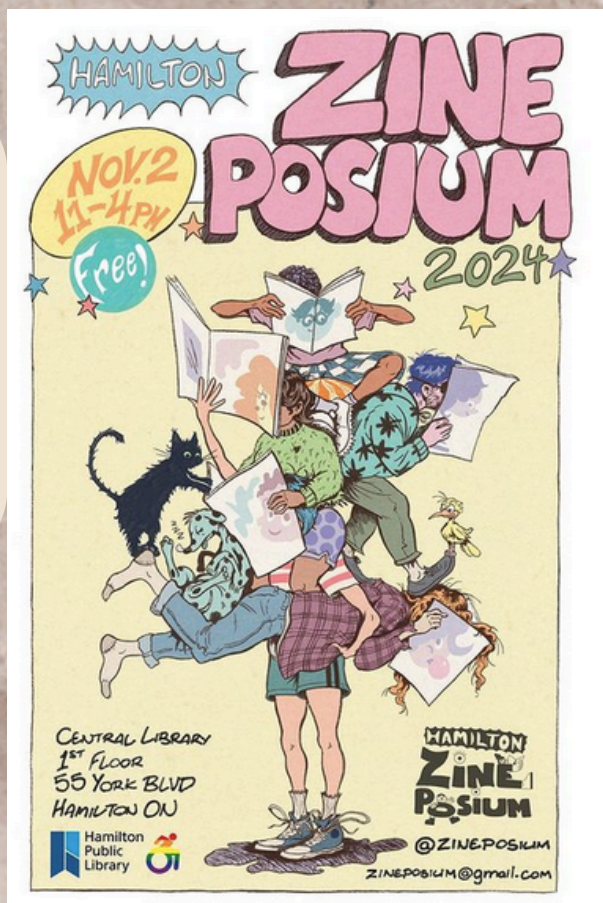
<https://www.facebook.com/TorontoAcesAndAros>

**Event:** Hamilton Zineposium

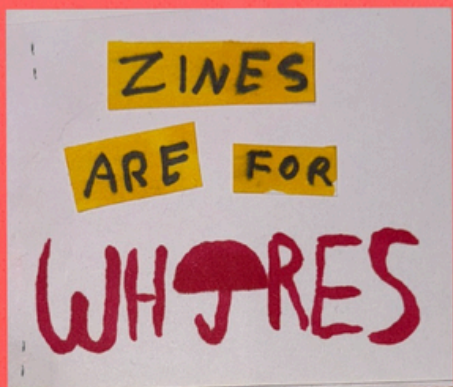
**Date:** November 2nd 11–4pm

**Location:** Hamilton, Ontario at Hamilton Central Public Library

<https://www.instagram.com/zineposium/?hl=en>



# UPCOMING ZINE EVENTS/WORKSHOPS



**Event:** Zines are for wh\*res by Maggie's Toronto

**Date:** Friday, November 8th 2:30 -5 p.m

**Location:** Holy Trinity, 19 Trinity Square

[https://www.instagram.com/p/DBgtyHctmio/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==m/zineposium/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/p/DBgtyHctmio/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==m/zineposium/?hl=en)

**Event:** Zine Harvest

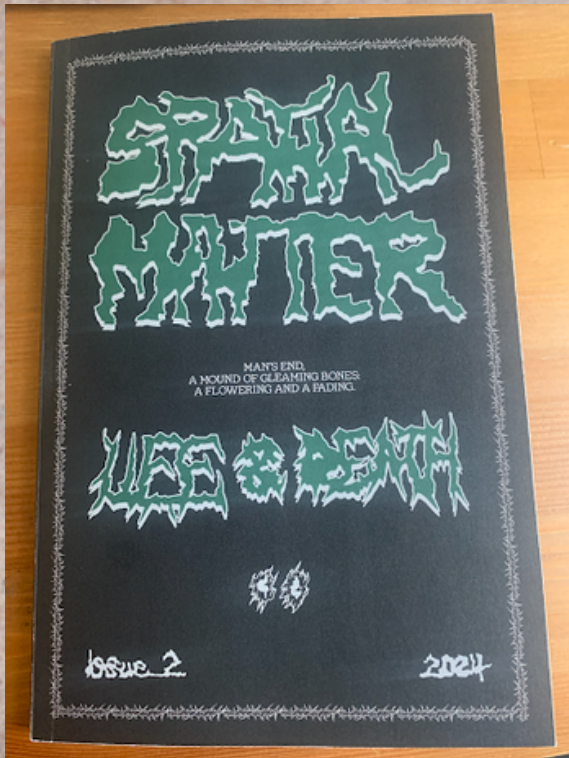
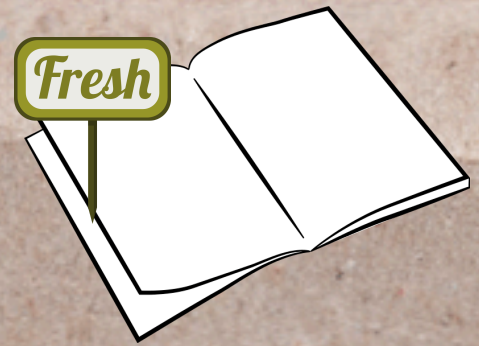
**Date:** November 9th from 11am-5pm

**Location:** Sun Wah Centre Lower Ground Floor 268 Keefer Street, Vancouver British Columbia

[https://www.instagram.com/p/DBCOf-Ss\\_O/](https://www.instagram.com/p/DBCOf-Ss_O/)

# FRESHLY CATALOGUED

Written by Gabi



Spatial Matter is a collaborative art zine that highlights the work of amateur and emerging artists from around the Songhees or Lekwungen territories, also known as Victoria BC. Austin, the editor, is a recent graduate and local print maker whose own artistic talent is on full display in the zine's beautifully designed layout and lettering, which maintains both a handmade and high-quality feel. Spatial Matter's goal is to provide a no-barrier space for other creatives to display their work and build community within an otherwise over-competitive, exclusive, and erudite art world.

For the second issue of Spatial Matter, Austin asked contributors to create an original piece addressing the theme of 'life and death'. The collected works span a variety of mediums and artistic practices, including painting, poetry, woodworking, collage, and clay. Though the theme seems serious and broad, there is an underlying cohesion in the way many of the contributors interpreted the theme, leading to through-lines of innocence, existential insecurity, and a comforting connection to nature. The zine's format includes a photograph of each of the final submissions, accompanied by an artist statement that more concretely contextualizes the piece in relation to the theme as well as the artist's own experience.



# FRESHLY CATALOGUED

In September 2024, the zine was officially launched at Fortune Gallery, an art gallery in Vancouver Island's historic Chinatown neighbourhood, to an overwhelmingly positive reception. For many of the artists, this event was their first official gallery showing, and they appreciated the opportunity to share their largely private artistic hobbies and side hustles. The unpretentiousness of the evening was reflected in the sliding scale pricing for the zine and other craft goods that were for sale.

The submissions were originally created for display within a zine, many honoured the medium by adhering to 2D and small-scale artworks. But this did not translate as well to the physical space of the venue, which favoured larger 3D forms. However, one of the pieces that benefited from in-person viewing was because the artist had added an interactive element, inviting viewers to write something they wanted to let go of on a piece of paper, drop it inside a 'therapy box', and continue on their way, newly unburdened. My favourite in-person work was a substantial piece of wood furniture displayed in the front window. The table was made using traditional Japanese joinery techniques and hand tools—no modern materials or machines. This means that the table can decompose and regenerate, in a symbolic continuation of wood's natural processes. Working with the natural life cycle of trees by sustainably harvesting dead logs and recycled carpentry materials, the write up for this meticulously crafted piece of furniture reveals a deep understanding of and reverence for temporalities beyond our own human lifespan.

While the gallery show closed, the zine will grace TZL's display shelves for the next while and will thereafter reside indefinitely in our library's archive, so check it out at your leisure—it's no matter of life or death!

Find the catalogue entry here:

[https://www.torontozinelibrary.org/catalogue/  
shared/biblio\\_search.php?](https://www.torontozinelibrary.org/catalogue/shared/biblio_search.php?searchType=keyword&searchText=spatial+matter&sortBy=default&tab=opac&lookup=N)

[searchType=keyword&searchText=spatial+matter&sortBy=default&tab=opac&lookup=N](https://www.torontozinelibrary.org/catalogue/shared/biblio_search.php?searchType=keyword&searchText=spatial+matter&sortBy=default&tab=opac&lookup=N)



# WHAT'S NEXT?



- Have something zine-related (e.g., workshop, call for submission, event) that you would like to promote? Reach out to us through email at [torontozinelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:torontozinelibrary@gmail.com) and we'll post it up on our next newsletter
- Look out for our Winter 2025 newsletter, coming in February 2025!
- Reach out to us! Email us to tell us what you like about our newsletter, things that you think we should include, and things you think we can do better

See our full zine resources on [linktree](#):

Connect with us



[@torontozinelibrary](#)



[torontozinelibrary.org](http://torontozinelibrary.org)



[Toronto Zine Library](#)



[@torontozinelib](#)



*Toronto Zine Library is grateful for the space provided by TRANZAC since 2006. Please consider donating to their GoFundMe so that we can continue creating zine spaces for all*