



ELIZABETH SEMMELHACK

Director and Senior Curator

As Director and Senior Curator of the Bata Shoe Museum, Elizabeth Semmelhack has shaped the Museum's curatorial direction and institutional vision for over two decades. Widely recognized as one of the world's foremost authorities on footwear, her scholarship has been instrumental in advancing footwear as a field of serious academic inquiry, reframing shoes as critical entry points into broader conversations about culture, politics, identity and society.

Semmelhack has curated more than thirty exhibitions, authored fourteen books, and contributed to more than thirty book and academic journals. A sought-after cultural commentator and international lecturer, she continues to expand the field of footwear studies and its relevance to our understanding of both history and contemporary culture.

Publications include: *Rough & Ready: A History of the Cowboy Boot* (2026), *Roger Vivier, Heritage and Imagination* (2026), *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks* (2022), *The World at Your Feet: Bata Shoe Museum* (2020), *Collab: Sneakers x Culture* (2019), *Christian Dior by Roger Vivier* (2019), *Shoes: The Meaning of Style* (2017), *Out of the Box: The Rise of Sneaker Culture* (2015), *Standing Tall: The Curious History of Men in Heels* (2015), *Fashion Victims: The Pleasures and Perils of Dress in the 19th Century* with co-curator Dr. Alison Matthews David (2014), *Roger Vivier: Process to Perfection* (2012), *On a Pedestal: From Renaissance Chopines to Baroque Heels* (2009), *Heights of Fashion: A History of the Elevated Shoe* (2008), and *Icons of Elegance* (2005).

BATA SHOE MUSEUM

327 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1W7 | 416-979-7799

www.batashoemuseum.ca | @batashoemuseum |    