



## **ELIZABETH SEMMELHACK**

### DIRECTOR & SENIOR CURATOR

As Director and Senior Curator at the Bata Shoe Museum, Elizabeth applies her extensive cultural art history background to guiding the museum mission forward and exploring the multiple roles and meanings of footwear through innovative and engaging exhibitions. With over 20 exhibitions curated, Semmelhack's most recent exhibition is *Obsessed: How Shoes Became Objects of Desire*. Other exhibitions Semmelhack has curated include: *Future Now: Vitural Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks* (2022), *All Dolled Up: Fashioning Cultural Expectations* (2021), *The Great Divide: Footwear in the Age of Enlightenment* (2020), *WANT: Desire, Design and Depression Era Footwear* (2019), *Standing Tall: The Curious History of Men in Heels* (2015); *Fashion Victims: The Pleasures and Perils of Dress in the 19th Century* (2014), *Out of the Box: The Rise of Sneaker Culture* (2013), *Roger Vivier: Process to Perfection* (2012), *On a Pedestal: From Renaissance Chopines to Baroque Heels* (2009), *Beauty,*

*Identity, Pride: Native North American Footwear* (2007), *Icons of Elegance: The Most Influential Shoe Designers of the 20th Century* (2005), *Beads, Buckles and Bows: Four Hundred Years of Embellished Footwear* (2004), *The Perfect Pair: Wedding Shoe Stories* (2002) and *Heights of Fashion: A History of the Elevated Foot* (2001). *Out of the Box: The Rise of Sneaker Culture* was expanded into a blockbuster travelling exhibition in partnership with the American Federation of the Arts and was displayed in several US venues, and travelled across the US and to Australia in 2015 - 2017.

Named by *FASHION* Magazine as one of the world's top five game-changing fashion curators, Semmelhack has been featured in articles and interviews in *National Geographic*, *Vogue*, *Elle*, *InStyle*, *W Magazine*, *Women's Wear Daily*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes Magazine*, *The New Yorker Magazine*, *GQ Magazine*, *L'Officiel*, *South China Morning Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Post*, *The National Post*, *The Toronto Star*, *The Globe & Mail* and many others. She has also appeared on numerous television and radio programmes including NBC's *Today Show* and *Conan O'Brien Show*; and in documentaries including *Unbanned: The Legend of Air Jordan I*. (2018), *The History of Cool*. MSNBC (2018); *Abstract: The Art of Design. Tinker Hatfield* episode. Netflix (2017) and *God Save My Shoes*. (2011)

Semmelhack's award-winning publications include almost 30 articles and chapters as well as numerous books and catalogs including: *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).



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