

October 23, 2022

Mary Jones
Journalist
Women's Wear Daily
475 5th Ave #3, New York, NY 10017

Dear Mary,

On behalf of our MFIT President Valerie Steele, we would like to cordially invite you to the free *press* opening of our newest exhibition *Shoes: Anatomy, Identity, Magic*. This exhibition explores our physical, social, and psychological relationship with shoes. Beginning with baby shoes onward, the story of shoes and how they accompany our lives is an enchanting depiction of fashion in everyday life.

In addition to attending the press opening, we would like to extend a **personal VIP** offer to conduct a one-on-one interview and tour with both Valerie Steele and the curator Colleen Hill prior to other publications. In addition, we would love to offer you an *exclusive* tour of the MFIT collection and archives to learn more about the museum and what goes into making an exhibition such as *Shoes: Anatomy, Identity, Magic*.

With WWD being one of the leading fashion publications, covering this exhibition will allow its reader to receive a *first-hand* look on both the behind the scenes of the museum as well as an overview of the exhibition itself. With such an extensive look at the anatomy and magic behind shoes, there is something to appeal to every member of the family and every type of shoe lover. I have also attached our press release assets below for your further curiosity.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to hearing back from you soon!

Sincerely,
Raleigh Smith
561-289-9968
Raleigh_smith@fitnyc.edu

News Release

Steven Bibb
Press Associate
steven_bibb@fitnyc.edu

Shoes: Anatomy, Identity, Magic

September 1–December 31, 2022

Free and open to the public

[For press assets and images, click here.](#)

The Museum at FIT presents *Shoes: Anatomy, Identity, Magic*, an innovative exhibition that explores our physical, social, and psychological relationship with footwear. Curated by Dr. Valerie Steele, MFIT director and chief curator, and Colleen Hill, curator of costume and accessories, the exhibition features more than 300 of the 5,000 pairs of shoes, boots, sandals, and sneakers in the museum's permanent collection, aka "the closet."



Manolo Blahnik, evening shoes, 2017. Gift of Manolo Blahnik.

"The 'embodied turn' in fashion studies has brought renewed attention to the intimate relationship between body, dress, and sense of self," explains Steele. "We are inviting visitors to ask themselves, *Shoe are you?* Hence our three, somewhat mysterious-sounding themes of anatomy, identity, and magic."

The theme of anatomy emphasizes how few shoes are shaped like feet. We stand and move differently when we wear, say, sneakers rather than stilettos. Peep-toe shoes and thigh-high boots also draw attention to different parts of our anatomy.