



Manolo Blahnik: The Art of Shoes



The Bata Shoe Museum of Toronto presents a retrospective by one of the world's most influential figures within the fashion industry, Spanish artist Manolo Blahnik.

For over 45 years, [Blahnik](#)'s inventiveness and artisanship has crossed boundaries between fashion and art, inspiring elegance and perfection. The underlying theme of the exhibition –that shoes are art– aligns with Blahnik's own approach to creating footwear. The museum will be the first venue in North America to showcase this travelling exhibition that comes from an international tour: Milan, Saint Petersburg, Prague and Madrid.

The exhibition provides an insight into Blahnik's private archive, showcasing over 200 of his favorite shoes beginning in the early 1970s, accompanied with exclusive footage of him at work and his artistic drawings and sketches.

For Blahnik, the most important thing when it comes to creating a shoe is *the construction, its design and the fusion of the materials*. The Manolos, as their shoes are popularly called, are “beyond fashion”, they have their own personality that transcends mere functionality to approach, in many cases, art. That's why they are more than accessories and have come to museums.

—*El País*

With each style [Manolo] tries to capture what he considers to be the essence of elegance, femininity and beauty, which he has intertwined with his various cultural and emotional influences, says

DESIGN
TORONTO

Wed, May 16–
Sun, January 06, 2019

Venue

Bata Shoe Museum, 327 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON, M5S 1W7

[View map](#)

Phone: 416-979-7799

Admission

[Advance tickets](#) to the BSM can now be purchased online through TripAdvisor

More information

[Bata Shoe Museum](#)

Credits

Organized by the Bata Shoe Museum



guest curator Dr. Cristina Carillo de Iboroz.

—*Fashion Magazine*

RELATED EVENT: **IN CONVERSATION WITH MANOLO BLAHNIK**

- On Wednesday, May 16 at 6pm.
- Tickets: VIP, \$150; General public, \$50; Friends of the BSM: \$35.

Blahnik shares his thoughts on what truly inspires him, his views on the fashion industry today, and his travelling exhibition *Manolo Blahnik: The Art of Shoes*. He is joined by the exhibition's curator, Cristina Carrillo de Albornoz, and the evening is moderated by BSM Senior Curator Elizabeth Semmelhack.

[Watch the video presentation.](#)