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BERG

THE BATA SHOE MUSEUM TORONTO CANADA

DISTRETTO CALZATURIERO VENETO

ACRIB ASSOCIAZIONE CALZATURIFICI RIVIERA DEL BRENTA

"ANYONE WHO HAS EVER SPENT THE RENT ON A PAIR OF IMPOSSIBLY HIGH STILETTOS, HAS BOUGHT SHOES THAT DON'T FIT, OR OWNS SHOES THEY HAVE NEVER WORN, WILL WANT TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THIS BEAUTIFUL COFFEE-TABLE TOME" THE TIMES MAGAZINE

"A GLOBAL HISTORY OF THE HUMBLE (AND NOT SO HUMBLE) SHOE AS A SYMBOL OF STYLE, STATUS, SEXUALITY AND DESIRE, FROM ANCIENT TIMES TO THE PRESENT DAY" THE REMIX – SUPPLEMENT TO THE NEW YORK TIMES

"AN EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL AND WIDE-RANGING HISTORY OF FOOTWEAR" THE OBSERVER

SHOES

RIELLO & MCNEILL

SHOES

A HISTORY FROM SANDALS TO SNEAKERS

EDITED BY GIORGIO RIELLO AND PETER MCNEIL

"AT LAST A WORK THAT DEALS NOT ONLY WITH THE HISTORY OF FOOTWEAR, BUT ALSO WITH ITS CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE" MANOLO BLAHNIK

"CHARTING THEIR HISTORY, *SHOES: A HISTORY FROM SANDALS TO SNEAKERS* TAKES A PEAK AT SOME OF THE BEST. STILETTOS, WELLIES, SNEAKERS AND BOOTS – THEY'RE ALL INCLUDED AND PUT IN THEIR CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CONTEXTS" DAZED AND CONFUSED

"ALL [THE CONTRIBUTORS] ARE ENGAGINGLY PASSIONATE ABOUT THEIR PARTICULAR FOOTWEAR NICHE … HARDLY A STONE IS LEFT UNTURNED – OR UNILLUSTRATED" THE TIMES

"LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED, AND THE PAGES OF TEXT ARE COLOUR-COORDINATED WITH THE PICS, AS GOOD ACCESSORIES SHOULD BE" THE EVENING STANDARD

WHAT DO YOUR SHOES SAY ABOUT YOU?

Shoes are now much more than just things to walk in. From kids on the block to models on the catwalk, we use them to signal how fashionable we are. But, beyond style, this most intimate object communicates much more … our sexual desires, aesthetic sense, social status and personality. And, before they became supreme objects of desire, shoes had a history. From ancient times to the present, shoes have had a cultural as well as a practical purpose.

Within these pages is pretty much everything you ever wanted to know about shoes – the tiny crushing shoes of China, the infamous *chopine* with its 23-inch heel, how dandies made men's shoes beautiful in the eighteenth century, and how the powers of conservatism made them dull again, war and the Wellington boot, sex and the high heel, the codes of the "gay shoe," shoes in fairytales and in art, the irresistible rise of the sneaker, and the cult of shoe designers.