

## Date

# FASHION MEETS ART FOR STYLISH NEW EXHIBITION

An Interview with a Shoe

Private view            20 May 2009  
Exhibition runs        21 May 1 June 2009  
Venue                    Beach Blanket Babylon  
                              Shoreditch, London  
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Shoes of some of the most influential and inspirational figures in the UK are the content of a stunning new exhibition from artist Alice Instone.

'Interview with a Shoe' features a series of more than twenty portraits of the favourite footwear of high profile names such as Annie Lennox, Elle Macpherson, Cherie Blair, Baroness Neuberger and Alice Temperley. The exhibition contrasts high fashion, fabulous footwear to everyday practical shoes.

The paintings capture a personal story from the memories of wearing the shoes. The Little Church of the West Las Vegas portrays a pair of gold platform sandals worn by Annie Lennox to the Las Vegas wedding of Bob Geldof and Paula Yates. Election Trail depicts the high heeled pink stilettos of Cherie Blair, worn during the election campaign of 2005.

Elle Macpherson, whose well worn cowboy boots are part of the show said: "We all have a favourite pair of shoes and they often reveal something about us without us even realising. I have a pair of black cowboy boots that I've had

since I was a teenager. I've worn them on so many different occasions that they conjure up great memories. Alice has a talent for capturing something quite functional to evoke its charm and make an emotional connection.”

Alongside the shoe portraits, Alice has created a selection of exquisite silk screen prints and shoe sculptures.

The exhibition will be hosted at Beach Blanket Babylon's Shoreditch gallery, London. The high profile partner of the famed West London institution occupies an imposing warehouse in East London. As the official party venue for London Fashion Week it's the perfect spot for embracing the artistic tribute to famous footwear.

Running for two weeks, the show will also help to raise funds for the charity Dress for Success London. This not for profit organisation, founded in New York in 1997 and in London in 2000, helps to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing them with professional attire, a network of support and career development

**About the artist:**

British artist Alice lives and works in London. Her work is concerned with gender, power and contemporary cultural values. She has painted numerous high profile women and exhibited at the House of Commons and Royal Society of Arts. She was shortlisted for the Women of the Future Award in 2006.

Ends

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