

# Globe Review

## GOING OUT

YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENT » BY BRAD WHEELER

### CELEBRITY SHOES



**Podiatrist Hartley Miltchin collects shoes worn by the likes of James Dean – and they can tell him a lot about famous feet.** EDWARD GAJDEL

Oprah Winfrey has a big pair of ... bunions. Or so says Dr. Hartley Miltchin, a Toronto podiatrist with a celebrity-shoe fascination to boot. Part of his famous-folk footwear collection is on display as part of The History of Rock and Roll, an exhibit of musical memorabilia at the Canadian National Exhibition. "It's just so obvious," Miltchin says. "Her shoes are bulged out at the big-toe joint."

The foot fanatic has some 350 pairs of celebrity kicks, a couple dozen of which are on show at the CNE. The display includes pumps, sneakers and loafers worn by John Lennon, Jimi Hendrix, Elvis Presley – boots seen in films *Spinout*, *Double Trouble* and *Frankie and Johnny* – Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand and James Dean.

Miltchin, who often makes loans from his collection to the Bata Shoe Museum, kept his hobby fairly secret for years. "I get teased so much because I'm a podiatrist," he explains, "so if I told people that I was collecting shoes, I couldn't imagine how bad I would get teased." Eventually, however, he came out of the closet – and brought his secret stash with him. "There's a fascination with stars," explains Miltchin. "I decided I wanted to people to see the shoes."

Can we say that the doctor has a foot fetish? "I guess you could call it an obsession," he allows. Well, if the shoe fits. » **Brad Wheeler**

» The Canadian National Exhibition runs to Sept. 6. General admission \$12 to \$16 (family pass \$48). Full information at [theex.com](http://theex.com).