



# FUTURE: REMIX

MARCH 20, 2026 | 7-10pm

The Kalamazoo Institute of Arts' annual "REMIX" event is an opportunity to get creative in connecting with the community around art and activation.

Grab your favorite kicks for the next REMIX at the KIA! Show off your fabulous footwear and join us for an evening with DJs spinning, cash bar, savory bites and sweet treats, dancing, and a "kicks contest" inspired by the KIA's next exhibition *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks* (On View: Feb. 7 – June 7, 2026).

Mix and mingle while immersing yourself in the special exhibition, *Future Now*, the KIA's incredible permanent collection, and the next generation of artists with the *Young Artists of Kalamazoo County*.

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Platinum // \$6k (1 available)

As a thank you for sponsorship you will receive:

- 8 tickets to Future: REMIX
- Platinum Sponsorship recognition on all printed and digital materials if secured prior to December 16, 2026
- Recognition with business logo on all promotional materials including printed program, website, social media, digital media and Sightlines publication after the event\*
- Name and logo prominently displayed throughout the event
- 1 additional drink ticket for each guest

### Gold // \$3k (4 available)

As a thank you for sponsorship you will receive:

- 4 tickets to Future: REMIX
- Recognition in promotional materials including printed program, website, social media, digital media and Sightlines publication after the event.\*
- Name and logo prominently displayed throughout the event
- 1 additional drink ticket for each guest

### Silver // \$1k (Unlimited)

As a thank you for sponsorship you will receive:

- 2 tickets to Future: REMIX
- Recognition on website and Sightlines publication after the event.
- Name and logo displayed at event
- 1 additional drink ticket for each guest

\*To ensure all print recognition sponsorship must be confirmed prior to March 6, 2025. Sponsorships that are confirmed after March 6 may not be able to be recognized in printed materials.



Picture by Eric Hennig

## TICKETS

**\$65 for KIA members | \$75 general admission and day-of**

Ticket includes entry for 1 person, 1 drink ticket, hor d'oeuvres, live DJs, and access to the KIA galleries.

*Be sure to become an Individual Member or Business or Nonprofit Partner to activate Member ticket price!*

*For more information about sponsoring Future: REMIX please contact Donor and Corporate Relations Manager Josiah Solis, [josiahs@kiarts.org](mailto:josiahs@kiarts.org).*

# ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

## *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks*

The Kalamazoo Institute of Arts (KIA) is thrilled to present the groundbreaking exhibition, *Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks* from February 7–June 7, 2026.

*Future Now* examines contemporary advancements in footwear and the sneaker's role in the wearable tech movement. Cutting-edge technologies, unlikely and new materials, and fresh ideas are all having a transformative effect on how individuals put their best foot forward. The exhibition includes digitally designed and 3D-printed shoes, sneakers made from mushroom leather and reclaimed ocean plastics, and footwear created for the daily grind and virtual reality alike.

*Future Now* features some sixty state-of-the-art designs from the Bata Shoe Museum's impressive collection of over 13,000 pairs of shoes, in addition to items on loan from select institutions, collectors, designers, and inventors. Footwear designers represented in the show include **Salehe Bembury, Steven Smith, RTFKT, Mr. Bailey, Zaha Hadid, Nike ISPA, Safa Şahin, EKTO VR, Saysh, Benoit Méléard, SCRY**, and dozens more.

In the nineteenth century, shoemaking in the West was influenced by the advent of industrial production and the development of new synthetic materials. This resulted in artisan shoemaking—the trade of the cobbler—taking a cultural backseat to mass production. Though it increased affordability and access to reliable footwear, mass production posed a new dilemma: predetermined sizes, styles, and colors limited consumer options and eventually led to worker exploitation and environmental waste. The designers represented in *Future Now* grapple with this complex history, prioritizing sustainability and style in equal measure.

*Future Now* explores how cutting-edge technologies, unexpected materials, and new ideas are transforming footwear today. The exhibition demonstrates how footwear embodies cultural histories, personal memories, and aspirations for the future. *Future Now* is oriented around four distinct categories: **Innovative, Virtual, Transformative, and Sustainable.**



*Future Now: Virtual Sneakers to Cutting-Edge Kicks* is co-organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Bata Shoe Museum, and curated by Elizabeth Semmelhack, Director and Senior Curator of the Bata Shoe Museum.



Hanan & Sons, *Detail of celluloid heel embellished with rhinestones*, American, 1920s. Collection of the Bata Shoe Museum, Image © 2023 Bata Shoe Museum, Photo: Kailee Mandel, Courtesy American Federation of Arts and the Bata Shoe Museum



Mr. Bailey, *Octopus shoe*, 2018, Collection of Mr. Bailey, Courtesy American Federation of Arts and the Bata Shoe Museum.

