

POST INSIDERS TELL YOU WHERE TO GO!

HOT PICKS

MADE FOR WALKING

GOOD news for foot fetishists! No need to wait until next month's opening of the Broadway musical "Kinky Boots" for your fix.

The **Museum at The Fashion Institute of Technology** has stepped into the breach with the new exhibit "**Boots: The Height of Fashion.**" It showcases 20 eye-popping pairs of the footwear that has empowered — and, yep, in some cases, crippled — generations of women.

Curated by a team of FIT grad students, it examines how boots have become "powerful expressions of sexuality, rebellion and status."

We're not talking rubber galoshes or, as the Brits call them, "wellies," but ankle-skimming booties, towering platforms and red-soled traffic-stoppers.

Beginning with tightly fitted, curved-heel walking boots from the Victorian era, the display features the iconic "mod" designs of the 1960s and drool-worthy submissions from Manolo Blahnik and Christian Louboutin. No licking allowed.

Through April 6 at Seventh Avenue and 27th Street; 212-217-4558, fitnyc.edu. Free. — Jane Ridley

The leather John Jacobus walking boot, circa 1900, was considered sensible at the time. The more modern red satin Louboutin? Sexy.



DON'T MISS!

FOR THE BIRDS

Hunting John James Audubon's iconic original avian watercolors could be as challenging as bird hunting itself. The 180-year-old paintings, on display at the **New-York Historical Society** starting today, only come out of hibernation for three months at a time.

"They're highly fragile," explains curator Roberta Olson, who also wrote the book "Audubon's

Aviary," on which this exhibit, "**Audubon's Aviary: Part I of the Complete Flock,**" is based. "We know that these are national treasures."

The show will highlight every original watercolor which Audubon included in his book "The Birds of America," which began publication, in parts, in 1827.

Audubon, says curator Clark, is "the American Leonardo" and "the Lewis and Clark of American ornithology!"

Through May 19 at 170 Central Park West; 212-873-3400, nyhistory.org.

— Tim Donnelly

Audubon captured ivory-billed woodpeckers and snowy owls — in pictures.



WING IT ON!

