

# GIANFRANCO MONTANO

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Location: Available for relocation to New York, NY

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Experienced Italian bespoke shoemaker, footwear designer, and luxury shoe repair specialist with more than 20 years of experience. Expert in traditional Italian techniques, Goodyear welt construction, artistic patination, and high-end shoe repair. Proven track record working with VIP clients and featured in top international media. Now seeking new opportunities in New York to bring craftsmanship and creativity to world-class brands.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Bespoke Shoemaker & Footwear Designer

Self-employed / Gianfranco Montano Bespoke — Basilicata, Italy

2012 – Present

- Designed and crafted custom men's shoes for an international clientele, including VIPs and celebrities.
- Mastered traditional shoemaking techniques including Goodyear welt, Norwegian stitch, hand-welted shoes.
- Created and developed custom lasts to achieve perfect fit and comfort.
- Specialized in leather selection, color patination, artistic finishing, and bespoke detailing.
- Provided luxury shoe repair and restoration services for high-end clients.
- Developed strong relationships with loyal clientele and luxury retailers.

Selected Clients:

- Francis Ford Coppola
- Al Bano Carrisi
- Carlo Conti
- Enzo Salvi
- Rocco Papaleo

Media Coverage:

- Vanity Fair
- Il Sole 24 Ore
- Confidenze
- The Player
- L'Osservatore Romano
- Rai Uno Mattina
- Linea Verde
- TOP

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

Advanced Shoemaking & Design

Polimoda, Florence, Italy

Artisanal Shoemaking

Accademia Riacci, Florence, Italy

Apprenticeship under master Italian shoemaker.

## KEY SKILLS

- Goodyear welt construction & hand-stitching
- Artistic leather patination & finishing
- Custom last design & prototype development
- High-end shoe repair & luxury leather restoration
- Creative footwear design
- Strong aesthetic sensibility & attention to detail
- Client relationship & bespoke service

## LANGUAGES

- Italian (native)
- English (basic, improving)

## AVAILABILITY

- Ready to relocate and legally work in New York City.
- Available for full-time positions or project-based collaborations.