



# **KICKYDAB**

JASON DUSSAULT







Jason creates an homage to one of the most primitive yet connected mediums in art history, the mosaic. By combining tile, paint, grout, resin and vintage porcelain, Jason has re-envisioned a 4,000 year old craft that has spawned masterpieces and, has made it his own. A true labor of love, Jason's pieces are created over a two to four week process which he navigates on his own accord, free from assistants or interns. His dedication, curiosity and, sacrifice have culminated in humbleness, the true mark of an artist.

The artist has an impressive list of accomplishments and collaborations including; a commission by FC Barcelona to create a mosaic artwork of their coat of arms, where it was presented at the Rainbow Room in NYC and hand signed by all the soccer players, which was then put up for a charity auction; SOLD-OUT solo show in NYC, hosted by the late Glenn O'Brian editor of Interview Magazine and Warhol factory member; one-month Artist-in-Residency at Ruschmeyer's Hotel in Montauk, Long Island, NY, where Jason created a series of vintage mosaic surfboards in an interactive outdoor setting; Invitation to host an artist workshop and talk at the Soho House members club NYC; Rogers production of reality TV show Dussault Inc.; Creator of the iconic Dussault Hoodies; partnership with KISS' Gene Simmons; and a Indy Car collaboration.

Jason Dussault is represented by Hoerle-Guggenheim Contemporary Art Gallery in NYC alongside famed innovators such as Yayoi Kusama, Peter Beard, Kaws, Warhol, and Retna, and at Maddox Gallery in Mayfair, London.



# KICK BACK

BY JASON DUSSAULT

Sneakers have long been considered functional pieces of art and rightfully so. A blend of colorways, material and design has made them not only utilitarian, but also visually striking. Albeit world wide, the sneaker culture is still closely knit, if even primarily in their appreciations. This rarified movement is the inspiration behind Jason Dussault's latest show: KickBack.

An homage to a selection of his favourite sneakers growing up, Jason has taken his unique application of mosaic tile-work and applied it to the medium of a range of classic kicks. The installation debuted at

Scope Miami during Art Basel in the guise of a pop up shoe store, the pieces themselves highlighted inside of foil stamped plexiglass boxes.

Although the word KickBack evokes feelings of relaxation and calmness, by reimagining an item of comfort and function, Jason Dussault has yet again taken familiar terminology and turned it on its head. KickBack is not only a show for sneakerheads but is indeed a commentary on one of the most influential and inspiring movements in pop culture.





1936

## HIGH TOP CHUCK TAYLORS

Chucks have been donned with everything from a pair of jeans to a tuxedo and rightfully so. The iconic badge emblazoned with the All-Star logo is as pop culture as it gets. Once a ball player turned salesman, Chuck Taylor, not only worked for Converse, his influence in design convinced them that his signature should be added to the sigil. Hence, the birth of Chucks and the beginning of a legend.



1969 •

## ADIDAS SUPERSTAR

As a Hip Hop head this is an easy one for me. The legend of the Shelltoe is legendary. I know, redundant right? But so is needing to say anything more than this: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Run D.M.C., fat laces and breakdancing!



SOLD



1976

## VANS SK8 HI'S

Need I point out the obvious? Ok, thank you! The "Off The Wall" company has been rocking, rolling, rapping and pretty much anything else you can think of, since 1966. The culture around Vans is deep and the SK8 Hi is a perfect example. Designed to protect skaters' ankles from grip tape and trucks and, to also offer structural support, this installation of Vans has become an instant classic. Cross collabs endure and the SK8 Hi's have defined themselves as a staple in fashion and function.





1977

## VANS LOW TOP CHECKERBOARD

I have officially now been to 50 countries (In fact as I write this I am in Havana, Cuba) and I have seen a pair of Vans Checkerboard Lowtops in almost every single one of them. The history of these kicks runs deep. From how most of us are familiar with them, through the ingenuity of skate culture, to pop iconic movements, Vans has created a slip on that evokes style and importance. They are repped around the globe for a reason, the amazing thing is that, they mean something different to everyone.



SOLD



1985 •

## JORDAN 1'S

A shoe with perhaps the most infamous story in sneaker history, the Jordan I, was not only banned by the NBA, but originally snubbed by even Michael Jordan himself. Yet, as many parts of history are written, the legend comes from the folklore surrounding it. Nike,

absolving the cost, encouraged MJ to wear the shoe despite the several \$1000 per game fine that came with it. Soon enough though, the title Air Jordan, would become a worldwide household name, changing the game of basketball and, the universe of shoe design: forever.





1986

## CONVERSE WEAPONS

As the 1986-87 NBA season began, Larry Bird and Magic Johnson each had won three NBA championships, including going 1-1 head to head in The Finals. Converse made a memorable commercial with Magic arriving in

an Indiana cornfield in a limo to face Bird in a game of one-on-one as they both wore their new sneakers: a leather Converse high-top in Celtic green and white for The Legend and Laker purple and gold for Magic.





SOLD



1988

## JORDAN 3'S

"It's gotta' be the shoes!" Famously stated by Spike Lee's character Mars Blackmon, nothing could ring truer. The concept for the Jordan III's came at a point where MJ was looking to opt out of his contract with Nike. A young designer, Tinker Hatfield Jr, was assigned with the monumental task of keeping Jordan with the com-

pany. After years of frustration, MJ had always dreamed of a shoe bearing the now famous Jumpman logo. When the Jordan III's were revealed to him at a meeting, MJ was all in. Inarguably the highest grossing shoe of it's time, it cemented Nike in the world of basketball and gave Michael Jordan the keys to his kingdom.





1990 •

## AIR MAX 90'S

Come on. These are as iconic as iconic can ever be. When these hit, it was a wrap. The air pocket, the half Swoosh, the original red and black colourway was dope but when the ' Infrared ' wave was released, they were everywhere. Legends are born to survive and the 90's are a perfect example.



SOLD



1991

## JORDAN VI

For as many “chips” as Michael Jordan has won, he could be only be wearing one pair of shoes as he hoisted the Larry O’Brien trophy for the first time. The original Jordan VI’s were those shoes. This throwback upgrade was embellished with a lace toggle for a cleaner look at the tongue. It gives me a feel of an homage to pointillism when I view the shoe from the side, a true artist designing for a true master, a magical combination.





1993

## JORDAN 8 RETRO BUGS BUNNY

This will be the only time in my professional writing career that I get a chance to say “Wascally Wabbit!” And I’m sure many of MJ’s competitors felt that way about one of the best (maybe all time) to play the game. He broke ankles, scored points,

dunked on many and, won a total of 6 NBA titles. This pair of shoes, according to the cheque Bugs Bunny held up in the 1993 promo commercial, earned MJ a cool ‘One Bazillion Simoleans’ And, As Porky always sez “That’s all folks!”



SOLD



1995 •

## JORDAN 11'S

Hot on the heels of the epic movie, Space Jam, these J's were an instant classic. Dubbed by many a head the dopest Jordan's ever, one of the 1996 versions was a throwback colourway nod to Jordan's UNC roots (although many variances of the shoe were released). A blend of patent leather, ballistic material and, polymer, made for a kick that boasted Nike's ingenuity. It also happened to be the first release since MJ's come back from retirement, making it a massive talking point in sports and pop culture.





1996

## NIKE AIR MORE UPTEMPO

The true heads know one thing, the Bulls had an amazing dynasty, none of which would've happened without Scottie Pippen. His game was nasty and his locker room "glue" helped keep a team of superstars to task and accountability. The More Uptempo was a stark contrast to what MJ was doing with his line. The proud letters "A.I.R." wrapped around the shoe, reminding people of Nike's presence and power.





1997

## JORDAN XIII'S

Long before the movie (but well after the comic book and the movement) MJ was known as a 'Black Panther' on the ball court. His methodic approach put other ballers in fear of his inevitable attack, hence the colourway 'White/True Red-Black'. Who can forget one of Spike Lee's greatest films, 'He Got

Game'? Denzel on smash mode, Ray Allen making it look easy on-screen while being a pro athlete in real life and, of course, the stand out line of the line of the movie, " JESUS!" There's a ton of cultural references surrounding these kicks but, the one that matters can be boiled down to one word: Belief.



SOLD



1997

## NIKE AIR MAX 97

My first time off the North American continent was to Japan in 98. My group, Swollen Members, was on tour opening for Funkdoobiest and heralded members of The Rocksteady Crew. The whole tour was presented by the legendary streetwear company, Tribal, and, to say the least, I was nervous. The shows ended up being off the hook and at that time, Japan, especially Tokyo, was being established as a hub for street fashion. My homie J-Breezy (then known

as J-Boogie) had asked me to look for a pair of Air Max 97's. When I found them, they were available as a size 9 (sample size). Even though I knew we were both 10's, I copped them anyway. When I got home I broke mine in as best as I could but to little avail (but I still rocked them in the insert cover art of our first album ' Balance '). Yet, and rightfully so, the design is a true staple and, to this day, JB still has them proudly displayed in his vast Nike collection.





2003

## LEBRON 1

Imagine having your own shoe ready for you before you even hit the NBA? The "Chosen One" achieved that amazing feat and the buzz was next level. Inspired by a Hummer H2 (thank you [kicksologists.com](http://kicksologists.com)), these slick looking and stream lined shoes were an instant classic and highly collectible. Re-enforced in the heel to bare the KING'S weight, the Zoom Generations ushered in the beast known as LeBron.





2005

# KOBE 1

I have been a Lakers fan since I was a kid so when The Black Mamba hit the court I was an instant appreciator. These Kobe Protro One's feature Zoom Air technology and are showcased in the classic Lakeshow colourway. I also couldn't help but notice they are laced with five eyelets: one for each ring that The Dagger reeled in during his dominant run with the Purple and Gold?



SOLD



2012

## ADIDAS BOOST

This is where I get to insert my bias. I AM AN ADIDAS HEAD THROUGH AND THROUGH! From my first pair of Torsions (Adidas Equipment) in the green/black/cream colour way, I was hooked. It's not that I didn't rock other kicks, I did. Even as a young adult I had numerous shoes in my stack of boxes. When I moved to a new apartment I purged. Every box of kicks got sold except the blue ones with the three white stripes on the side. My favourites have

always been anything ZX, Formel 1's and, the classic Rod Laver's. When the Boost's hit, I was still anchored in my era, until I tried a pair on. Now, they are the only shoe I wear on stage. Light, comfortable, durable, springy. Licensed through BASF (of which many a mix tape were plied to) the technology changed the game. I'm going to quote Run-D.M.C. here: "My Adidas!"





2015

## THE NIKE MAG

No sneaker has ever had more pop-cultural appeal than the ones worn by Michael J. Fox in *Back to the Future Part II*, the Nike Mag. Their ultra-high cut, light-up sole, and auto-lacing system were a look into, well, the future in 2015, from the film's 1989 perspective. They were designed by Tinker Hatfield, and it's taken Nike 27 years to make the sneakers exactly like they were in the film





2016

## PHARRELL HUMAN RACE

Hu do you love? The song by George Thorogood and The Destroyers might be spelled differently but the message is accurate. And as far as the genius of Pharrell Williams goes, the answer is: Everyone. This Adidas collab was inspired by the fact that we are truly all one

people. Offered in a variety of colourways these kicks are not only well designed, they also bear a message: Being Human means inclusivity, understanding and, tolerance. From one of the planets greatest talents, the concept of oneness is echoed through diversity.





2017

## ZEBRA YEEZY

The design is straight from the wild for this round of YEEZY's. There has been much debate in regards to the meaning of '053-YLPS' that is displayed on the side of the shoe, regardless, it makes the visual impact of these kicks undeniable. A blend of Primeknit and Boost technology pushes the industry yet again and, I have seen these sneaks on feet from here to everywhere. As only Kanye can do, a classic is made before it even hits shelves.





2018

## LEBRON 16'S

They say the third time's a charm and LeBron's debut as a Laker (his third NBA team) brings with it the new Nike King. If you remember the original media campaign of LeBron sitting on a throne surrounded by a pride of lions, these shoes will bring back memories. What he has been able to achieve on court is nothing short of amazing, but it's his humanitarian efforts that truly set him apart, I Promise.





• 2018 •

## JORDAN LEGACY 312

“Don’t call it a comeback/I’ve been here for years/Rocking my peers and putting suckers in fear” LL Cool J said it but the words are so fitting for this release of J’s! A mash up of three different Jordan’s, these are straight nasty. Don C, a Chi Town G, designed these with the Windy City and, other Nike athletes in mind. A blend

of The Admiral, Bo Knows and, tennis legend Andre Agassi, the colourways for the 312’s are as sick as it gets. Everyone of a certain age can remember when Velcro first hit the market and to see it stand the test of time is amazing in its own right. As a further homage let me close here: “Over the competition I’m towering!”





• 2018 •

## AIR JORDAN 1 RETRO HIGH OG (GS)

The initial shoe design lacked the technology of many that would follow, but it certainly did not lack the excitement. The shoe's biggest claim to fame was the controversy that surrounded it. Every time Jordan stepped on the court wearing his black, red, and white sneakers, he was fined \$5,000 for violating the uniform policy—a fine that Nike was happy to pay in order to fuel the fire and reap the promotions.





• 2018

## AIR JORDAN 1 "ROOKIE OF THE YEAR"

This brand new colorway of the Jordan 1 is inspired by Michael Jordan's 'fit during his Rookie of the Year acceptance speech

Michael Jordan accepted the NBA's Rookie of the Year honors back in April 30, 1985. As a rookie Jordan averaged 28.2 points, 6.5 rebounds and 5.9 assists. Nowadays those are MVP-like numbers!

Inspired by Michael Jordan's wardrobe during his Rookie of the Year acceptance speech, this Air Jordan 1 features a color combination of off-white, Gold Harvest, and Black all throughout the upper

which is constructed out of leather and suede. The best parts of the shoe are the insides of the wing flaps, one which reads "This award is nice, but I just feel it is very important for each individual to go out and contribute to his team."-MJ. And the other has "1984-85, R.O.Y., 2313 points, and 28.2 ppg. A white tongue, red Nike Air branding, black laces, white midsole, and black rubber outsole complete the look.



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