

E BY ANY OTHER NAME

your nose and trust your instincts. Better advice was never given and a stylist-turned-perfumer Michele Bergman did just that. Her collection rances is incredibly focused; in fact, there are just two fragrances in the sch with a single ingredient: Black Gardenia and Black Tuberose. The oils extracted from each of these fragrant blooms are luxuriously bottled livered to fans like Kate Moss and Halle Berry. Both are rich, evocative esistible, so how to choose? Bergman suggests: "The Black Gardenia to work best on brunettes and people with a darker complexion. Blondes be Tuberose." Available at Studio at Fred Segal, 500 Broadway, Santa Monica, 11800 and Maxfield, 8825 Melrose Ave., L.A., 310.274.8800.



FOR ALL: L.A.'S GRATIS BEAUTY SECRETS

get excited about complimentary Kiehl's samples, it turns out they rely the tip of the freebie iceberg. At upscale nail salon 1.a. vie e (638 1/2 N. Robertson Blod., W. Hollywood, 310.289.2501), freshly red and pedicured clients are sent home with a bag of tools, ng an emery board, nail buffer, nail brush and callous file, while at do Studio (425 Broadway, Santa Monica, 310.899.1800), it's a freebie se. Without even a cash register on the premises, the Santa Monica gives up to two complimentary treatments per year, including and facial massages plus private makeup sessions. Be warned, the st can exceed two months. At Laser Solutions Medical Spa (416 N. Dr., Ste. #100, Beverly Hills, 310.550.5566), book a microdermabrasion tment, Oxygen Relief Facial, Osea Facial or Echo 2 Oxygen Facial u'll walk away with a free six-ounce Osea Facial Cleanser selected ir skin type. Meanwhile, at Bobbe Joy Makeup Studio (236 1/2 S. Dr., 310.275.3505), clients pick up a white highlighter pencil with ow shaping with Jennifer or Jessica. Perks up eyes, defines brows est of all, is free.

EXPERT ADVICE: Top dermatologists dish on the best skin fixes

THE PANEL:

Dr. Boris Zaks: Formerly Dr. Murad's primary dermatologist, Dr. Zaks recently set up his own Beverly Hills practice, where innovative treatments for acne, aging and Rosacea are administered with good old-fashioned attention. 310.552.3376

Dr. Harold A. Lancer: Known for a high-wattage clientele, (Jennifer Aniston, Mimi Rogers and Ellen Barkin, to name a few), Dr. Lancer is also a seasoned pro when it comes to treating skin diseases and correcting bungled plastic surgery results. 310.278.8444

Dr. Zein E. Obagi: With a bustling Beverly Hills practice, Dr. Obagi has trained hundreds and lectured thousands of dermatologists and plastic surgeons. His Total Approach to skin health combines his Nu-Derm System with in-house treatments. *310.275.3030*

Dr. Arnold W. Klein: A UCLA professor of Medicine and Dermatology and staff member at Cedars-Sinai, Dr. Klein also runs a full-service private practice. He has published over 60 papers and books and is an associate editor of the *Journal of Dermatologic Surgery.* 310.275.5136

Dr. Brent Moelleken: One of three surgeons in the world to complete the year-long Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship at UCLA, this innovative fix-you-upper pioneered the cheek lift operation. 310.273.1001

BEST SUNSCREEN

Anthelios XL by La Roche-Posay has an SPF 60 but is only available overseas. In the U.S., Murad Waterproof Sunblock SPF 30 for Face and Body. —Dr. Zaks

Healthy Skin Protection SPF 35 has more titanium oxide and zinc oxide than any other product. -Dr. Obagi

Solar X-Treme Cream by Epicuren SPF 45. There's an extract in it that can help repair already damaged areas of the skin. —Dr. Lancer

Anthelios XL from La Roche-Posay. It contains Mexoryl XL which provides the best UVA protection. —Dr. Klein

Dermystique Moisturizing Sunscreen SPF 30 with 10 percent zinc oxide. —Dr. Moelleken

BEST AGE DEFIER

Replenix Serum by Topix Pharmaceuticals. -Dr. Lancer

Dermystique Cell Regeneration Crème Intensive with Kollacin. –Dr. Moelleken

Tretinoin, which is the generic name for Retin-A, is the best available agent. It affects both the upper and lower levels of the skin and improves pigment, fine wrinkles, dryness and DNA damaged by the sun. —Dr. Klein

The Nu-Derm System keeps skin functions intact and helps correct damaged skin. -Dr. Obagi

BEST ONE CREAM WONDER

A kukui nut moisturizer called AfterBath by Epicuren. It's an overall product that can be used on the face, neck and body. -Dr. Lancer

TNS Recovery Complex System by SkinMedica. It follows collagen growth factors and helps with anti-aging effects without using Retin-A. -Dr. Zaks

Dermystique L-Ascorbic Cell Stimulant Complex 15%. It not only utilizes L-Ascorbic Acid for cell regeneration and protection, but also a highly effective vitamin C ester, in addition to such protective skin ingredients as vitamin A and E, pro-vitamin B5 and gingko biloba. —Dr. Moelleken

TNS Recovery Complex System by SkinMedica has human growth factors which restore the youthful integrity of skin by thickening the upper and lower levels of the skin. —Dr. Klein

BEST MOISTURIZER

SkinLuxurious Moisturizer Dermal Repair Cream by SkinMedica is the best. It has 10 percent Vitamin C, 8 percent E and also contains vitamin A. -Dr. Zaks

Alpha Lipoic Omega Complex with DMAE by Epicuren increases dermal blood flow and makes skin plumper. -Dr. Lancer

All moisturizers are very similar. Most of the time there's not a high enough concentration to enable them to do anything. The key thing is to find out why your skin is dry in the first place. And frequently it's dry because you're over-washing your face. —Dr. Klein

For normal skin, the best moisturizer is Paula's Choice Completely Non-Greasy Moisturising Lotion. For dry or mature skin BioMedic's Extra Rich Moisturizer has beneficial ingredients such as rice bran oil, and vitamins A and E. —Dr. Moelleken

WORST OFFENSE

Older prescription bleaching creams that only contain hydroquinone. Tri-Luma is a better choice because it has cortisone and Retin-A built-in. Also, sunscreens with single digit SPF should be ripped off shelves. —Dr. Zaks

For acne, people should be careful of benzoyl peroxide. Often times it's misused because people use too much of it. Less is more. —Dr. Lancer

Sun. It's critical that people use enough sunscreen and reapply after thirty minutes in the sun. -Dr. Klein

I would rather answer this question with a question. Cellular Cycle Ampoules For The Face by La Prairie sells for about \$300 for seven ampoules. Alcohol is represented heavily in the ingredient list. Do you think it would be a wise choice for your daily skincare regimen? —Dr. Moelleken

A ROOM OF HIS OWN

Beleaguered beaus tired of tagging along with high-magirlfriends have a new spate of grooming sanctuaries to call Guys won't feel girly at The Barber Shop Club (6907 Melrose 323.939.4319), which has the look of an old-fashioned men's offers up-to-date services including a \$150 image consultar Allan's Club in New York has been a big draw for dudes for 15 years. Now the upscale men's spa has a new product line exclusively at Barneys New York in Beverly Hills and a club set to open in L.A. later this year. For those who can share so with the gals, Arcona (12030 Riverside Dr., Valley Village, 818 offers a specially formulated facial treatment and the very mimportant-sounding Mythic Tribe System of Personal Edmen. –Matthew Giles



DAMAGE CONTROL

In a momentary lapse of judgment you decide to snip you bangs. Short. Blunt. Sassy. It worked for Heidi Klum, right? Sac your forehead nor your new fringe look much like Ms. Klum's a to dial tress doctor Jen MacDonald. Working out of a private above the Jonathan Salon, this pink-haired pixie combines a invisible extension technique with trimming and coloring to comost disastrous mane mishaps. Hair too short? She'll give it lus Overzealous Supercuts shag? She'll snip it into shape. So forge shame while those bangs grow out. A few strands of virgin hair and you'll find your long-locked self in no time. 904 Westbook Hollywood, 323,304,4815.