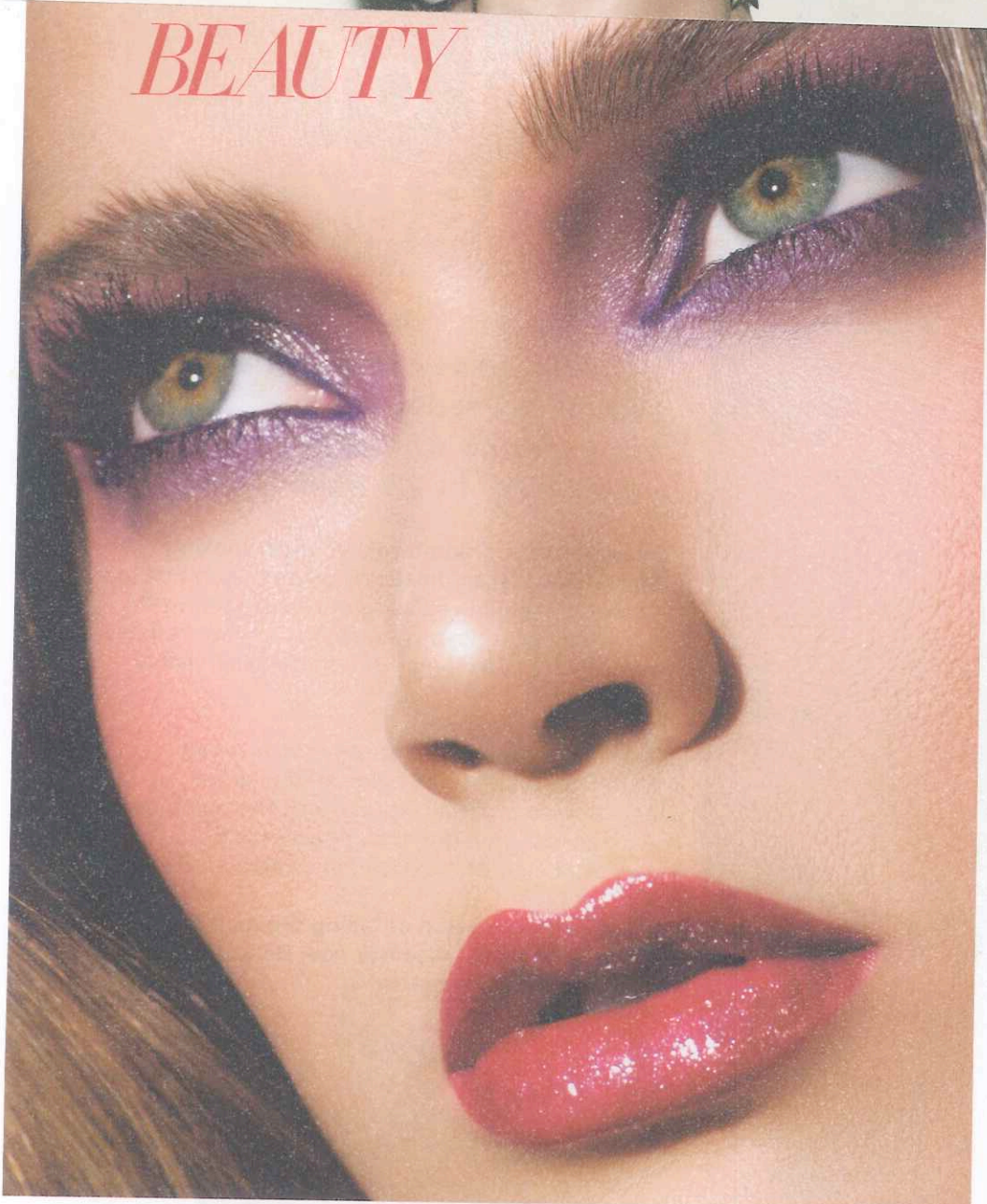


BEAUTY



SIX OF THE BEST: PRE-PARTY SALONS

For glam nights out, get prepped and pampered in double-quick time at these fabulous beauty hotspots

BY KATY YOUNG

1 URBAN RETREAT

At Harrods, London SW1 (020 7730 1234). Urban Retreat does it all, and with style. Party packages are full-on luxe: Spoil Me, £350 for five hours, includes a facial, massage, blow-dry, mani-pedi, makeover with Daniel Sandler and champagne lunch. For express grooming, there's Glamour to Go downstairs. It runs a tight ship of great fast treatments, from £15; particularly good are the false lashes, brow shaping and Glowdrys (dry styling for curls and volume).

2 SHU UEMURA

Nationwide (020 7240 7635). Shu Uemura secured a place on our party hot-list as soon as we tried its exquisite makeovers, from £20. If you're after all-out glamour, it's worth booking into the Tokyo Lash Bar (which covers everything from basic black to jewelled rainbow extensions, from £12), and getting some super-precise brow-shaping, from £15. It also does great manicures, and the new Chowa facial, £65 for an hour, gives utterly radiant party skin.

3 HARI'S

London SW3 (020 7581 5211). Hari's has four floors' worth of great hair, beauty and grooming treatments. Upstairs, you could have a pre-party facial, an energy-boosting massage or a wax (using gold leaf to leave skin sheeny). Alternatively, book a makeover (using Becca products), a gold or silver manicure (using Minx, which takes 10 minutes and stays party-perfect for days) or lash extensions, while a stylist dries your hair to save time; blow-dries start from £25.

4 HARVEY NICHOLS

Nationwide (020 7235 5000). Each of the five stores has party nails (at Nails Inc), the perfect brow (at Blink) and glossy, glamorous hair (each store has its own salon) wrapped up. Particularly prepped for the party season is the Knightsbridge branch, with the neat Daniel Hersheson salon upstairs, which offers make-up sessions, from £70, with backstage regular Lauren Hersheson, as well as great glossy manicures by the resident nail team, from £40.

5 SELFRIDGES LONDON

London W1 (0800 123400). If you only have 30 minutes, head to Groom on the ground floor for a Wink & Go, £60 (including a lash tint, brow shape and mini-mani or -pedi). If you have time, head to the Cobella salon on the third floor. Party bookings, such as the Spell, £95, are fabulous. They'll do your nails, brows and blow-dry back to back. You can get a great counter makeover at MAC, £25 (redeemable against products), or Giorgio Armani, £30 (also redeemable).

6 DEBENHAMS

Nationwide (0844 561 6161). This is one for last-minute prepping. Each service can be done individually (Nails Inc manicures, from £17; brow grooming, from £8; St Tropez tanning, from £20, redeemable against products) – but because each beauty booking has a 'fast' option, you can get it all done in under an hour. Tan just legs or arms with a fast-dry tan, shape nails with a quick polish and shine, or get a speedy brow tidy-up. □