

LOS ANGELES **CONFIDENTIAL**



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THE DIVINE MS. DE ROSSI IS BACK
IN *DEVELOPMENT HEAVEN*

REAL BEAUTIES, LA-STYLE

LA AFTER DARK
HUGH HEFNER, SAM NAZARIAN, LOUISE ROE

REAL BEAUTIES

Powerful, inspirational, magnetic. Meet seven women who embody true beauty—inside and out.

BY KAITLIN CLARK PHOTOGRAPHY BY GIULIANO BEKOR AND ZEV STARR-TAMBOR

MARY McDONALD

LA design royalty and star of Bravo's hit show *Million Dollar Decorators*, Mary McDonald, 48, is busy expanding her queendom one *passementerie* at a time. Recent developments: collabs with Schumacher and Patterson, Flynn & Martin that showcase her genius for marrying classic forms with contemporary style.

I'm always inspired by: Specifically, European historical references and the Far East. But actually I'm inspired by everywhere in the world! **My design aesthetic:** I consider myself a "whimsical classicist." **Secret to my success:** I don't feel like there is a secret because there's nothing overnight about any of this. I've worked on my craft, my creativity, and my business for years. The universe gave me a certain amount of talent, but I also had to keep going because not everything falls in your lap. **LA influences my style because:** California encourages you to try something outside the box. **On legacy:** I know that I want to have two tombstones, [so people will] say, "She had to have the pair." I'm always telling people, "Just get the pair!" I love evenness and balance. **No one would ever guess that...** I love psychic mediums. And hot dogs. **My motto:** Keep it moving. **Trademark beauty look:** An Audrey Hepburn look is always my fallback. Hair in a chignon, red lipstick, very little eye makeup, a crisp white blouse, and chunky bangles. **Signature scent:** I've been wearing Chanel No. 5 for about 25 years. **My philosophy on image:** I've always enjoyed looking put together, and it's done nothing but helped me. I'm selling style, and how I present myself is actually proving to people that I have a sense of balance, proportion, and a knack for putting things together in an original way. **On aging gracefully:**

Exercise keeps you looking younger than anything else you could possibly do. **On my style evolution:** I love the drama of different beauty looks and [occasionally] dressing completely differently than I normally do. I see the creativity in the ritual and pageantry of fashion and makeup. **Cause closest to my heart:** Operation Smile, which provides cleft palate and cleft lip reconstruction surgery to children around the world.

BEAUTY: SK-II Essential Power Cream (\$205). *Saks Fifth Avenue, 9634 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-275-4211; saks.com.* **Giorgio Armani Beauty** Maestro Makeup in 5 (\$62). *Neiman Marcus, 9700 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-550-5900; neimanmarcus.com.* **Estée Lauder** Pure Color Blush in Peach Passion (\$28). *Macy's, Beverly Center, LA, 310-854-6655; macys.com.* **Guerlain** Shine Automatique Hydrating Lipshine in Rendez-vous 762 (\$35). *Neiman Marcus.* SEE ABOVE. **Moroccanoil** Curl Control Mousse (\$23). *Nelson J, 350 N. Bedford Dr., Beverly Hills, 310-274-1553; nelsonjsalon.com*

FASHION: White cotton cropped blazer, **Rachel Zoe** (price on request). *Neiman Marcus, 9700 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-550-5900; rachelzoe.com.* White lace top, **Reem Acra** (\$595). *Saks Fifth Avenue, 9634 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-275-4211; reemacra.com.* Beige silk skirt, **Zac Posen** (price and availability on request). *zacposen.com.* Amethyst crystal stud earrings (\$100), crystal chain necklace (\$370), and crystal knot ring (price and availability on request), **Swarovski.** *The Grove, LA, 323-935-0433; swarovski.com.* Magenta Infinity bracelet, **Louis Vuitton** (\$565). *295 N. Rodeo Dr., Beverly Hills, 310-859-0457; louisvuitton.com*



AMERICA MARTIN

America Martin's stamp on the LA arts scene cuts far deeper than paint and canvas. Between her efforts with the Harmony Project, a nonprofit organization providing music education to children in underserved areas of LA, to finding inspiration from every facet of the city, Martin, 32, possesses one of the most imaginative visions in the business.

LA is my home because... It's a comfortable place to be able to express myself freely in all kinds of ways. **Secret to my success:** I really love what I do. I'm engaged and interested in the people whom I paint and their stories inspire me to be involved in life. **Most attractive quality in a woman:** I've always admired other women who are actively curious at being alive. It's contagious when you meet someone who really loves something; it makes you want to learn more about it. **On legacy:** As an artist, I have an ability to celebrate people and their stories. My fascination with life would be a wonderful legacy to leave behind. **No one would ever guess that...** I listen to audio books while I paint. I get through more than 200 books a year. I'm listening to the memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant right now. **I'm always inspired by...** A Vincent van Gogh art book I bought at a yard sale when I was 9 years old. I took one look at [van Gogh's work], fell in love, and knew at that moment I had found a voice. **Classic beauty look:** Clean skin and hair that looks like it's been washed in the ocean. **If I could change one thing about myself:** Consistency. I love people who have a signature style. I am as inconsistent as the wind when it comes to those things. **On community engagement:** I just bought a studio in Silver Lake, right on the cusp of historic Filipinotown. I'm excited to go to council meetings to discuss the preservation of [the neighborhood's] cultural heritage. **Cause closest to my heart:** The Harmony Project, which uses music to "promote positive youth development."

BEAUTY: Clarins Super Restorative day cream SPF 20 (\$115). *Saks Fifth Avenue, 9634 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-275-4211; saks.com.* Shiseido Eyebrow and Eyeliner Compact in Light Brown (\$30). *Macy's Beverly Center, LA, 310-854-6655; macys.com.* M.A.C. Lipstick in Russian Red (\$15). *Macy's, SEE ABOVE.* Oribe Dry Texturizing Spray (\$39). *Neiman Marcus, 9700 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-550-5900; neimanmarcus.com.*

FASHION: Crepe jacket, Moschino (\$1,495). *moschino boutique.com.* Dress, Marc Jacobs (\$3,200). *marc jacobs.com.* Bo circus coral earrings, Louis Vuitton (\$475). *295 N. Rodeo Dr., Beverly Hills, 310-859-0457; louisvuitton.com.* Maroon leather and brass cuff, Isabel Marant (\$890). *8454 Melrose Pl., LA, 323-651-1493; isabelmarant.tm.fr.* Gemstone ring, Tous (\$485). *Beverly Center, LA, 310-358-9393; tous.com.* Elba terra-cotta pumps, Rupert Sanderson (\$595). *Saks Fifth Avenue, 9634 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-275-4211; saks.com*