

Neiman Marcus and Weddings Unique invited several brides-to-be to partake in a master class on *Flawless Face*, with a personal appearance by celebrity makeup artist Laura Mercier. Laura, known for her *Flawless Face* approach and technique, gave each bride makeup tips and advice on how to create a picture-perfect application from all of Laura Mercier products during the morning brunch.

This was the first master class ever to take place in Neiman Marcus, where the women learned from master makeup artists. With the assistance of demonstrations from the makeup artist representatives, each woman put on her own makeup to get a first hand approach on how the products should best be applied.

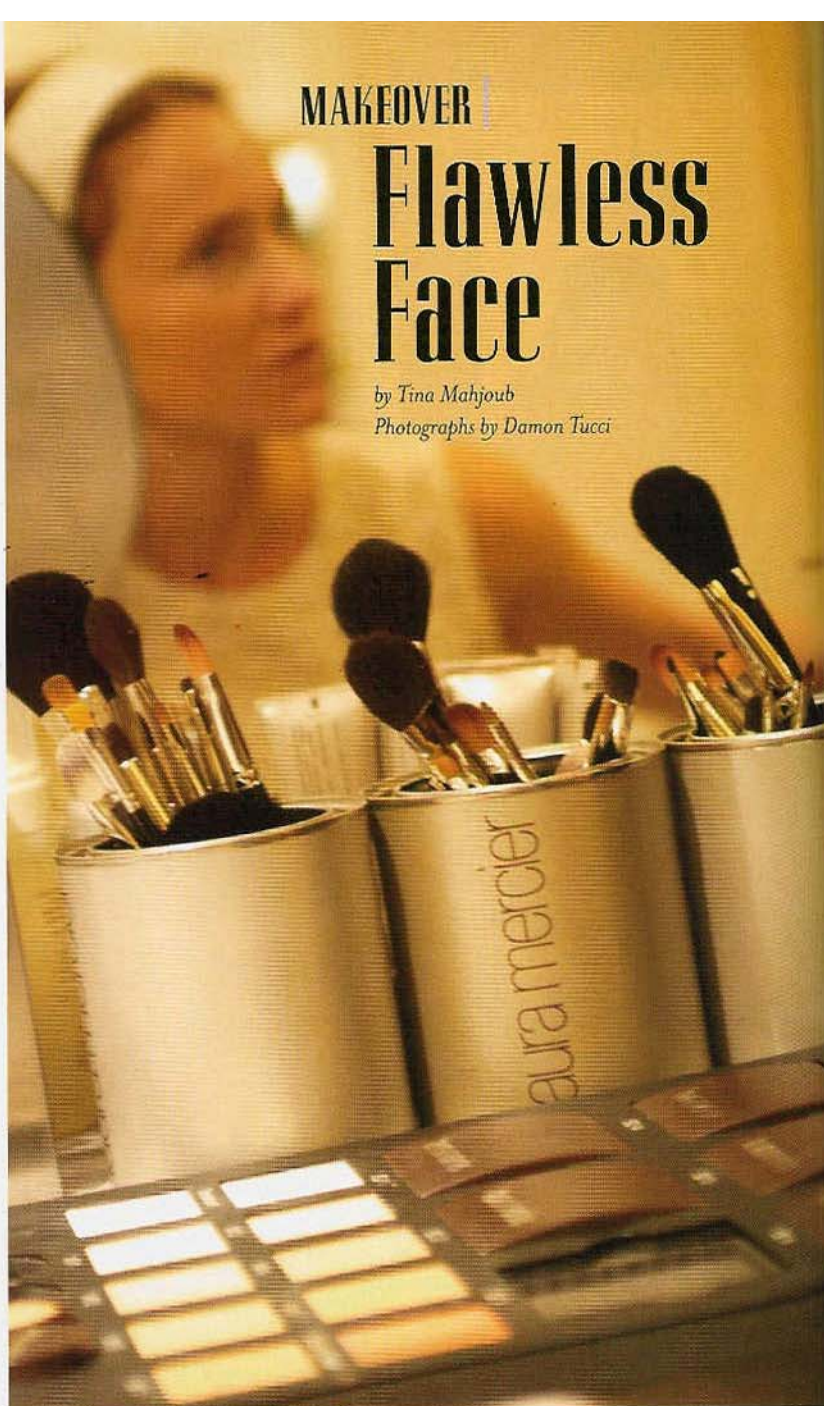
Laura Mercier has always had famous fans — Sarah Jessica Parker and Julia Roberts among them. The motto behind her products is that it's not about everyone looking the same, instead, it's about finding the individual beauty and bringing that out. Originally a painter, Laura helped the brides-to-be by answering questions, along with a step-by-step demonstration by her assistant, Michele. As they painted half of a bride's face, the other half was left untouched to show the major difference each product made.

THE TEST: Christi, editor of *Orlando Leisure* and I attended the Laura Mercier event and not knowing it would be a master class, wore makeup (from the foundation down to the eyeshadow.) We used the Laura Mercier cleanser to remove all the makeup and started with the firming eye cream and the serum, which comes in two different bottles that you have to mix together (which containing vitamins A, B and C.) We prepped our skin with an oil-free

MAKEOVER

Flawless Face

by Tina Mahjoub
Photographs by Damon Tucci



moisturizer and a lip exfoliator followed by a foundation primer. Instead of a bottle of foundation, we put on tinted moisturizers and followed that with a skin brightener and concealer. Everything was mainly pressed with our ring fingers and done with brushes to achieve the best results. After a slight touch of brightening power, translucent powder (Laura's has no pigment, making it ideal for re-applying), we learned that less is definitely more. A secret technique that I had no clue about but Christi had long been an expert of was threading your eyelashes with eyeshadow, which you do with a wet brush in between the lashes to make them



longer and fuller. After a slight application of eyeshadow with a darker color in the crease, we were set to go out and shop for the day.

Tips from the Queen herself

Laura Mercier offers this advice to any bride on her wedding day to achieve the perfect *flawless face*.

- To even out your skin tone, wear foundation, which will give you a soft, out-of-focus look and will make everything look more flawless. Even the tiniest amount will make a difference by reducing shine. Laura's line of foundation has more pigment than anything on the market so a little amount is all you need.
 - To find the right shade of lipstick for your wedding day, know the atmosphere of the wedding. The ambiance of a wedding is usually softer, pastel-like and subtle so consider it an accessory. Try muted tones, not bright and flashy lipsticks. You do not want too much shimmer and instead, a balance to the face. If you have dramatic eyes, then you will want neutral lips and vice versa.
- Laura Mercier products are made to go onto the skin, not into the skin. Since she doesn't want to take away from the formula of the makeup, Laura's products are strictly for makeup application, not for firming, toning or softening the skin. The results are amazing and dramatic and are made to be the finest in makeup opportunities for women.

