

Flawless Finish

Karen Beadle on long-lasting make-up

Modern brides tend to allow the seasons to reflect their wedding day.

In spring, colours are fresh leaning towards corals, soft peaches and pastels.

Ice blues, whites and red/coral tones

look wonderful together. Try cream blushers and strong lashes; define the eyes by using a liquid liner along the lash line creating a subtle, understated and perfectly natural finish. Lips are soft by using a lip stain that lasts and a gloss to finish. To create a fuller lip, use a pencil of similar colour to outline after applying colour.

This is the season of corals and golds. For impact, comb eyelashes with black mascara, then tip with a deep mauve mascara top and bottom. Mixing black and coloured eye liners and mascaras intensifies the effect. Lip colour is either soft and natural with lots of shine or try a strong red.

As the weather turns in autumn and winter, choose distinctive reds, browns, greys, silvers and whites. For the eyes, use soft, matt, rich warm and cool tones to create a smoky effect. Highlight the upper cheek bone with a cream base before applying powder blusher. Define eyes with a fine painted line as close to the eye line and lash as possible above and beneath the lashes. Make sure the line is smooth or slightly smoky.

This is a great season to use false eyelashes which open the eyes further. Try a matt light lip colour alone or add a gloss. You may use one that is shiny or glittery. The contrast between the eyes and lips will be striking.

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Statement Sweetness

Make your wedding cake the centrepiece of your celebrations with this opulent Baroque-style Cameo Egg Cake.

Designed and constructed by Antoinette Fucilla of Dolce Dolce, this round jade green cake with a Cameo egg cake topper certainly has the wow factor. Added features include hand decorated intricate mouldings and piping with edible gold dust, and an image personal to you imposed on the cake.

Antoinette, who set up the business just outside London little more than a year ago, says the extravagance of the design makes it perfect for weddings.

"I don't like novelty cakes; a cake should look like a cake, and it should be beautiful and classy, representing the couple it is for.

"I like to design something that is unique, surprising, and something people have never seen before.

"It's a shame that people don't always make a big show of their wedding cakes. It should be the centrepiece of the room because it is the core of the wedding and the cutting of the cake is such a big moment of the day."

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Seasonal Hair



Eco Couture

If there's one thing you should look for in a bridal gown, it is elegance, and designer Lucy Tammam knows this all too well.

With an air of sophistication and simplicity, Lucy's beautiful couture and ready-to-wear collection is designed and handmade from a traditional atelier in Bloomsbury. As well as creating the perfect dress, the Tammam team also sources shoes, jewellery, headpieces and veils.

Having been in the design business for several years, Lucy – a fashion graduate of the prestigious Central Saint Martins – began specialising in bridal gowns in 2009.

"My clients started asking about wedding dresses and I realised it was taking over," she says. "I absolutely love it. The craftsmanship that goes into it is incredible."

Yet the design only tells part of the story of Tammam. At the heart of it is Lucy's commitment to ethically-sourced and sustainable produce and suppliers from the eastern world.

For instance, Tammam makes its own fabrics using fibres such as peace silk, banana, organic fair trade cotton and nettle, while many of the embellishments are made by ethically employed people from places such as Bangalore and Kolkata.

Lucy has even helped train tailors to the highest level of expertise who, against the odds, have then gone on to launch their own businesses.

"I do spend a lot of my time in other parts of the world, sourcing the right suppliers," she says. "It means that I can't spend as much time designing but it's something I felt I had to do.

"It is hard and it is time consuming. But there has never been any question of me doing it another way. It is such a worthwhile thing to do."

Meanwhile it's added peace of mind for brides who buy one of her dresses.

"I think it makes the dress more special, knowing that it was ethically sourced yet still beautiful and elegant," she says.

www.tammam.co.uk

Joseph Koniak on hair trends for every season

Spring: Use seasonal flowers to accessorise and go for curls and bounce. Plaits and pleats create intricate designs by remoulding the hair. For impact, consider low lights or highlights depending on your colour.

Summer: Pulling hair back and loosening in tendrils around the face soften the look. There will be a lot of braiding and ribbons, sometimes using the excess material from the bridal dress, adding contrast and texture.

Autumn/Winter: Try cool hair tones with smooth frizz free locks. The hair is up and tussled creating a timeless effect. Preparing for this look depending on your hair type and texture; the Keratin treatment is good for de freezing hair. Use diamante hair pieces to decorate.

Joseph Koniak is artistic director at Eleven Hair. www.josephkoniak.com

On the Scent

Hen parties do not mean feather boas and strippers – a night in with best friends and some champagne is all that you need to celebrate your last night of freedom.

And to complement your

special evening, why not consider a perfume party? The Scentelier Perfume Party Box Set allows you and your guests to design a fragrance, personalise bottles and take home at the end of the night. A 10-person kit costs £195.

www.showerella.com

