

# Close-Up: Pat McGrath's Favorite Beauty Product Requires A Passport

As/Is kicks off its new celeb profile series, Close-Up, with the world's most famous makeup artist.



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*Photographer: Ben Hassett. Graphics: Jenny Chang / BuzzFeed*

It's hard to imagine a beauty world before the instant gratification of YouTube makeup reviews and Instagram swatches, but such a time did exist and legendary makeup artist Pat McGrath was — and still is — queen. To put it simply, she's the shit, and has inspired everything from the way you do your makeup to the products you buy. Remember in *The Devil Wears Prada* when Miranda Priestly read Andy to FILTH about how she actually didn't choose "that lumpy blue sweater" because it was selected *for* her by fashion's most elite? Well, think of Pat McGrath as the selector. Whether you buy your cosmetics from the corner beauty supply, the link in your fave vlogger's bio, or the bougiest of department stores, her legacy and ongoing work as fashion's most sought after makeup artist has trickled down and influenced your choices.

In case you need [receipts](#), Anna Wintour called her "the most influential makeup artist in the world," and Queen Elizabeth II "made her a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to the fashion and beauty industry." Since the '90s, she's created EVERY cover and lead editorial story for *Vogue Italia* with legendary photographer Steven Meisel, and after developing Armani and Dolce & Gabbana's makeup lines, McGrath launched her own unlimited collections via her very luxe cosmetics brand, Pat McGrath Labs, last September. (Prior to that, McGrath would spontaneously release limited edition products.)

As/Is discussed makeup, skin care, her last big cry, and more with the icon to kick off its new beauty profile series, Close-Up.



## What's your favorite product from Pat McGrath Labs?

That's like asking a mother to choose her favorite child. I LOVE THEM ALL! If I must, at the moment I'm especially loving LuxeTrance in [Lavish](#), [Beautiful Creature](#), and [Sedition](#), and my new [MatteTrance Lipsticks](#) are beyond major. They are the most hydrating, lightweight, fully pigmented matte formula I've ever seen!

## Your skin is beautiful! What *does* the world's most famous makeup artist use?

On a day-to-day basis, I use a gentle cream cleanser and an oil-free moisturizer without fragrance or chemical additives. My personal skin care routine is driven by hydration, rest, and nourishment. I love, love, love [Lotion P50](#) by [Biologique Recherche](#), [Soothing Bath Oil](#) by ESPA and [Revive Morning Bath & Shower Oil](#) by Aromatherapy Associates. For dermatological moments, I visit the iconic [Dr. Orentreich](#).

## What beauty product do you splurge on?

My beauty splurge is to travel to luxurious spas all around the world. I am spa-addicted! I love to treat myself to the Bio-Lift Facial at [Rescue Spa NYC](#) — so rejuvenating.

*The Bio-Lift Facial is one the spa's most requested services, "lauded for its supreme lifting, sculpting, and firming." One session is \$200 for 60 minutes at the New York location.*

## And the cheapest?

Water.

## Fair. You wear minimal makeup for someone whose actual legacy is creating fashion's most iconic looks. Why is that?


I live for a good beat, but when you're busy creating makeup, you don't always have time to wear it. When my schedule allows a night out, I love mixing the Mothership [Sublime](#) and [Subversive](#) palettes for a dramatic eye and [Skin Fetish](#) on my cheekbones for a radiant glow.

"I am extraordinarily *passionate* about lifting up muses who do not *embrace* standard ideals of beauty."



Pat McGrath Labs





## Pat McGrath approved:

Pat McGrath Labs LuxeTrance Lipstick in [Lavish](#), [Beautiful Creature](#), and [Sedition](#); available in 31 shades. *Get them from Sephora for \$38.*

Pat McGrath Labs MatteTrance Lipstick; available in 20 shades. *Get them from Sephora for \$38.*

**Biologique** Recherche Lotion P50. *Get it from Rescue Spa for \$28.*

ESPA Soothing Bath Oil. *Get it from ESPA for \$53.*

Aromatherapy Associates Revive Morning Bath & Shower Oil. *Get it from Amazon for \$73.*

Bio-Lift Facial at Rescue Spa NYC. *One session is \$200 for 60 minutes.*

Pat McGrath Labs Mothership Sublime II Eyeshadow Palette. *Get it from Sephora for \$125.*

Pat McGrath Labs Mothership III Eyeshadow Subversive Palette. *Get it from Sephora for \$125.*

Skin Fetish; available in two shades. *Get it from Pat McGrath Labs for \$72.*

