

Beauty Makeup

MIRROR IMAGE

GRACE HARTZEL, WEARING GASPAR GLOVES. HAIR, ESTHER LANGHAM; MAKEUP, DIANE KENDAL. PHOTOGRAPHED BY PATRICK DEMARCHELIER. FASHION EDITOR: PHYLLIS POSNICK.



At once futuristic and disco-glam, modern molten finishes are this season's must-have.

REFLECTION POOL
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MEHRON
METALLIC POWDER IN SILVER. BOBBI BROWN
LONG-WEAR GEL SPARKLE IN PINK OYSTER.
CHANEL NAIL COLOR IN CHAÎNE OR.

funny thing happened while I watched the spring runways—first in New York, then in Paris: As a quintessential California child of hippies who grew up eating avocados off the tree and panning for gold at Sutter's Mill, I felt an odd pang of nostalgia. When the makeup artist Pat McGrath turned up at the Jardin des Tuileries with a flash makeup mob to officially reveal the 24K, Fort Knox—worthy gold pigment she'd been teasing backstage, the pang became more of a craving. "Molten, liquid metal" is how McGrath describes the glimmering substance she applied on her assembled flock of pals and models (and model pals). I wanted burnished lids like Bella Hadid's and Lily Donaldson's the way I wanted gold flakes back when sieving muddy river water was my thing.

Gold wasn't the only precious metal to migrate to the more prominent planes of the face this season. At Maison Margiela, John Galliano's retro-futuristic women wore silver eye paint in shapes descended from Matisse cutouts and Japanese woodblock prints. At Diane von Furstenberg, models' eyes resembled shimmering anemones of celadon and teal. Makeup artist Val Garland picked up the soldering iron at Giambattista Valli, atomizing her metallic hues into varicolored glitter to create a streak above eyelids that sparkled like pastry sugar.

Part warrior princess and part high priestess, the new metallic makeup lands somewhere between pretty and striking. Apply with a heavy hand, like the von Furstenberg butterflies, and you iridesce. Apply with a light hand, as the makeup artist James Kaliardos did at Rodarte, multitasking shimmering blushes and highlighters on eyes and cheeks, and you look sunlit.

Precision, Kaliardos stipulates, is key to success. "You want metallics contained within a specific destination, or you can end up looking like the Tin Man," he advises. A better inspiration to mine from Kaliardos's mental mood board: Grace Jones.

Jones was no stranger to the reflective embellishment's power. In her impishly titled 2015 book, *I'll Never Write My Memoirs*, she recalls her journey from buttoned-up girlhood (no nail polish permitted) to genre-dissolving glam-rock icon, a metamorphosis in which a metallic ruby eye or a glowing amber cupid's bow played a large part. "I wanted to be bigger, stronger, more myself," she writes of her adventures in face painting. "I wanted to look more like I felt."

And we all shine on.—MOLLY YOUNG

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