



BEST In Show

What follows is purely opinion. Thanks for indulging me, *Ed*. I didn't get a chance to visit every stand or try every product at the Sydney International Spa & Beauty Expo—in fact some booths were so deep with clamouring crowds I couldn't even make it to the front. But of the exhibitors I was fortunate enough to chat with and whose products I've since had the chance to try, I wanted to highlight a few that really caught my attention. Please forgive me if I haven't included a product or treatment that's worthy of mention here and thanks to everyone who took the time to share their passion, enthusiasm and stories with me...let's do it again soon.

Maybe it's because I've missed **Sundari** in my routine since I came back to Australia from the US, or maybe it's because some recent snaps have given me pause to notice a few telltale eye lines, that I'm so enamoured with Sundari's **Chamomile Eye Oil**. This lightweight combo of avocado and chamomile oils in aloe vera gel rapidly calms the thin skin around the eyes. It's become part of my relaxation massage on temples and the frown lines above my nose

(known in publishing as "editor's brow"). The natural subtle aroma really suits those, like me, for whom strong scents can trigger headaches. SUNDARI.COM.AU

I have to admit that I'm usually a French girl...when it comes to manicures that is. But on occasion I have been known to hanker after something special, and **Minx** certainly fits that bill. Given that I am not a fume fan and I've never found a manicure I couldn't bump, this "no dry" formula seems made for me. The Minx flexible polymer is applied like a sticker with heat to effectively shrinkwrap it on. The cool factor really comes into its own with the speciality patterns that can be printed onto the film. SWITCHFUNKY.COM.AU

I don't say this lightly: **Eye of Horus Mascara** is the best mascara I've ever used. It doesn't clump, doesn't flake and, most important of all, doesn't sting, even 12 hours and a plane flight later. The formulation is so out it's in again, being inspired by the concoctions made by ancient Egyptians. The blend of carnauba, rice bran and candelilla waxes with beeswax coats on beautifully as a liquid that dries as an impressively

lightweight finish. EYEOFHORUS.COM.AU

Thalgo launched their new **Anti-ageing Skincare Programme**. It's a completely reengineered facial regime for Thalgo, and Nawael Maréchal, the international trainer for the French brand, was in Australia to instruct Thalgo spas in the new protocols as well as demonstrate it at the show. The system is designed for three different age groups—Collagen for those aged 25 and over, Hyaluronic for 35 and over and Silicium for 40 up. I got a full treatment before the show, so I can confirm that the protocol hits the mark. BLCCOSMETICS.COM, THALGO.COM.AU

The cucumber on the eyelids is a standard spa cliché, though it's a bit outdated and impractical. **EyeSlices** updates cucumber with a cooling cryogel polymer that, through thermo-gymnastics, stimulates circulation to reduce swelling and dark circles. Plus there are organic aloe extract, peptides and live yeast extract to rejuvenate skin and relax eye and brow tension. I also love that you can enjoy them without feeling wasteful because they're reusable 10 times (a beaut client take-home). EYESLICES.COM.AU 🍵