

Interview with Beautybuz.com: <http://beautybuz.com/groups/beautybuz-interviews/forum/topic/interview-with-makeup-artist-marina-smith-vancouver/>

Marina Smith, Makeup Artist of Vancouver, BC

Q: Tell us about yourself!

A: I've always loved make up, ever since I was little. I am a professional freelance make up artist and make up instructor. I am trained in all aspects of make up media and have gone onto to do a variety of make up work from "Beauty and Beyond" including fashion, bridal, special FX, airbrushing, film and television as well as commercial media.

Q: Do you have any artistic background?

A: I don't have any formal artistic background, but I do love to draw & paint.

Q: Do you use any other artistic mediums?

A: Yes, I airbrush.

Q: How long have you been doing make up for?

A: I have been doing make up since 2005.

Q: Did you go to school? If so, where did you go and would you recommend this school to other artists?

A: Yes, I have a Masters Make up Artistry Diploma from the Blanche Macdonald Centre in Vancouver, BC. I would highly recommend this school to other artists. It's the best and I loved the program.

Q: Why did you choose to do makeup and what are your favorite things about doing makeup?

A: I think Aristotle said it best: "Where the needs of the world and your talents cross, therein lies your vocation." I love everything about it – the colors, the products, but mostly the creative process. There's nothing like the high you get after pushing your own creative limits and coming up with something truly awesome! I chose to do make up because I was at a point in my life where I needed a change – if you can't go big, then go home.

Q: What is the biggest challenge as a professional makeup artist and would you recommend this career path to other people?

A: The biggest challenge is establishing your self and keeping that momentum going. It breaks my heart see so many girls who invest the time & money in make up school and then end up selling their kits and doing something else. Becoming a successful make up artist takes a lot of hard work & dedication – it's not all play. I would and do recommend this career to other people with the advice that they do their research, take their education seriously, work hard & be professional at all times.

Q: If you could do one celebrity in the world's makeup, who would it be and why?

A: I actually have two – one male & one female: Johnny Depp & Oprah. Need I say more?

Q: Where do you get your inspiration? What do you feel most inspired by?

A: I do a lot of research before I embark on a new creative adventure: the internet, literature, art. I love all things beautiful and creative, that's my inspiration.

Q: What is an average day like in your life as a makeup artist?

A: It varies depending on the gig. I could be on set for 10+/day which is 90% waiting (for actors, for shot to be set up etc.) & 10% doing, I could be teaching a class, doing bridal party, or have multiple clients back to back, and then do it all again the next day. No two days are ever alike.

Q: What is your biggest rant or rave about the beauty industry?

A: My biggest rant is that the industry is not regulated. Hair dressers, estheticians & cosmetologists are all licensed and make up artists should be too. There should also be a minimum starting wage for make up artists. So many people expect MUAs to work for free or next to nothing. They don't realize that we go through the same rigorous training as other professionals, and it's expensive. Seriously, would you trust your skin to someone who didn't know what they were doing?

Q: You are a member of the BeautyBUZ community. What do you like about it and what do you think needs to be changed or improved?

A: It's a great place for make up artists to get to know one another and share ideas.

Q: Share one of your favorite makeup tricks with us!

A: When doing bridal make up I always use waterproof products especially around the eyes (primers, liners, mascara & cream shadows). They stay put, there's no need for touch ups and the end result is fabulous!

Q: Would you like to add anything else?

A: For more info on me please visit my website at:
<http://www.marinasmithmakeup.com>

Thanks, Marina! It was a pleasure to hear from you!