

AS SEEN IN

allure

THE BEAUTY EXPERT

DIRECTORY

clear. And that's worth an award of some kind. Award Winning Facial, \$90.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Celadon

Luci-Eliza Straubel
1180 F St., N.W.
202-347-3333

Only when we sat down for our lunchtime facial did we realize we'd forgotten concealer to cover the inevitable blotchiness. And aesthetician Straubel couldn't reassure us, especially when the apple-pulp exfoliator stung like needles and the paprika-infused mask



Eminence Organic Skin Care Sweet Red Foaming Cream, Pumpkin & Orange Masque, and Stonecrop Whip Moisturizer from Celadon in Washington, D.C.

aesthetician Hedgepeth. And though we know such a thing is impossible, we'd heard Catherine Deneuve was once a regular, so we took a leap of faith. Hedgepeth applied a series of masks, including the one meant to infuse our skin with oxygen. While waiting for it to dry, Hedgepeth described her own skin-care plan, which includes some rather unique facial exercises such as moving her eyes in every direction. Between the O₂ and the Jim Carrey impersonation, we had doubts. But we left glowing, and we weren't about to roll our eyes at that. Oxygen Facial, \$80.

with a plea "moisturize, moisturize, moisturize." Customized facial, \$90 and up.

HOUSTON

Chrysalis Skin Rejuvenation Center

Sabina Khan
3910 Kirby Dr., Ste. 110
713-522-2111

We'd heard from more than one Houston socialite that Khan's facials were serious stuff, but what got us into her chair was the way they murmured, "She's just so nurturing," as if she were a therapist. We'd booked a combination microdermabrasion and facial, so once Khan had studied

our skin, she proceeded to blast our face painlessly with a stream of aluminum oxide particles. We were feeling spoiled already, but the true nurturing hadn't even begun. Khan's facial massage was so gentle that we were on the brink of falling asleep when she spread on the final sunscreen. We felt truly beautiful afterward, something that would have cost us plenty in therapy bills. Customized Revitalizing Facial, \$75 and up.

SEATTLE

Spa Bellissima

Megan Lee
2620 Second Ave.
206-956-4156

Strong chemicals and vigorous prodding belong to the "no pain, no gain" school of facials. But Spa Bellissima's version is all mild organic ingredients and butterfly fingers. Aesthetician Lee added soothing calendula and stimulating orange zest to the cleanser, smoothed on a lavender-and-yogurt mask, and performed an acupuncture facial massage with honey. Then, without a single extraction, it was over.



Karin Herzog Mask is sold at Skin Essentials in Miami.

brought blood rushing to our cheeks. We're not sure whether it was Straubel's gentle massage or the Stonecrop plant mask that calmed and moisturized our face, but when we left, it was shining without the help of makeup. Apple and Paprika Exfoliating Treatment, \$100.

MIAMI

Skin Essentials

Carol Hedgepeth
Gables One Tower
1320 S. Dixie Hwy., Ste. 250
305-665-3343

"We need to put the oxygen back into your skin," said

ATLANTA

Skin Care by Gabriela

Gabriela Voiculescu
3162 Johnson Ferry Rd.
770-641-1888

You practically have to receive a formal invitation for a session with Voiculescu, who greets new clients with "And who sent you, exactly?" Her spa has all the charm of a dentist's office, but once we cleared the waiting room, we saw why the country-club set talks about "Gaby" in such reverent whispers. Voiculescu whooshed in, pronounced our dry skin an emergency, and spent an hour massaging on creams. The treatment ended

Erika Janes cleanses skin with a sponge at Santa Monica's S.M.I.L.E. Spa.

