

BEAUTY

Happy EVA after

Swapping Wisteria Lane for Cannes, actress Eva Longoria shares her make-up secrets – and future plans – with HELLO! beauty editor Nadine Baggott

Moving effortlessly from the small screen to what she referred to on Twitter as “the biggest red carpet in the world”, one-time beauty queen Eva Longoria took last month’s Cannes film festival by storm with a series of stunning appearances that were a world away from her *Desperate Housewives* character, Gabrielle Solis.

At the festival to promote her new film, and in her capacity as brand ambassador for L’Oréal Paris, the diminutive star was happy to talk to HELLO! about mascara, movies and making an entrance...

Eva, your Marchesa gown, complete with 6ft train, was one of the standouts from the opening night at Cannes. How much fun was walking the red carpet?

“I love this red carpet. I love the fact that it’s only photographers, although I did need help with my gown; that was the longest train on a dress, ever.”

“I have a village of people who help me, but I do enjoy and appreciate getting glammed up. I think it’s a privilege to be on the red carpet. Most women get to do it a few times in their life – their prom, their wedding – but I experience it more often.”

You are here with fellow L’Oréal ambassadors Jane Fonda, Frieda Pinto and Cheryl Cole. What makes the brand so special to you?

“My first memory of make-up was my mum’s red lipstick. L’Oréal lipstick has a unique scent and she would use it as lipstick and rouge. When I was about five, I would sneak into her bag, get it out and put it all over my lips, cheeks and eyes, then I would colour with it. I just thought it was the greatest thing ever. When L’Oréal Paris chose me as their ambassador, I was so excited.”

What’s your biggest beauty secret?

“Moisturising. Because I fly so much, hydration is important. When you have good skin, everything else kind of falls into place. Also, I use blush with shimmer in it. That way, your skin glows and people notice it.”

What are your favourite products at the moment?

“Just recently I have been wearing crazy colours on my nails as a rebellion against Gabby, my character in *Desperate Housewives*. Finally, I can wear bold colours; I love a really bright blue.”

What are your three desert island make-up musts?

“Firstly, mascara. Ever since doing the shoot for Million Lashes I have been addicted. I love the brush and the texture of the mascara. It’s not clumpy and is the blackest black. Then all I would need is a bronzer and some fresh water.”

Do you have your own signature make-up look for the red carpet?

“Yes, a smoky eye with lashes and a nude lip. I always wear false eyelashes on the red carpet – that’s been my beauty look since my pageant days.”

In general, are you high or low maintenance?

“I would say low maintenance. I wear a lot of TV make-up at work every day, of course, but when I get home I can’t wait to get it off. I wash my face with a cleanser, then do a whole nightly routine with moisturiser, vitamin C and lip balm. During the day I apply moisturiser and bronzer all over, then mascara – and that’s it, I am ready.”

“I rarely blow-dry my hair because it is naturally wavy and I can’t be bothered, especially if it is raining. I was in New York recently and I looked like a lion by the end of the day. My hair just went, ‘Pfoof!’”

So how do you keep your hair looking so gorgeous?

“I have tried a Brazilian blow-dry [a straightening treatment that involves having pure keratin applied to the hair] and that was good for taking the frizz out. I colour my hair so much – and prefer being a dark brunette because it’s natural and effortless – but I always use sulphate-free shampoos and conditioners to keep the colour. I sometimes use a mask, too.”



MAKE UP: CHARLOTTE WILLER, USING L'OREAL PARIS L'OR ELECTRIC COLLECTION. HAIR: STÉPHANE LANCIEU, USING ELNETT. NAILS: TOM BACHIK, USING COLOR RICHE NAIL COLLECTION

Which beauty gadget couldn't you be without?

"Tweezers. I am obsessed with plucking my eyebrows. I always end up doing them on a plane at 30,000ft as the light is so good. Of course, it's not ideal because it hurts, and I really should do them straight out of the shower, but it's a great way to pass the time on a flight. I open the shade on the window and I am, like, 'Oh yes!' You see the tiniest hairs and can get them."

It's said you eat like a rugby full-back, yet you have the body of a dancer...

"I know, it's true. Recently I did a no-sugar diet for two months and it was the strictest thing I've ever done. I used to be a dancer and now I work out two or three times a week with a trainer."

Are you an exercise fan, then?

"No, I hate working out. I hate cardio, I hate running, I hate the treadmill... I like weights, but the rest of it just has to be done. That's why I have a trainer – to make me do it. And I like to get out and about as much as possible, which is easier in Los Angeles, as the sun shines."

What makes you happy?

"My family. Every time they come to my house my heart fills up. I like a busy, loud house. I have two girlfriends staying with me at the moment. Add two dogs. My house is definitely loud."

Do you have a beauty icon?

"Marilyn Monroe had that certain something. She never changed her look, and even after her death that blonde hair with the red lips is still glamorous

and beautiful. But it's also what she exuded – she was electrifying and you couldn't wait to see what she did next and who she was with. She just had this essence about her that was beautiful."

The final series of *Desperate Housewives* has just aired. Was filming it emotional for you?

"It was bitter sweet. Eight years of working with the same cast and crew. I'm going to miss playing Gabby – the thought is a little overwhelming. But I'm also excited about this new chapter in my life. I am turning the page and moving on and that's exciting."

What's next for you?

"As well as *The Baytown Disco* [which Eva promoted in Cannes], I have another film coming out soon, *For Greater Glory: The True Story of Cristiada* with Andy Garcia. Then I'm filming *Married and Cheating* with Brendan Fraser and Sarah Jessica Parker and I'm also shooting *Days of Mary* with Juliette Lewis."

No holidays lined up, then?

"I have been so busy filming the last episodes of *Desperate Housewives* and making films that this seems like time off. I'm spending a month in Europe – working, not filming, but that will be like a holiday for me." ❑

PHOTOS : SEAN AND SENG FOR L'OREAL PARIS
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L'Oréal Paris was the make-up artist of the Cannes film festival. To see the best red-carpet looks, visit lorealinsider.co.uk/cannes2012.



EVA'S ESSENTIALS

Want to know the make-up secrets of Wisteria Lane's most flamboyant resident? We took a sneak peek into the former Desperate Housewives star's beauty bag...



1. L'Oréal Paris Volume Million Lashes Mascara in Black, £9 2. Essie Nail Polish in Ballet Slippers, £9.95, from lookfantastic.com. According to her manicurist Tom Bachik: "Eva has the most perfect nails; she could be a hand model." 3. L'Oréal Paris L'Or Electric Color Riche Lipstick in Prismatic Pink, £8.16 4. L'Oréal Paris L'Or Electric Color Riche Le Vernis in Mystic Blue, £4.99. Says Eva: "This is my favourite polish right now. It's a rebellion against *Desperate Housewives*' neutral nails." 5. L'Oréal Paris Glam Bronze Duo Powder, £10.20 6. Shu Uemura Black Velvet Feather False Lashes, £18.50 7. L'Oréal Paris L'Or Electric Color Infallible Eyeshadow in Magnetic Coral, £6.99, is the colour Eva wore to tone with her blush gown on the red carpet in Cannes 8. Shu Uemura Glow On Blush in Vivid Orange, £9.75 9. Tweezerman Satin Etched Zebra Slant Tweezers, £22 10. Anastasia Brow Wiz, in Brunette, £15.50, from cultbeauty.co.uk