

Want to get your skin summer-ready? Meet four experts who can help, says Funmi Fetto



THE MASTER FACIALIST

Su-Man Hsu

f Su-Man Hsu were an object, she would be a teeny, bouncy ball. She is small and lithe but so full of energy she makes lightning seem sluggish. When we meet, her hair is in pigtails and she looks like a naive schoolgirl. But don't be fooled. This Taiwanese 51-year-old facialist is no wallflower. Whether she's bemoaning society's obsession with Botox ("Why would you want a frozen face?") or dismissing the idea of skincare that removes blackheads ("No such thing"), she is as assured as they come. Yet there is something delicate about her. It's unsurprising, then, to discover that she is a trained ballet dancer. From faille to facials? She explains: "Aged 20, I had incredibly painful back injury. Nothing helped until I went to a shiatsu master." Inspired, she learnt the technique herself and practised on fellow dancers.

This consequently developed into facial massages: "I had found my new love."

Su-Man's signature facial involves cleansing, exfoliating, lifting and plumping the skin using massage techniques she picked up "from the master". The result? Well, it's been described as "a facelift in an hour". Now she is sought out by the likes of Freida Pinto - whom Su-Man also trained for Pinto's upcoming film, Desert Dancer - and a chic, jet-setting clientele (she is the guest facialist at Fortnum & Mason and the W Hotels in London, Singapore, Bali and Doha). Her eponymous skincare line expands further this autumn. Not bad for someone who grew up in a mud hut and didn't watch television or listen to the radio until she was 14. Su-man.com

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