

style

April 2010

Your **FREE** magazine
for Hertfordshire

Sweet as a button

The Chantal Gibbs-Jones collection

WIN! A relaxing stay
at Champneys, Tring

Ballet principles

Rupert Pennefather's
struggle for success

Behind the scenes

Singer Laura White gets made up

Your luxury lifestyle magazine



Giving Laura the X-FACTOR

Make-up artist Alex Jones has made up many famous faces and has recently finished working on the soon-to-be released film *Treacle Junior* starring Aiden Gillen. She takes **Abena Bailey** to her latest shoot

Laura, the 22-year-old songbird from Manchester won the support of millions during her time on 2008's *X Factor*, which ended with her shock exit from the show.

If you were wondering what she's up to now we can tell you that she supported Peter Andre's sell-out Revelation tour and has released her debut single, *You Should Have Known*.

The sassy brunette was recently in Watford posing for her latest photo shoot. As her make-up artist, Alex Jones got up close and personal.

She said: "I was contacted by the photographer Sarah Johnson asking if I wanted to do the make-up for the Laura White shoot and the answer was

yes. I was really looking forward to it, especially since I had free reign on the make-up.

"Laura wanted an edgy look. The brief was edgy, sexy and cool. It was all about Laura wanting to show her stylish side and blending into Peter Andre's image too. We were sending picture ideas by email to and fro until finally we decided to take inspiration from one that I chose of Beyonce with super sexy eyes — and that's what I wanted to do with Laura's.

"I didn't want to change her too much. When I do an artist I like to enhance their look, so I stick with what they like and perfect it.

"We did the shoot at Bar Bodega in Watford

high street. It has these amazing draping curtains by the doorway so we used them as a back drop.

For another image, Laura lay on the leather sofa by the fireplace and Sarah cleverly used the light, reflected by the glass top table, to her advantage.

"For Laura's make-up I used the Bobby Brown gel eyeliner, which I swear by, to exaggerate her eye line.

"Bobby Brown shimmer brick on her cheeks made them glow. Laura has a natural olive skin so I used bronze to enhance it. I built up the colour on her cheek using three different shades and a lot of gold highlighter. I apply the highlighter strategically to where it will reflect the light."



Alex's top tips

■ Always have a decent moisturiser and eye cream because if you haven't got a good base your make-up is never going to be right.

■ One of the most important things I picked up on my make-up course was to apply the eye make-up first and that means before you even apply foundation. You don't want excess shadow ruining your base.

■ Highlighters make such a difference when creating a flawless look. I apply it under the foundation. Foundation goes on after the shadows and highlighters. You will find that concealer is useful for cleaning away any eye make-up smudges.

■ Blend, blend, blend. I always have two brushes in my hand. One for applying and one for blending. I brush then blend each stroke to get that natural look. Blend foundation with moderate pressure in a circular motion. For foundation I use a bristle brush.

■ Apply shadow on the outside corners of the eye and work inwards. The idea is that you apply the shadow in one place and then blend it.

■ When it comes to creating Laura's smoky eye look it's all about the eyeliner. Hold it with a firm hand and follow the lash line.

■ Fake lashes are not a necessity. I didn't use them on Laura. I used Lancome L'Extreme mascara.

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