



MANE ATTRACTION

CELEBRITY HAIRDRESSER
KIM ROBINSON CUTS TO THE
CHASE ABOUT AUDREY HEPBURN,
DIFFICULT CLIENTS AND BALDING

■ INTERVIEW BY JESSICA NG

I grew up on a farm in Western Australia. I didn't have access to fashion or magazines. I enjoyed planting flowers and vegetables with my grandmother when I was young, so I thought I might be a gardener.

My most treasured possession is a photo book of my life that a close friend made for me. It goes back 40 years to when I first started as a hairstylist in Hong Kong and chronicles all my styles and all the stars I have worked with. It contains lots of pictures and lots of memories. I find it very touching. It anchors me.

I will never forget doing a chignon haircut for Audrey Hepburn in Paris when I was first starting my career.

Who would play me in a film of my life? Don't all men say George Clooney?

I have plenty of secrets, but stylists are like therapists. We never divulge.

There's no such thing as a difficult client. It just means you have a lack of communication. I don't find anyone difficult.

Life has taught me many lessons. The most important: don't take anything for granted and looking great is the best revenge.

If I could cut anyone's hair, it would be Kate Middleton's. It's too long, too heavy; poofy on the bottom and flat on top. It makes her look frumpy. She needs to have a haircut like Gisele.

Sex kitten, Brigitte Bardot – that's the best hair trend of all time. But trends aren't for everyone. If it makes you look good, great; and if it doesn't, dump it.

If I could turn back time I would work in the couture houses in the 1950s.

The celebrity hairdresser I admired the most was Alexandre de Paris, who passed away in 2008. He was amazing. He did all the hairdressing for the best haute couture fashion designers in France. What he did was real artistry. It took real talent and great discipline.

Beauty is all about proportion, balance and harmony. Everything has its space. Art looks beautiful in some areas, but if you put it in another area, it can look strange.

If a haircut doesn't suit your face, you feel weird, you feel horrible, you feel bad.

Nothing is worse than a bad hair day but accessories can help. Use hairbands and clips to put your hair back. Keeping it clean, neat and tidy is more flattering.

Right now, I'm using a hair therapy that is our brand. It's called Hair Rejuvenation Formula. My hair is ageing, my body is ageing and I'm trying to grab hold of anything that will keep me afloat as the Titanic's sinking, so to speak.

My greatest fear is balding. If I lost my hair I'd wear a hat. ■