

Made up with Madge - style secrets from Madonna's make-up artist

With rising summer temperatures, stage lights, tight-fitting costumes and complex dance routines, it's a tough job for Madonna to keep her make-up intact while on stage here in the UAE.

Luckily, she has a team of experts helping her maintain the right look. One of them is make-up artist Gina Brooke, who has been working with Madge for 10 years and created the make-up looks for the MDNA tour...

Q How do you come up with looks for Madonna?

A It's a collaboration of make-up, hair and wardrobe. However, Madonna always has an idea of how she wants to look and makes the final decision. Creating the looks for a tour is an amazing process. At the beginning, I receive the costume sketches from Madonna's costume designer, Arianne Phillips, I then observe the rehearsals for two weeks before creating a story board in which I pull references from everything from art books to abstract designs and colours and then start drawing sketches and adding them to the story board for each look for each performance. Madonna chooses what she most identifies with, based on what will bring her vision for the tour to life and then makes the final decision on which looks to go with.



Madonna's make-up artist says the star is 'fearless'. You can see for yourself tonight at the du Arena in Abu Dhabi

Q What's been your favourite look for Madonna?

A One of my favourites is from 'Reinvention' in 2004 because her look was all about beautiful flawless skin and make-up. I also loved her look from 'Confessions on a Dance Floor' in 2008, which was all about the disco era - enhancing Madonna's eyes, which is my favourite feature to bring forward...

Q What do you admire most about Madonna's make-up choices?

A I love that she isn't afraid to take risks. She's fearless. She pushes the boundaries and is open to expressing herself unlike anyone I have ever worked with.

Q How will you keep Madonna looking fresh throughout the set?

A **Intraceuticals** infusions, which are oxygen skin treatments, are essential for prepping the skin to give it a hydrated, healthy glow. I also always use primer to prep the make-up...