



Making the Stars Shine

Glasgow native
Evan Richardson
writes about his career

By **LINDA HITCHCOCK**



Glasgow native Evan Richardson prepares musician David Bowie for a stage appearance. Photo courtesy of David Bowie.

As a student, Evan was sent to Florida to attend the Admiral Farragut School, a prestigious all-male, military boarding/prep school. Following graduation, he served two years in the U.S. Navy and then enrolled at University of Kentucky, graduating with a BFA in art. His love of writing was encouraged and nurtured at UK where he worked on the student newspaper and yearbook.

The Big Apple beckoned and he enrolled at Pratt Institute of Art in Brooklyn for advanced studies in art and fashion illustration studying with the renowned artist Richard Lindner. Evan quickly landed work for major New York department stores which had yet to replace fashion illustrators with photographers. Eager to sample what the world had to offer, Richardson headed off to Europe. The tall and slim red head had that wholesome American look sought after in Paris and was soon in demand as a runway and print model.

After returning to Manhattan, Evan drew on his skills as a painter and taught himself the art of make-up. It was a serendipitous decision as it became his career mainstay for over three

decades. He was a pioneer who helped revolutionize the fashion industry. Prior to the late 1960's, fashion models for clothing designers and elite magazines such as Vogue and Harper's Bazaar had applied their own make-up with varying results. Evan brashly "auditioned" for Diana Vreeland, the famously intimidating head of Vogue, and became the first make-up artist to work preparing models for fashion shoots. He worked with all the great photographers of the time including: Richard Avedon, Irving Penn and a perennial favorite collaborator Francesco Scavullo.

His celebrity client list reads like a who's who from the elite in fashion, Broadway, film, dance, politics and the social register. Tallulah Bankhead and Lucille Ball were early clients; Drew Barrymore may have been the youngest; Sting, Madonna, David Bowie and the Brothers Gibb for their Saturday Night Fever white-suited cover of The Rolling Stone Magazine. He even made up Mary Kay Ash for a photography session and worked on Rose Kennedy, age 93, for her final magazine cover for Harper's Bazaar. He also designed the make-up for several Broadway produc-

tions; continued to study writing and wrote and composed a musical play called "Guys".

Evan developed his own line of eye shadow and created unique palettes that guaranteed him work around the world although

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