

PHOTO: BRIAN ACH/WIREIMAGE.COM



Matchmaking

With more men taking advantage of salon services in this liberated era, manicures may transform the nail salon into the new singles bar. The *New York Post* reported earlier this year that the Cygalle Spa, located in the IMG Daily Suite inside the Bryant Park Hotel during New York's Fashion Week, became a hot spot of amorous activity. Magician David Blaine stopped by for a massage and manicure and ended up leaving with soap opera actress Leven Rambin after the two were seated next to each other and struck up a conversation. The son of legendary singer Art Garfunkel, James, also picked up what a spy told

the paper was "a pretty young thing." Maybe this indicates that it's time to set up some singles mixers in your salon. Who knows? You could end up playing Cupid to the love story of the century!

A spate of events just after Labor Day showed that a pack of young Hollywood starlets and songstresses shed their summer whites (as in the opaque polish that was uberchic earlier this year) and went back to the look of fall 2006—short, dark nails. The Fashion Rocks event in New York boasted a who's who of young celebs—Ashlee Simpson, LeAnn Rimes, Mischa Barton and Michelle Trachtenberg among them—sporting manicures that were so 12 months ago. The trend continued a week later at the MTV



2006

Let's Do the Time Warp Again



2007

Video Music Awards in Las Vegas, where another set of famous names, including Nicole Scherzinger of the Pussycat Dolls, Lauren Conrad of *The Hills* and singer Rhianna, went back to the dark side. The difference, however, might be in the variety of dark shades on display. Instead of basic black, the hues ranged from eggplant to deep burgundy to forest green. Say what you will about trends coming back around, but at least this one is *slightly* different.

In a Huff

Blogger and political commentator Arianna Huffington has made a career out of her opinions—she even battled Arnold Schwarzenegger for the California governorship in 2003. But back when the Greece-born Huffington graduated from the University of Cambridge in England, expressing herself via nail polish was strictly taboo. In the October



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issue of *Elle*, Huffington writes about her graduation in June 1972 from Girton College—one of only three female colleges in Cambridge at the time. Before the ceremony, the graduating seniors gathered in a common room for dress code approval before receiving their diplomas. The uniform was a black dress with sleeves that covered the arm to just below the elbow, white cuffs and collars, and a furry white hood. But when Huffington's inspector caught a glimpse of her red lacquered nails, she insisted that the polish had to go and sent a member of Huffington's family out to buy remover. Despite the hubbub, Huffington still got the last laugh: "After the ceremony, on the lawn outside the Senate House, I kicked off my shoes—so my brightly painted toenails could breathe!" she writes. We can't help but love a determined woman who has strong opinions and wears polish colors to match.