

# BEAUTY PORTRAITS

CHRISTIAN  
SCHMIDT

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**M**y special passion as a photographer is for free artistic projects, like in this featured series. I got in touch with Alina, the makeup artist, through a Facebook community.

After an intensive exchange about which ideas we wanted to implement and a resulting concept, I looked for the right face for the project. I found a fabulous model - Chantal, at the Frankfurt model agency eastwestmodels. Based on our moods, the accessories such as the gold leaf and the roses were procured. I always interpret free shoots as "work in progress", so that spontaneous, creative impulses can flow in. In this series, for example, this was the initially unplanned use of the green acrylic paint that I happened to still have in the cellar.

During the shoot, which took place in my studio, up to four studio flashes were used simultaneously. In addition, I used classic light shapers such as octaboxes, a Magnum Giant reflector, brighteners, a red color gel, and, last but not least, the "clamshell technique" for beauty photography.





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The photos were taken in full format, mainly with an F2.8, 24-70 mm lens, aperture F6.3, and focal lengths between 50 and 65 mm at ISO 100. The focus was on the eyes. The photo with the red and black background was taken with a telephoto lens (F2.8, 70-200 mm). (F9, focal length 97 mm, ISO 100). When choosing the backgrounds, I made sure that the makeup colors, for example, yellow-gold tones or the dark red of the lipstick, were reflected there. For more significant variability of the picture results, a large mirror was also being used. To round off the desired effect of the beauty portraits, various accents were added in post-processing with the help of Photoshop.



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Christian Schmidt is a photographer based in the Frankfurt/Main area, Germany, who has been intensively involved in portraits and artistic nude photography for more than seventeen years.

He likes to use old ruins such as factories or dilapidated buildings as a backdrop.

Schmidt's photography work has been featured in international publications, including MAXIM, and he was internationally awarded several times, both in Germany and internationally. His work has been featured at international Photo Fairs, including the IPA Best of Show, the ACE Gallery in Los Angeles, the Miami Photo Festival, Les Rencontres d'Arles, and the London Photo Show.





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