

# WHOM YOU KNOW

FRIDAY JUNE 18, 2010

Bat Your Eyes with Spa Peachy; Whom You Know Recommends the Courtney Akai Boutique Salon

**Spotted: COURTNEY AKAI LASH BOUTIQUE**  
**A Unique, Innovative, Alluring Boutique on Fifth Avenue**

**Confirmed:** Courtney Akai Lash Boutique is officially open for business. Mark your appointment time in Pen, friend: this is one stop you can't afford to skip.

Longing for lengthy, lovely, lush lashes? Check. Vying for permanent makeup application? Check. Overdue for some on-the-spot beautifying? Check. Courtney Akai Lash Boutique is the place to be – and be seen. Quickly attracting attention for its appeal as a hangout for high-profile clients, celebrities and Manhattan's elite including the Spa Peachy Panel of Whom You Know, Courtney Akai Lash Boutique is unlike any other salon on Fifth Avenue. Specializing in eyelash extensions, permanent makeup and special occasion makeup, this by-appointment-only boutique is unique and inspired. Skill, sincerity and sophistication: what you can expect from the team of experts at Courtney Akai Lash Boutique.

**The Scoop:** Eyelash extensions create drama and allure, without compromising the desire to look fresh and natural. A full set of extensions can lengthen lashes up to 50 percent, and will thicken them by at least 30 percent. Courtney Akai Lash Boutique is a pioneer provider of Eyelash Extensions, a service where the skill of the artisan applying each single synthetic and mink eyelash makes all the difference in achieving full, lush, natural-looking lashes. The necessary size, thickness and curl will be assessed and the appropriate lashes selected for each individual client. The professionals at Courtney Akai Lash Boutique apply the lashes with unparalleled precision and attention to detail.

**The Play-by-Play:** Applying a full set of lashes takes approximately two hours. Single lashes are applied one at a time, using specially-formulated, semi-permanent glue that will not irritate the eye or damage the natural lash. Touch-ups are recommended every three to four weeks. For half sets (which are also available and can achieve a dramatic, full effect when applied outward from the eye, creating a specialized look), allot 60 minutes.

**The Upkeep:** Lash extensions last through a full growth cycle of natural eyelashes, typically six to eight weeks. That said, because each person's lash growth is somewhat variable (think: hair growth), Courtney Akai Lash Boutique suggests light lash maintenance every three to four weeks to maintain a full look.

**The Payoff:** Zero pain, amazing gain, as lashes instantly look and feel fuller, lusher. And, you can shelf your eyelash curler and mascara too (lucky you, your oomph is now built in).

**The Pricetag:** Courtney Akai Lash Boutique uses top-of-the-line materials; unmet in the business, invaluable in the results. A full set of eyelash extensions is \$400, and a half set is \$200; for Mink lashes, there is a price increase. For bottom lashes, \$140 and lash removal is \$30 per 15-minute session. Touch-ups are \$120 per hour, as well.

Founder, Courtney Akai, is celebrated by the media and the beauty trade as one of the premiere eyelash extension specialists in the country, kudos to her ability to enhance her client's features flawlessly. With a strong background in makeup application (Akai spent years perfecting her craft with Clinique, Lancome, Bobbi Brown and behind stage for runway shows and televised broadcasts) and an advanced certification with NovaLash, the industry leader in lash extensions, Courtney Akai is a force for fabulousness in the arena of eyelash extensions.

Eyelashes are added individually as single hair extensions using Novalash and Courtney will assess the weight, shape and color of your own lashes before she starts. The right weight is important as the lashes will feel more comfortable and stay on for longer. This is a precise science! The treatment takes up to two and a half hours.

I have to admit I thought I would have a little nap, but Courtney is so amazing and adorable, we found ourselves chatting like old best friends the whole time. I was shocked at how the time pasted away so quickly. Courtney definitely has multiple talents! Now I absolutely never leave the house sans mascara, this eye enhancing, eyelash extensions are a must-try treatment for everyone. This beauty treatment has instant and dramatic results – I already wonder how I ever managed before.

You'll also receive information on aftercare to take home with you. Courtney advises that your new lashes should be kept dry for just 24 hours afterwards and that you can use mascara on my tips as long as they're water based, this will give an even more dramatic look. After the treatment my eye lashes looked incredibly natural, full, thick and very pretty. I don't need mascara at all. After my appointment I hopped across the block, it was such a beautiful evening and dropped by the Bryant Park Café, a perfect retreat to bat my lashes!

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**LONG LASHES AT LONG LAST!** My visit to Courtney Akai Boutique Salon surpassed my expectations. Once before I had eyelash extensions --but the result was disappointing because the lashes were uniformly too long, too thick and were definitely not suited to my life style. With Courtney, the reverse was true. She is an expert and a perfectionist. Even better, she loves what she does and it shows! Thus she customizes the lashes to suit your eyes, your face and your lifestyle. She even puts different weight lashes on your own lashes which vary in length on the theory that some of your lashes can hold more weight than others. The result is spectacular. POW! The look is totally natural. And comfortable. You look like you were born with gorgeously long dark lashes which don't even need mascara! It is truly amazing. And the bonus is that Courtney's sparkling personality makes the two hours fly by. She is lovely to talk to. Her salon has a soothing ambience--different shades of pink. A true indulgence with a positive result. I am one satisfied patron ready to do some serious flirting!