

# THE FIX

Right: Sophie Carbonari photographed in Paris

BEAUTY

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*Ellen Burney* meets French “super-facialist” Sophie Carbonari as she launches her skincare line

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALEXANDRA ALVAREZ GARCIA

**M**ali-born, Paris-based facialist Sophie Carbonari is making waves. Her international client base includes model and former first lady Carla Bruni, French model Caroline de Maigret, *The Vampire Diaries* actress Nina Dobrev and musician Lou Doillon. One of Naomi Campbell’s favoured facialists, she has worked with the supermodel on set. Carbonari visits London once a month to see clients, has hosted a pop-up residency at The Venice Venice Hotel and travels to the Cannes Film Festival to look after her A-list clientele. This month, she launches the first product in a debut skincare line.

Carbonari’s technique is what brings fans to her light, bright Paris studio, where windows look over the Jardin du Palais Royal, a short walk from the Louvre. The “Sophie Carbonari protocol”, as she calls it, brings together Japanese *kobido* and “cosmo facial” rituals with Ayurvedic techniques and lymphatic drainage.

“First, I put pressure points into the fascia and the skin pops,” she says. “You will hear it. I feel muscle tension and lymphatic retention. Second is the superficial level and I do the same with my index finger; I feel where there is blood stuck, or crystallised lymph nodes. Next I [connect with] every point of the face

