

# Life Remastered

SINGER-SONGWRITER CORINNE BAILEY RAE IS BACK WITH NEW MUSIC, A NEW LOVE AND A REFRESHING OUTLOOK ON LIFE

BY NYKIA SPRADLEY

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SARAH McCOLGAN

Corinne Bailey Rae's positive vibes consume our studio space the minute she walks in. She smiles easily and shares freely. She's soft-spoken, but deliberate with her communication.

The past few years haven't been easy for the thirtysomething British vocalist, but this moment feels like a new day.

While on a quick promotional trip to the States, Rae was generous enough to spend an afternoon with us, conveying the power of being present, the necessity of self-love and her openness to making new beauty moves.

## THE LOOK

Makeup artist Frank Guyton gave Rae a flawless glow with a shimmery palette of golden tones on the eyes, lips and skin.

**Tom Ford Beauty** Eye Quad Eye Shadow in Golden Mink (\$80, [tomford.com](http://tomford.com)); **Bodyography** Glitter Pigment in Stellar (\$23, [bodyography.com](http://bodyography.com), shown below); **Jay Manuel Beauty** Skin Face Lift in Gold (\$32, [jaymanuelbeauty.com](http://jaymanuelbeauty.com)).

**Jill Stuart** "Fulya" dress. **By boe** vertical pin earrings, "Outlined" nail ring and "Golddust" ring.

# BEAUTY

HAIR: URSULA STEPHEN/STARWORKS ARTISTS GROUP; MAKEUP: FRANK GUYTON/KENBARBOZA.COM; MANICURE: GINA EDWARDS USING DIOR VERNIS/KATE RYAN, INC.; FASHION EDITOR: JOIEE THORPE; STILLS: BRIAN HENRI; FOR CLOTHING DETAILS, SEE WHERE TO BUY.

## Lyrics, Love & Life

Between radio tours, photo shoots and television appearances for her latest LP, *The Heart Speaks in Whispers*, Rae's had a busy few days. A five-year hiatus has served her well—understandably she needed a break. Halfway through the recording of her second album, *The Sea*, her first husband, Jason Rae, died of a drug and alcohol overdose. With only a short time to grieve, she found solace in performing and quickly headed back into the studio to complete the album and begin her tour. "When I first finished *The Sea* Tour, I was quite wrung out by the whole experience," says Rae. "It was really long, and I felt like I just wanted to write. I wanted to be really creative." Rae returned to Leeds, England, to rest and focus on building a home studio and crafting her next musical move. Her break manifested itself in the theme of her third effort. "The record is about instinct," she says. "There's a song on the album called 'Stop Where You Are.' It's about being present, being in the moment, ritualizing the moment.... [It's the opposite of] what a lot of us do, which is hold the happiness away from ourselves and say, 'Oh, when I get this job, I'll be happier' or 'When I lose this weight, I'll be happier.' The album is really about saying, 'This is it, we're in it—we're in our lives, wherever you find yourself to be.'" Being present and listening to her heart has led to new loves, both professionally and personally. In 2013 she married longtime musical friend Steve Brown. "I think love stabilizes you.... It enlivens you and gives you so much joy," Rae says. ▽

### THE LOOK

Guyton paired two hot trends: a glossy lid with an unseasonably deep berry lip. Lilac nails, a softer version of the lip, tie the look together for a summery feel.

**MAC** Cosmetics Clear Gloss (\$22, [maccosmetics.com](http://maccosmetics.com)); **Anastasia Beverly Hills** Liquid Lipstick in Vintage (\$20, [anastasiabeverlyhills.com](http://anastasiabeverlyhills.com)); **Essie** Polish in Play Date (\$9, [essie.com](http://essie.com)).

Jill Stuart "Greta" top.

## Beauty and the Beat

On set, Rae moves comfortably in front of the camera. “I think my beauty style is quite natural,” she says. “The most beautiful thing is confidence. I don’t know how you learn confidence, I guess it’s just self-love. It’s like, ‘This is you. This is your body. This is your hair. This is your face. It’s all you.’” Her world travels have also given her a fresh view on beauty: “I always find, especially in Europe, particularly in Spain, the girls are really confident. There might be girls who don’t fit into the beauty norms, but they’re so confident in the way they carry themselves and they’re so in love with themselves. There’s always something really cool about these girls, because they don’t need you to love them. I think that’s a beautiful thing.”

At the shoot Rae is fully on board with all the hair and makeup changes. She’s happy to model the color and style extremes, even though she’s more of a minimalist. We all remember her short, curly fro in 2006, when she came onto the scene. A decade later, her long and lush spirals are the envy of curly girls everywhere. And while it may look like she “woke up like this,” it takes work. She washes her hair with a Rahua shampoo, then conditions while in the shower—parting tresses into sections and combing them through to the ends. Without rinsing the conditioner out completely, she sections and twists her damp strands into 15 to 20 braids. On days when she is out and about, she gathers the braids into a topknot and rocks it until her hair is mostly dry: “I’ll take it out, and it’ll probably still be a little bit damp, but then it’ll air-dry and the volume will come in.”

Beyond her refreshing beauty perspective and regimen, Rae’s struggle, pain, and immense talent are what makes this Black girl magical.

### THE LOOK

Guyton blended a swipe of turquoise shadow from the lid up to the brow. Then he applied a deep blue pencil or shadow along the upper and lower lash lines, smudging up to the crease for an ombre effect.

**Nars** Dual-Intensity Eyeshadow in Cressida and Tarvos (\$29 each, narscosmetics.com); **Ittse** Eye Shadow in Azuline (\$8, ittse.com); **Dior Vernis Collection** Nail Lacquer in Junon (\$27, dior.com).

**Ronny Kobo** “Amabel” bustier and “Jayde Jophia” skirt. **Freida Rothman** “Embrace” pavé ring, “Marquise” ring and “Double Row” ring. **Kasané** “Hamsa” ring and “Contrast” ring.