

Jet-setting stylist named Canada's best in the business

Balkwill, Chazz

Paul Berg Sr.

Feb. 26, 1992
MN

At the rate Chazz Balkwill is going, in a few years he'll be winning the best hairstylist-in-the-world award.

Balkwill, who works with John Donato at his Square One and Toronto studios, first repeated as Ontario's Hairstylist-Of-The-Year before going on to win the Canadian Hairstylist-Of-The-Year at the third annual awards ceremony held in Toronto recently.

Balkwill says he likes to stay busy. "I think I'm like most hairdressers in that I work eight days a week," he said. "I work constantly. You have to."

It's quite an honor just to be nominated for this award. It takes a combination of peers, manufacturers, distributors and fashion magazines just to be recognized. Balkwill then sent pictures of five of his hairstyles to be judged for the Canadian award. Including photography and makeup, it can take Balkwill six hours to obtain his final photograph.

Currently Balkwill and Donato are in Hawaii, working as presenters and educators for Zotos Bain de Terre, an international hair product supplier.

"We're here until March 4 doing one of the biggest hairshows in the world," said Donato from Hawaii. "There are about 600 hairdressers from around the world here and Chazz and I do something almost like a fashion show on stage."

Only 12 of the 600 hairdressers are from Canada and they come from as far away as Japan, Australia, Germany, France, Mexico, Great Britain and Sweden.

"We explain and take questions on stage while we're doing the hair so the people in the audience learn while they watch."

Balkwill and Donato do over 20 shows a year mainly in the U.S., but they've also been to Italy, France, Great Britain and Bahamas.

In addition to Balkwill's awards, Donato was named the Canadian Permanent Wave Artist of the year.

"For this year, softer, longer hair will be coming back in," predicts the twosome, who are internationally recognized as two of the top forecasters of styling trends. "It's going to get back to the silver screen era. Rita Hayworth is a big influence."



HAIR APPARENT — Mississauga hairstylist Chazz Balkwill has been named Canadian Hairstylist-Of-The-Year. Balkwill does his magic at the Salon Donato at Square One.