

BLIND HAIRDRESSER OPENS SOME EYES AT LOCAL SALON

GEORGETOWN RESIDENT A SELF-PROCLAIMED 'EDWARD SCISSOR QUEEN'

SABRINA GAMROT

Delia Martins walked through the door of Loredana Hair Studio in Brampton to a round of applause.

Martins, who has been cutting hair for 30 years, was about to make her professional return to the world of hair styling and the crowd of patrons and friends in the salon Sept. 13 were excited to be a part of it.

Martins, a Georgetown resident, has been completely blind for the past 15 years.

After selling her own salon some years ago, Mar-

tins continued to cut hair on the side while working other jobs.

After a recent visit to Loredana's, she decided it was time to return to her professional passion.

Owner Loredana Moniz had heard about Martins in passing, but the two did not meet until recently, when Martins strolled in looking for a haircut.

Moniz insisted if Martins wanted to cut hair in a salon again, Loredana's would host the return, and she would be the first to receive a cut.

"She is such an inspiration," said Moniz.

As the crowd settled into salon chairs, Martins grabbed her tool belt equipped with combs and brushes.

She started by feeling Moniz's face and hair, slowly moving her hands to better understand her face shape and determine the



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Blind hairdresser, Delia Martins, announced her return to the world of hairstyling and cutting. The event took place at Loredana Hair Salon a local salon. Delia styled and cut salon owner Loredana Moniz for the event.

best cut.

"My way of living is by touch," she said.

Martins uses a straight razor to cut hair and has developed her own tech-

niques.

Twisting the hair and cutting it at the end is her

way to give the strands some "texture."

"Your hands have to be light as air," she said while snipping.

To ensure the hair is cut at an equal length, Martins grabs two pieces and pulls them up toward the ceiling.

If they stretch out and fall at the same time, she knows the hairs are straight.

As Martins snips away, she and Moniz discuss how cutting techniques have changed since they started styling in the '80s.

"I'm old school, baby," Martins said, laughing.

After an hour, Martins finishes the cut with a quick blow dry. Both women are visibly emotional as Moniz rises from the chair to give Martins a hug.

"How do you feel, Del?" the crowd asked.

"Incredible, just overflowing with love," she said. "I want to explode."

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