

HAIR APPARENT
Gordon credits Sassoon with inventing the modern mode of hairdressing, from wash-and-go cuts to sleek open-plan salons

Michael Gordon
Bumble and Bumble founder and filmmaker

Vidal Sassoon

Pioneering hairdresser, author and businessman

Photographed by Catherine Ledner, at Sassoon's home in LA, on 3 November

Now 80, Vidal Sassoon is the world's most famous hairdresser and the man whose approach to haircutting in the 1960s revolutionised the way women look. Michael Gordon, 57 and also London-born, is the son of a hairdresser. He opened Bumble and Bumble in New York in 1977 and has since pushed his products to the top of the tonsorial tree. His book *Hair Heroes* led to a friendship with Sassoon, and his film documentary, *Vidal Sassoon the Movie*, is out later this year.

'Michael is a dear friend and an extraordinary businessman,' says Sassoon. 'He does everything with style and vision. Without sounding pompous, I'd say his approach is similar to mine.'

Gordon says, 'While I never worked for him, Vidal influenced every hairdresser in the world. Before, there was hairdressing: women went every week and essentially had glue put in their hair. Vidal brought in haircutting – his styles meant women only came back every four to six weeks. He made being a hairdresser a cool thing for young men to do.' **PM**