



**R**ENÉE ZELLWEGER may or may not have had her eyebrows lifted, but the *Bridget Jones's Diary* star was raising plenty of eyebrows when she debuted what looked to be a drastically different appearance during the *Elle* Women in Hollywood awards on Oct. 20 at L.A.'s Four Seasons Hotel. Renée's wider eyes, higher forehead and narrower face set off a firestorm of comments in the days following the event, with widespread speculation that plastic surgery was behind her new look. But it was during the same gala's after party, at Soho House West Hollywood, where the actress' apparently radically redesigned features first caused a real stir—and some embarrassing moments for Renée.

"Soho House is a private members' club with a strict policy that every visitor has to check in with an attendant on the first floor," a source tells *Star*. "Though Renée is a member, the staffer didn't recognize her and thought she was just some party crasher trying to get in! Thankfully, Jennifer Lawrence was close behind her and confirmed her identity."

#### THE EYES HAVE IT

After photos of her transfigured visage became an Internet sensation, Renée, 45, finally addressed the issue. Laughing off talk of plastic surgery as "silly," she insisted, "I'm glad folks think I look different," and attributed her changed appearance to a "healthier, happier lifestyle." But an expert contacted by *Star* believes Renée has indeed gone under the knife.

"In my opinion, Renée could have had numerous procedures performed on her," says Beverly Hills-based plastic surgeon Dr. Ashkan Ghavami, who has not treated the actress. "The shape of her eyes has definitely changed. This could likely be from upper and lower eyelid surgery. And her lowered brow is usually a result of overzealous use of Botox." Dr. Ghavami, who calls Renée "beautiful," adds that her skin "looks good and may be the result of frequent facials, laser treatments and/or peels, which nearly everyone in front of the camera gets."

Whatever the reason for her fresh-faced new look, Renée is clearly in a good place in her life. "My friends say that I look peaceful," says the Oscar winner, who has moved in with her boyfriend of two years, musician **Doyle Bramhall II**. "I'm living a different, happy, more fulfilling life. I'm thrilled with that, and perhaps it shows." She adds that she's "growing as a creative person—and finally growing into myself."

—LACY LOONEY,  
SARAH CORDES & ALEX BURTON ★

2005

#### WHO'S THAT GIRL?

Plastic surgeon Dr. Ashkan Ghavami believes Renée may have gotten an eye lift—and a source close to Renée agrees. "Renée was always known for her narrow eyes, which she never liked, but now they're big and round," says the insider. "It's sad that she has always hated the part of her face that made her unique and special."

NOW

#### WHO'S THAT GIRL?

Plastic surgeon Dr. Ashkan Ghavami believes Renée may have gotten an eye lift—and a source close to Renée agrees. "Renée was always known for her narrow eyes, which she never liked, but now they're big and round," says the insider. "It's sad that she has always hated the part of her face that made her unique and special."

THE OSCAR WINNER SHOCKED THE WORLD WHEN SHE SHOWED UP AT AN EVENT LOOKING LIKE SOMEONE ELSE ENTIRELY. IS IT PLASTIC SURGERY... OR, AS RENÉE INSISTS, A HAPPIER, HEALTHIER LIFE?

Renée Zellweger

ABOUT FACE!

#### THE LOVER WHO'S MADE RENÉE "HAPPY"



Renée and Doyle Bramhall II

THE ACTRESS HAS BEEN MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC WITH GUITARIST DOYLE BRAMHALL II — BUT HER ROMANTIC HISTORY WITH MUSICIANS HAS BEEN FILLED WITH SOUR NOTES.

**R**ENÉE is adamant that "making a home [and] loving someone" has played a huge part in her new appearance — and that someone is guitarist Doyle Bramhall II, 45, a native of Austin, Texas, who's toured for years with rock superstar Eric Clapton. Doyle dated Sheryl Crow before hooking up with Renée in 2012, and he has two children from a previous marriage to singer Susannah Melvoin. "His late dad, a singer and drummer, was a Texas legend," a family friend tells *Star*. "But like his dad, Doyle has had problems with alcohol and drugs, mostly heroin. But he's clean now, lucky for Renée. It's also lucky for Renée that Doyle seems devoted to her — he has a way with the ladies, even though he's actually a bit awkward socially and on the short side. But he was back in Austin recently without Renée, and he totally behaved himself."

Renée had better hope that this love affair turns out better than the others she's had with musicians through the years.

She famously cited "fraud" when filing for divorce against Kenny Chesney in 2005 after just four months of marriage. She twice tried to make a go of it with White Stripes frontman Jack White — and failed both times. And heavy metal bassist Sims Ellison, Renée's former live-in love in Austin, committed suicide in 1995 at the age of 28, two years after Renée left him behind to find stardom in Hollywood.



Kenny Chesney



Jack White



Sims Ellison