



**miessence**  
**certified organic**  
*botanical perfumes*

*“Matter is the most spiritual in the perfume of plants.”*

Rudolf Steiner

Miessence certified organic *botanical perfumes* are hand-blended in the traditional artisan method of natural perfumery using rare and exquisite botanical extracts, absolutes and essential oils solely as their aromatic source.

They are imbued with a depth of character lacking in synthetic perfumes.

## *Why wear perfume?*

Perfume is a personal way to communicate one's sensuality and attractiveness.

It can become an integral part of one's personality as much as one's type of skin, voice or smile.

## *The many reasons to anoint:*

To attract and seduce the opposite sex

To improve one's mood or state of mind

To boost one's level of self confidence

To refresh, energise, calm or nurture ourselves



# *Botanical aromatic sources*

Plants have long been used in perfumery as aromatic sources.

The entire cornucopia of aromatic plants are explored in our perfumes...

flowers, fruits, blossoms, leaves, twigs, barks, resins, woods, roots, rhizomes and seeds are all utilised for a multifaceted aromatic experience.

A single plant can offer more than one source of aromatics, for instance orange leaves, blossoms, and fruit peel are the respective sources of petitgrain, neroli, and orange oils.



## *barks:*

A commonly used bark is cinnamon

## *flowers and blossoms:*

Includes the flowers of rose, ylang ylang, jasmine, frangipani, lavender and orange blossoms.

## *fruits:*

The most commonly used fruits yield their aromatics from the peel; including oranges, lemons, and limes. Fresh fruits such as apples, strawberries, cherries do not yield the expected odours when extracted; if such fragrance notes are in a perfume they are synthetic. A notable exception is vanilla.

## *leaves and twigs:*

Commonly used for perfumery are lavender leaf, patchouli, rosemary, and citrus leaves. Leaves are valued for the "green" smell they bring to perfumes.

## *roots, rhizomes and bulbs:*

Commonly used terrestrial portions in perfumery include iris rhizomes and vetiver roots.

## *seeds:*

Commonly used seeds include tonka bean, cocoa and anise.

## *resins:*

Valued since antiquity, resins have been widely used in incense and perfumery. Highly fragrant and antiseptic resins have been used by many cultures as medicines for a large variety of ailments. Commonly used resins in perfumery include frankincense, myrrh, Peru balsam and gum benzoin.

## *woods:*

Highly important in providing the base notes to a perfume, wood oils are indispensable in perfumery. Commonly used woods include sandalwood and cedarwood.

## *honeycomb:*

From the honeycomb of the honeybee. Beeswax is extracted with ethanol and the ethanol evaporated to produce beeswax absolute.

## *lichens:*

A commonly used lichen is oakmoss.

<b>Characteristics of</b>	<i>Natural perfumes</i>	<i>Synthetic perfumes</i>
<b>Purpose</b>	Aromatically aesthetic with therapeutic benefits.	Aromatically aesthetic.
<b>History</b>	~ 4000 years.	~ 100 years.
<b>Lineage</b>	Linked to nature, beauty and ritual.	Linked to developments in chemistry.
<b>Ingredient sources</b>	Essential oils, extracts and absolutes.	Mainly, if not totally, synthetic fragrance.
<b>Cost</b>	Very expensive raw materials.	Most fragrance chemicals are inexpensive.
<b>Number of ingredients</b>	~10 to 30.	Can be over 100.
<b>Composition</b>	Intricate orchestration of elements and with thousands of chemical compounds	Mixture of single-aroma chemicals.
<b>Scent complexity</b>	Deep and complex fragrance notes. Softer with subtle scent nuances.	Simple and pronounced fragrance notes. Structural and defined.
<b>Variance</b>	Vary by the times and locations where they are harvested.	Consistent.
<b>Structure</b>	Designed around volatility of head, heart and base notes.	Can manipulate structure.
<b>Duration on skin</b>	Few hours.	Day or more.
<b>Dry-down on skin</b>	Evolves with body chemistry.	Synthetic.

## *A rose by any other name...*

Rose oil is produced by a water distillation process in copper stills.

It takes 3,000 to 5,000 kg of flowers (more than one million flowers!) to produce 1 kg of rose oil.

A collector usually gathers 25 kg of blossoms a day.

Scientists have been trying to replicate the essence of rose for a long time, but there are many constituents of rose yet to be discovered.

So far, more than 140 constituents have been found in rose oil. Its main components are: citronellol, geraniol and nerol.

However, numerous minor components contribute significantly to the richness and complexity of its fragrance.



# *Natural vs synthetic aromatic components*

Aromatic components of essential oils, such as **limonene** and **linalool** occur naturally as a constituents in many essential oils. E.g one of the natural constituents of lemon essential oil is limonene, and one of the natural constituents of lavender essential oil is linalool.

These aromatic chemicals can also be manufactured synthetically:

*Chemical synthesis* of linalool is by way of 2-methyl-2-hepten-6-one. It may start from reaction of acetylene with acetone resulting in 3-methyl-1-buten-3-ol, which is hydrated over a palladium catalyst to 3-methyl-1-buten-3-ol, that is in turn reacted with either diketene or acetic acid ester to the acetoacetate and the latter thermally reacted to 2-methyl-2-hepten-6-one.

When produced synthetically they can cause allergic reactions and other health problems.

Recent EU legislation requires manufacturers to list the aromatic components in their products; whether natural constituents of essential oils or synthetic fragrance chemicals.

This can be confusing for label readers!

It is important when reading ingredient labels to check whether the aromatic components are naturally occurring from essential oils, which is usually stated.

All products we make that list these aromatic components are natural constituents of the essential oils used and not the synthetic versions.

One *natural perfumer* likens the difference between natural and synthetic perfumes to listening to two similar instruments with black and white keys...

*Natural* perfumes would be like an old Steinway piano:  
rich, reverberating, full of subtle harmony and complexity;  
fascinating history and human stories.



*Synthetic* perfumes would be more like an electric keyboard:  
consistent, clean, perfect notes in tone and pitch, but lacking in  
true depth and character.



# Aromatic Notes

Perfume is described in a musical metaphor as having three sets of 'notes', making the harmonious aromatic symphony. These notes are created carefully with knowledge of the evaporation process (dry down) of the perfume.

## *head notes:*

- Consist of small, light molecules that evaporate quickly
- Perceived immediately on application of a perfume
- Form the initial impression of a perfume



## *heart notes:*

- Form the body of a perfume
- Emerges just prior to the top notes dissipating
- Masks initial (unpleasant) impression of base notes



## *base notes:*

- Appears close to the departure of the heart notes
- Form the main theme of a perfume (with heart notes)
- Bring richness, depth and solidity to a perfume
- Usually not perceived until 30 minutes after application





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## *Love* floral botanical perfume

A delicate bouquet of the most precious flowers of high perfumery blended with a sweet combination of powdery musk and vanilla warmth.

*Aromatic signature: soft, floral and romantic.*

*For when you want to feel:*

blossoming, romantic, sweet, beautiful, adored, harmonious, loved, charming, enchanting, flirtatious, passionate, glamorous, open

*head notes*

Indian frangipani, Italian mandarin

*heart notes*

Egyptian jasmine, Italian orange blossom, Bulgarian damask rose, Madagascan ylang ylang

*base notes*

Vanuatuan vanilla bourbon, Indian Ambrette seed



# *wild* oriental botanical perfume

A sweet and heady mix of oriental resins, opulent flowers, fragrant spices and amber.

Aromatic signature: warm, spicy and exotic.

*For when you want to feel:*

alluring, captivating, divine, ravishing, exotic, sensual, daring, rhythmic, intense, confident, intimate, risky, adventurous, fascinating, mesmerizing, enrapturing, hypnotising, riveting, mysterious, extravagant, ecstatic

*head notes*

French fennel, Sri Lankan cinnamon

*heart notes*

French orris root, Egyptian geranium, Bulgarian damask rose

*base notes*

Chinese benzoin resin, Indonesian patchouli, Somalian myrrh,  
Vanuatuan vanilla bourbon



# *Free* citrus botanical perfume

A cocktail of citrus fruits harmonised by hints of floral, woody and musky notes.

**Aromatic signature: tangy, bitter-sweet and fresh.**

*For when you want to feel:*

sweet, young, fresh, invigorated, vivacious, blissful, sparkling, jubilant, crisp, clear, refreshed, stimulated, bright, effervescent, clean, light, sharp, energetic, joyful, carefree, cheerful

*head notes*

Italian lemon, orange and bergamot, West Indian lime

*heart notes*

Bulgarian damask rose, Italian orange blossom

*base notes*

French tonka bean, Australian sandalwood, Indonesian patchouli



# *delicious* gourmand botanical perfume

A delicious dessert of chocolate, honey and vanilla with a floral hint of sweet jasmine.

Aromatic signature: euphoric, comforting and sweet.

*For when you want to feel:*

enchanting, luscious, passionate, delightful, intriguing, delectable, heavenly, succulent, delicious, sensual, ambrosial, heavenly, rare, mouth-watering, scrumptious, tempting, yummy

*head notes*

Italian bergamot

*heart notes*

Egyptian jasmine, Tanzanian cocoa absolute, Laotian honey absolute

*base notes*

Vanuatuan vanilla bourbon



# *brave* chypre botanical perfume

Redolent of the forest floor with a heart of delicate woods and earthy mosses complemented by a fresh, citrus bouquet.

**Aromatic signature: vibrant, earthy and green.**

*For when you want to feel:*

daring, strong, reassured, primordial, creative, courageous, stable, exuberant, charming, sensual, intriguing, impressive, quiet, persuasive, alluring, energetic, enticing, charismatic, magnetic

*head notes*

Italian lemon, orange and bergamot

*heart notes*

Italian orange blossom, Madagascan ylang ylang

*base notes*

Madagascan vetiver, Australian sandalwood, Macedonian oakmoss



## *calm* fougere botanical perfume

A composition of warm woods with a sweet and musky heart harmonised with aromatic herbs and spices.

Aromatic signature: warm, musky and elegant.

*For when you want to feel:*

virtuous, poised, magnanimous, balanced, harmonious, aware, powerful, sensual, sacred, worthy, inspired, elegant, graceful, peaceful, protected, still, tranquil, supported

*head notes*

Italian bergamot, Egyptian geranium

*heart notes*

French lavender and tonka bean, Sri Lankan clove bud

*base notes*

Australian sandalwood, French atlas cedarwood,  
Chinese benzoin resin, Vanuatuan vanilla bourbon

# Perfume application

All perfumes smell different on different people.

To get the true aromatic signature of your *botanical perfumes* you must apply it to your skin, not sniff it from the bottle.

Individual body chemistry, skin condition, diet, medication, lifestyle and stress all have a bearing on the aroma of your *botanical perfumes*.

Your *botanical perfumes* interact with you to create your own unique aromatic signature that evolves over time.

For a lingering aromatic experience, apply your *botanical perfumes* to the body's pulse points: wrist, neck, cleavage and behind the ears.

## *How long and how often?*

You may not be aware of the fragrance of your *botanical perfume* after a while because the sense of smell becomes quickly fatigued.

Typically it takes our nose about five minutes to get used to a scent.

The aroma is still there and is easily detectable to other people.

Your *botanical perfume* will last a few hours, so it's perfectly acceptable to reapply again during the day and again in the evening.

# Perfume storage and preservation

An open flask should keep its aroma intact for up to a year.

The aromatic compounds in the *botanical perfumes* break down if stored incorrectly in the presence of heat, light, and oxygen.

To best preserve your *botanical perfumes*, keep them in their original canister when not in use, and refrigerate at temperatures between 3-7 degrees Celsius.

To prevent the degradation of the quality of the *botanical perfumes*, ensure the flask is properly sealed to prevent it from mixing with dust and skin.



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