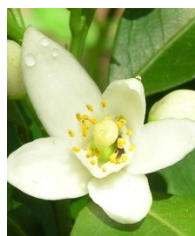


## *Eau de Cologne Challenge* for the Winter of 2012



*Neroli, Bergamot, Lavender, Rosemary*

**Sponsored** by Coeur d'Esprit Natural Perfumes in Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada

**Beginning** on Feb 1, 2012 with an end-date of March 31, 2012

**The Evaluations done and Prize** to be sent out by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Parfum Eau de Cologne** – *A NEW TWIST ON AN OLDE IDEA*

The original “Eau de Cologne” (as it was dubbed by the French) was created by an Italian man named Gian Paolo Feminis, a barber, who moved to Köln, Germany and then created “Aqua Admirabilis” using Grape Spirits, Neroli, Bergamot, Lavender, and Rosemary. It was released in 1709 and soon became known as Eau de Cologne (Köln).

Over the years, there have been many ingredients used to make this simple citrus/herbal scent: bergamot, lemon, orange, tangerine, lime, grapefruit, neroli, lavender, rosemary, thyme, petitgrain orange, and jasmine.

So we're going to take a deeper perspective on the idea of “Eau de Cologne”.

Usually, cologne strength is 3-5 %; we are making ours at a strength of 22% and paying attention to fixation, hence one (and only one) animal ingredient is allowable within the fifteen ingredients. Our end product will smell like “Eau de Cologne” but behave like a perfume.

What does that mean? The scent profile for this aromatic is typically bracing, refreshing, and light, with a heart of sparkling citrus. So now, three hundred years later, our composition will reflect this as we honour Gian Paolo Feminis and his idea of light-hearted fragrance that should be available to all.

**Guidelines:** Please be fair to others and ensure that, when you sign up, you intend to follow through with this project as only the **first ten (10) Registrants** will be taken then the registering process will be closed.

Anyone who wishes to **Register**, please do so now and send an email to me with the following information: [LynAyre@telus.net](mailto:LynAyre@telus.net)

your full name

mailing address

phone number

recent photo

Website URL

permission to post your entry on my Blog

at <http://coeurdespritnaturalperfume.blogspot.com/> and Website

at <http://www.scentofnature.net/>

Please ensure you follow all the 'guidelines'. In the first challenge, people 'lost points' for not including a data tag, using an incorrect amount of ingredients, not sending a photo, and so on.

1. No matter if your perfume is based in alcohol or oil, the end product should be clear and free from imperfections. The way to do this is to refrigerate, filter, and/or use a pipette to suck up all but the floating/sunken bits into another container. If your perfume has had a chance to sit for a month or so, and you have shaken it periodically, the more dense particulates will have diluted themselves into the alcohol or oil. Leave it sit again for a few days then draw off the clear part and put it in your final bottle.

Imagine you are doing all of this for a high-end client and really want to impress him or her. This is very good practice for when this happens for you.

2. For the **Eau de Cologne** challenge you are allowed 15 ingredients all together, not including the alcohol or oil. This includes 1 (one) animal ingredient, if you like.

3. A **Data Tag** must be attached ie: name of the perfume, list of the ingredients, name the base, your company information (even if it's simply your name and contact information), the size of the end product ie: 5 ml; precautions, how to use, and the 'best before date'. (See first two challenges for an idea of what a Data Tag looks like).

#### 4. Please follow these directions

Submit the perfume and the following to me by March 31st (You are not disqualified for being late but you do lose some points.)

- o send two 1 ml sample vials of perfume for evaluation via the postal mail
- o base can be clear alcohol or oil (these do not count as part of the 15)
- o If you use a scented tincture or maceration as your base, that will count as an ingredient.
- o write 5 sentences that tell the vision behind your new creation and submit via email
- o write 5 sentences about who you are in relation to Natural Perfumery and submit via email
- o email me the notes in your perfume
- o email me your photo

**We hope that Perfumers** from all over the world will participate in this challenge. We use natural perfume components to create our scents. These can include Natural Isolates, and ethically produced animal ingredients.

**Each perfumer is graded 1-10** on the following categories: how well they followed the above instructions; their vision of the perfume's creation; a short five-sentence bio; a recent photo; a Data Tag with pertinent information about their perfume; the balance, character, diffusion, tenacity, and structure of their creation.

#### **A Natural Perfume has the following qualities:**

- o Balance – so that no single component can be detected, unless it is a Soliflore
- o Character – The twists and turns of a perfume as it evolves on the skin. What kind of a perfume is this? Is it a raunchy riot? Is it soft and gentle? Where does it take you? What's at the heart of it? Does it have personality? How do the layers unfold? Who would this perfume appeal to?
- o Diffusion – does it surround the wearer with an aura of scent?

- o Structure – Is there harmony in the mix? Have the base, heart, and head notes been properly addressed? Are the proportions correct for these ingredients so that there is balance, character, diffusion, and tenacity? Is there cohesion? Does it have dimension?
- o Tenacity – staying power is the ability of a perfume to last on the wearer for more than just a couple of hours

Three countries are represented this time: Canada, the US, and South Africa. Interesting to note that 4/6 perfumers used Petit grain sur fleur, as did I when I constructed mine; 3/6 used Myrrh.

## *And the Results are In*

*Here are the Perfumers along with my Review*



### **“Soen Water”**

by: Sophia Shuttleworth, South Africa  
African Aromatics <http://africanaromatics.com/int/>

**Bio:** The first time I was stung by a bee was when I was busy brewing a perfume from the local vegetation at six years old. I took it as a sign that the bee liked my perfume. Ever since then I have been exploring the scents of nature. Through my research into ancient anointing oils and early perfumes and aromatics, I discovered the art of natural perfumes. After many years of self-study I started to market my perfumes and founded African Aromatics. All my perfumes contain African elements in them and extracts I made myself. Nature and Africa continue to serve as my inspiration. We who live in Africa are all infused with the soul and spirit of Africa, so are my perfumes.

**Vision:** The first perfume I was given as a gift was Kölnisch Wasser Eau de Cologne. I still have it in its original box. In the old Afrikaner cultural tradition Eau de Cologne was a regular Christmas or birthday gift, it was even given a local name of “Olie Kolonie” a play on how it was

pronounced locally. To compose my version of Eau de Cologne for the challenge, I hauled out my original gift and smelled. It had the well known citrus herbal top notes and dried down into a woody musk base. For my version, I wanted to retain the citrus herbal top notes but add a fresh floral heart interwoven with green Cedar notes that fades into a woody base with a gentle green thread. I called it Soen Water (Kissing Water) reminiscent of the kisses received for the gift and future kisses.

**Notes:** Australian Sandalwood, Ambergris, Green Cognac, Violet Leaf, Orange Blossom, Jasmine grandiflora, Cedar Atlas, Petit grain sur fleur, Rosemary, Lime, Omumbiri (Commiphora wildii), Bergamot, Lemon, Lavender, and Ginger lily blossom enfleurage in Sugar Cane Alcohol.

**Review:** Smelling Soen Water is like sidling up to an old friend; you know their scent and it feels familiar and safe. There is such a warm radiant diffusion from this perfume as I sit and do my work today. The classic Eau de Cologne aroma is forefront then the comforting embrace of the florals comes forth. I'm so enjoying this scent. The drydown was watery, ethereal, and elusive. This scent is well-named. Good tenacity on the scent strip.



## **“Twilight Mist”**

by Marilyn Bonner, USA

Rochelle Boleyn Natural Perfumes [www.naturalperfumescents.com](http://www.naturalperfumescents.com)

**Bio:** Spiritual journeys expressed through aromatic scents, creative art, and science has been my lifelong passion to bring healing and pleasure to the body, mind, soul and spirit through these mediums. I'm an Independent Natural Perfumer and Registered/Certified Aromatherapist who loves to research information about ancient perfumery secrets, learn optimum extraction methods to capture the delicate scent from flowers whose fragrances remain difficult to extract despite modern technology, and discover how their special energetic vibration patterns (life force of the flower) can help individuals release deep-seated emotional trauma issues and create a bridge for healing between the physical body and spirit.

**Vision:** As a child I have fond memories of being awakened by a spring breeze blowing gently through my bedroom window during the twilight hours, just before the dawn of day. The cool air was crisp and refreshing, filled with nuances of dew kissed spring blossoms, and the outdoor freshness of sun-dried cotton sheets. Twilight Mist was created in remembrance of a spring rendezvous.

**Notes:** Lime, Bergamot, Rosemary Flower, Lavender, Neroli, Petitgrain bigarde, Rosewood, Narcissus, Jasmine, Rose, Ambrette Seed, Himalayan Cedar, Patchouli, Bay, Clary Sage.

**Review:** "Twilight Mist" offers up a lovely bouquet of herbal flowers. I envision a young girl in a field of wildflowers holding onto a bunch of fresh-picked aromatics; the colours, pleasing her eyes; the scents teasing her nose. Then she walks into the forest and another set of scents come in... earthy patchouli and the fresh smell of cedarwood. The drydown is earthy, and the tenacity is good. The diffusion is good. This is a lovely perfume and I loved to smell it.



## **"Arabica"**

By: Bruce Bolmes, USA  
SMK Fragrance [sales@smk-fragrance.com](mailto:sales@smk-fragrance.com)

**Bio:** My interest for scents started many years ago. During the 1960's and early 1970's my fascination with scents exploded with the opening of the incense shops loaded with all kinds of new aromas and limited essential oils of that era. Later, during my years as a chef and owner of a European cuisine restaurant, I began to experiment with various essential oils and extracts in developing new and creative recipes. I also have produced various tinctures and extracts for the lure business. My natural perfuming interest is a way I can express my love for nature.

**Vision:** My inspiration for this perfume contest was actually based on one of the criteria for the contest; fixation. While researching historic eau de colognes I discovered that due to the make-up these types of fragrances, fixation is a difficult task. Typically since eau de colognes are just that, a cologne water, they are short lived on the skin. I experimented with a number of the

older fixatives that had been typically used; however most of those combinations did not produce the result I was looking for, especially since this was a perfume strength fragrance. In the end, I choose Ambrette seed absolute along with a combination of the older fixatives to produce an eau de cologne that has a tenacity of an eau de perfume.

**Notes:** bergamot, petitgrain sur fleurs, citron, lemon, lavender, rosemary absolute, neroli, sweet orange, elimi, blood orange, ambrette seed absolute, coffee flower absolute, benzoin tincture, myrrh tincture.

**Review:** A bright, flashy Citron/Lemon accord makes my eyes pop open a bit. It wakes me up. It's like a shooting star, though, fabulous while it's there but gone too soon. The expertly woven accord of Ambrette/Myrrh/Benzoin takes over completely and is persistent throughout the drydown. It's still on the card seven days later. If you like musk, you will absolutely love "Arabia". Well done on the Musk accord, Bruce.



## **"Golden Bee"**

by Suzy Larsen, Canada

Naked Leaf Perfume <http://www.nakedleaf.ca/>

**Bio:** During my aromatherapy studies at Mount Royal College I became entranced with everything related to scent. I was amazed at the phenomenal healing capacity of essential oils but even more than that I was ecstatic and relieved to find an alternative to commercial fragrances. From my early teens my mother would spoil me with high end perfumes from Liz Claiborne and Yves Saint Laurent but I was increasingly becoming too sensitive to wear or even be around scents with synthetic chemicals. All fell into place when I launched Naked Leaf



Perfumes in 2007 after a few years of intensive self-study immersing myself in natural perfumery. My motto is love the earth, love yourself, love your perfume.

**Vision:** Golden Bee is my tribute to one man's love of BEES. Besides his women, Napoleon loved his eau de cologne using up to 600 bottles a year. He also had a penchant for the Bee as that is the symbol he chose to adorn his Coat of Arms, his Legion of Honor and his opulent drapes. Golden Bee, Naked Leaf Perfume's modern take on the classic eau de cologne that captured Napoleon's heart in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, contains the vibrant, fresh and elegant combination of neroli, citron, lavender, bergamot and rosemary flower plus the surprising twist of beeswax absolute. Warm, sweet, comforting and tenacious, beeswax absolute lends Golden Bee's symphony of fresh citrus a honeyed-veil of depth and intrigue that surely would have tickled Napoleon's fancy even more.

**Notes:** Aged Patchouli, Fir Balsam absolute, Indonesian Vetiver, Egyptian Neroli, Bitter Orange absolute, Litsea Cubeba, South African Rosemary Flower, Bergamot, Lavender Mont Blanc, Pink Grapefruit, Citron, and French Beeswax absolute in Organic Grape Alcohol.

**Review:** Golden Bee is a very classy perfume. Suzy has created a first-rate Eau de Cologne accord and, when I smell this scent and can unequivocally say, 'this smells like Eau de Cologne'. The Lavender/Citrus is lively and fresh. After some time, it then takes on a smoky hue, which is quite provocative. It's well-balanced without any one chord overtaking another so the structure is right on. The diffusion is good. The Fir/Patchouli chord is enticing. Long Live the "Golden Bee" and his ambassador, Suzy.



## **"ACQUA di CALLITRIS"**

by: Maggie Mahboubian, USA  
Lalun Naturals <http://lalunnaturals.com/>

**Bio:** Prior to becoming a perfumer she was an architect with her own practice in Los Angeles. Drawing from her background in design she explores the aesthetic intersection between architecture and perfumery where her fragrances form invisible constructs. Fundamental to



her work as a perfumer is Maggie's garden where she grows many of the plants she extracts for her perfumes. Her extractions are combined with high quality, naturally derived aromatics to create unique and complex olfactory experiences. Maggie Mahboubian studied natural perfumery with Lyn Ayre.

**Vision:** A classic eau de cologne that opens with a fresh citrus burst. A floral linden accord is built around the watery notes of Australian blue cypress. Callitris graces us with her camphoraceous, minty top notes that give way to soft, herbal, woody shades. A hint of incense comes from labdanum which casts a golden shadow as the perfume dries down. The overall impression is that of gazing into an aqua pool of water and seeing the graceful reflection of this lovely tree.

**Notes:** Australian Blue Cypress, Vetiver, Labdanum, Linden, Mimosa, Methyl Anthranilate NI, Jasmine grandiflorum Enfleurage, Grapefruit, Rosemary, Lavender, Silver Fir Needle, Citral NI, Limettol NI, and Petitgrain sur Fleurs in a base of 190 proof alcohol.

**Review:** At the beginning of this post, I note that *'the scent profile for this aromatic aroma is typically bracing, refreshing, and light, with a heart of sparkling citrus'*. Maggie has truly captured this core and built a restoring and balancing frame around it. As a result of the added Grapefruit and Jasmine, the fruity notes fill the heart and remain throughout. There's almost a 'concord grape' scent about it. It all brightly shines away, putting a smile on my face, it's so happy with itself. The Vetiver/Labdanum drydown stays for four days on the scent strip.



## **“Eau du Ritz”**

by: Janet Teas, USA

**Bio:** With a bachelor's degree in music, Janet's love of the sights and sounds of the 1920s inspired her to create a line of Jazz Age-Inspired natural perfumes and body care. Many of her creations are handcrafted while enjoying the life-affirming, jaunty songs of the 1920s and 1930s with their wonderful energy. Janet participated in a previous perfume challenge sponsored by

Coeur d'Esprit, and is a member of the Independent Perfumer's Guild. Janet is currently studying with Lyn Ayre, Ph.D. (founder of Coeur d'Esprit Natural Perfumes and natural perfumery teacher).

**Vision:** Eau du Ritz is a Citrus Aromatic for women and men. Inspiration comes from the popular 1929 song "Puttin' on the Ritz" written by Irving Berlin. "Ritz" refers to the posh hotel chain established in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by Cesar Ritz, and is also a descriptive noun referring to the upper echelon of society. Eau du Ritz celebrates the late 1920s attitude and snappy feel of "Puttin' on the Ritz" with zesty top notes of fresh Citrus and Coriander, middle notes of herbal Lavender Absolute, Basil Absolute and Litsea Cubeba, all on a base of Labdanum, Myrrh and Vanilla. *So if you're blue and you don't know where to go to, Put on Eau du Ritz!*

**Notes:** Ambrette Seed, Benzoin, Vanilla Absolute, Myrrh, Labdanum Absolute, Litsea Cubeba, Lavender Absolute, Petitgrain sur Fleurs, Basil Absolute, Neroli, Orange Essence (steam distilled), Lime Essence (steam distilled), Bergamot FCF, Clary Sage, and Coriander Seed in Perfumer's Alcohol.

**Review:** This scent makes **me** want to put on the Ritz as it takes me through my paces. The cheerful opening refrains of lime and orange make me grin ear to ear. The next line of melody is spicy and herbal with basil, coriander, and aromatic lavender. Finally, the base line warmth of labdanum comes through and remains consistent throughout the drydown. Okay, so here it is – 'I'm at a dance, all happy and bright; I meet a chap and we become a little spicy; as the evening wears on, I become more and more demure'. This is where 'Eau de Ritz' takes me. Thank you, Janet, for this lovely trip.

## *And the Winner Is:*

### **“ACQUA di CALLITRIS”**

by: Maggie Mahboubian, USA

Maggie’s perfume showed good structure and balance firmly grounded in earthy notes and maintaining the Eau de Cologne aroma throughout the very long drydown. The diffusion rated a 9/10 for me. Top marks in all categories.

#### **The Prize**



A beautiful 5 ml Atomizer of “Eau d’Espirt” by Coeur d’Espirt Natural Perfume; perfect to carry with you. You can read about this perfume on my ‘Perfume Creations’ page at

[www.scentofnature.net](http://www.scentofnature.net)

**Congratulations, Maggie Mahboubian**



*Winner of the 2012 Challenge for best*

*Eau de Cologne*

*Maggie Mahboubian*

*Acqua di Callitris*



*with my thanks and congratulations, Maggie.*

*Your composition captured the essence of what an*

*Eau de Cologne Perfume is,*

*and you excelled in all named categories.*

*Dated: 2 May 2012*

*Signed: Lyn E. Ayre, Natural Perfumer*

*Coeur d'Esprit Natural Perfumes*