

The Smell Test:

Burberry Brit Rhythm Floral for Women

The Verdict: This fragrance has its attributes, such as cuteness and comfort - even well-crafted elegance and sultriness. But for some judges, it's too familiar and far too timid.

By PETE BORN

"Subtle and feminine, this scent is a good choice for someone who wants her fragrance to whisper, not shout,"

"Sultry, sensuous, addictive, feminine, sophisticated oriental."

"I like this because a man or a woman could wear this easily. It is like the vintage Jicky de Guerlain, as it revels in androgyny. But it reminds me of a licky that has been on a diet for too long. I would have liked the central accord to have been way more accentuated. There should have been some more contrast.'



"A flanker formula: appealing top notes, bland signature."



"Brilliantly ambiguous oriental, maps out a novel space between Habanita [Molinard] and Loulou [Cacharel]. Lovely stuff."

"Warm, spicy, powerful

"If you like the smell of your barber or of the masculine sweet Sixties, you will like this one. Not original, direct copy of known scents learnt in perfumery training, such as Brut by Fabergé made lighter, but still cute.'

"Fresh and clean. Green and lavender type. Very light, specially adapted for now, can be put all over the body, but does not smell like a sophisticated perfume.

"Elegant without being aloof or highmaintenance, this fragrance has several distinctive phases and a beautiful development. Intriguing and memorable."



"This fragrance may go in Beauty Care (Johnson & Johnson Baby Powder). No special refinement and modernity but well done, although too linear."





Paul Austin



Jean-Claude Delville

Karen Dubin



Victoria Frolova rance industry analyst and Bois de Jasmin editor.

Christophe Laudamiel



Nathalie Pichard



Luca Turin Biophysicist and perfume critic for arabia.style.com.



Chantal Roos



Kevin Verspoor

Esteemed Judges

THIS IS A BLIND TEST: Panelists are given vials of unidentified scent to judge impartially. Each of them gives a score ranging from 1 (forgettable) to 10 (unforgettable) and the numbers are computed into a final grade. The judges, led by chairman Michael Edwards, also make critiques, which are unattributed to encourage candor. The most promising scents are picked for judging in an effort to find and showcase excellence WWD buys the products at retail, like any other consumer.

How would you rate the fragrance? Visit WWD.com/beauty-industry-news to vo