

The Smell Test: Editions de Parfums Frédéric Malle Cologne Indélébile

"A very lovely departure, very cologne, with fresh and happy notes - quite exquisite. Too bad the base notes are not as good. The drydown is deceptive."

"Ah, eau de cologne reinterpreted. Beautifully balanced, marvelously fresh vet tenacious."

> "This is a lovely well-composed rendition of the classic orange blossom scent. What it lacks in uniqueness and creative innovation is made up for in a longlasting, distinctly feminine fragrance that immediately transports me to Tuscany."

> > "Harsh,

acidic top

notes, clean drydown."

A majority of judges favored this summery scent, noting it was beautifully composed and fresh.

But on the other end of the spectrum, some felt it was "very simple" and "nothing new under the sun."

By JAYME CYK and PETE BORN

"A nicely crafted, sparkling eau de cologne that borders on boring. There doesn't seem to be anything new or newsworthy about this scent."

"A pretty, USA, white, creamy, solar, cosmetic, green floral. Good but already seen: Back to the Nineties."

"It smells a bit like a glorified Coppertone fragrance. The background lasts for many hours

with a very smooth yet powdered effect of the musks and light sweet notes. Although very simple in its construction, the wear is a pleasant one and easy to understand."

> "Very summery, fresh and crisp, a cocktail of orange flower, juicy mandarin, verbena and tuberose. I like the clean solar musk signature, however, it's nothing new under the sun."

"I was in a Sicilian orange blossom festooned fantasy until this perfume hit the ground, or rather, the raspy laundry musk base. Great start, rough landing."

"An easy citrus cologne with not much else around the clean orange flower note, apart from a watery jasmine note, a dissonant tarlike ambery note and a common white musk background Maybe a bit of sexy coconut would have made it more original and real cute to







Paul Austin



Jean-Claude Delville



Victoria Frolova rance industry analyst and Bois de Jasmin editor.



Nathalie Pichard



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



Karen Dubin



Christophe Laudamiel



Chantal Roos



Kevin Verspoor

Esteemed Judges

THIS IS A BLIND TEST: Panelists are given vials of an 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 vote.