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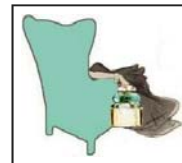


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Friday, March 30, 2007

Needle in a Haystack. Perfume Review: L'Artisan L'Ete en Douce

About Me



**Colombina
(Marina)
US**

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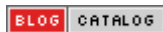
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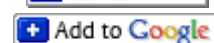
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The beginning of the scent scared me a little, in a sense that, with its barely-there musk and a hint of minty greenness, it was practically odor-less. But as soon as I started to grumble that it was yet another one of those scents that take understatement and minimalism to the ridiculous extreme, the floral accord started to blossom. I smelled a little orange blossom and a lot of linden. Now, linden is a very tricky note for me; in a lot of scents it has an incongruously gourmand, almost chocolat-like undertone, whereas I like my linden to smell greener, more ethereal. L'Ete en Douce achieves the desired effect by adding mint and hay to the blend. The former adds diaphanous coolness to the linden, the latter highlights the sweetly-green aspect of the note. The subtly-woody base further dries down (pun intended) the composition; quiet as it is, the fragrance lingers on the skin for quite a long time, finishing its development as a clean, musky skin-scent. L'Ete en Douce is refined and gentle, soft and gauzy; it strikes me as a kind of perfume that would be perfectly suitable for children as well as their elegant mamas. Little Miss Colombina and I must have a bottle for summer.

L'Ete en Douce is available at Barney's,

\$125.00 for 100ml.

Please visit **Aromascope** to read about Ina's Needle in a Haystack.

Labels: **L'Artisan, Needle in a Haystack, Olivia Giacobetti, Summer Scents**

posted by Colombina (Marina) |
12:03 AM

28 Comments:

Ina said...

You're in for a surprise, my sweets. There's ROSE in L'Ete en Douce. Yep! Rose, mint leaves, hay, white musk. You know you can trust me on this one. So, as much as you hate rose these days, it doesn't hate you back. L'Ete en Douce is indeed a seemingly barely there fragrance that sort of opens up on your skin when you least expect it. That said, it conjures up images of fresh, clean laundry drying in the back yard one summer afternoon... Ah, Sweet Summer! We need you!

10:43 PM EDT
colombina said...

Ina,
I know that
there is rose

among the
notes, but luckily
I get none of it,
not a tiny little
bit, zilch, nada,
nil. And I am
very grateful for
that :-) Can't
wait for
summer!

10:45 PM EDT
Ina said...

P.S. Love the ad!
I should e-mail it
to certain
someone. ;D

10:46 PM EDT
colombina said...

You totally
should :-)

10:46 PM EDT
Ina said...

Ah, OK, no
surprise for you
here then. I get
very light rose,
just a hint. I
mostly get hay
and white musk.

10:47 PM EDT
colombina said...

I get lotsa, lotsa
linden. Not a big
linden fan,
really, but it
works here,
because it is
light and gentle.
Did they
reformulate it
when they re-
released it?

10:49 PM EDT
Ina said...

I don't think
they did. It
smells identical
to me. It's also

exclusive to
Barney's right
now, and only
comes in the
large size.

10:51 PM EDT
colombina said...

Loved the older
bottle. Goutal
people are so
mean. But I
actually think
that this name
suits the scent
better than
Extrait de
Songes.

10:53 PM EDT
newproducts said...

This one sounds
charming but
not like
something that I
would crave. I'm
still caught
between my
warm "winter
scents" and
more summery
blends, just as
the weather is.
I'll see where my
cravings take me
on this sniffa!

1:27 AM EDT
Maria B. said...

I can't take La
Chasse aux
Papillons
seriously
because on me
the linden is so
pervasive. In my
native country
people drank
linden tea to
soothe their
nerves and go to
sleep. LCaP
doesn't soothe
me. It just sits
there

challenging me
to think of it as a
fragrance. I
know I would
bring out the
linden in L'Ete
en Douce. =:-0
(I don't want to
insult any
Chasse lovers.
It's just my
glitch.)

3:01 AM EDT
dinazad said...

Linden gets me
very naughty.
Seriously. I once
had one of those
headshop
perfume oils in
Linden, and the
moment I put it
on, my hormone
levels went a-
raging. When
the linden trees
on
Bahnhofstrasse
are in full bloom,
so am I! Extrait
de Songes (I
only tried it
under that
name), however,
was so ethereal
that it put me to
sleep before I
noticed any
notes at all.
Love the "Needle
in the Haystack"
idea! I've taken
to choosing the
scent of the day
that way (blind
grope in the
decant-and-
sample-box)
whenever I'm
undecided!

3:44 AM EDT
em said...

I just missed
getting one of
the last bottles of

Extrait de
Songes and keep
forgetting L'Ete
en Deuce is out
now. I really
loved the
original and
fortunately got
none of the rose
in it. Reading
your review
makes me
seriously think I
have to have a
bottle for
summer! And
your ad?
Excellent!!! :-)

6:35 AM EDT
lilyofbp said...

When this
version first
came out, I
discovered,
through a
fortunate
mistake, that it
was perfect for
me when layered
with L'Artisan
Vetiver: Voila!
L'Ete en not so
Douce:). And
yes,
Independent
Noses confirmed
this as well (you
are right, being
an IN would be a
wonderful job!)
Unfortunately,
my fragrance
doesn't fit your
lovely ad quite
as well as the
original:)

6:41 AM EDT
colombina said...

Minsun,
I think I moved
on from my
winter scents.
Apart from those
that have
leather, of

course, or
incense. Other
than that, it's all
about flowers
and delicate
thingies, like this
one :-)

I'd love to hear a
full report about
Sniffa and to see
pictures!!

7:38 AM EDT
colombina said...

Maria,
I think they do
the same in my
country too. :-)
Perhaps taken
internally linden
is soothing, for
me the smell
doesn't quite
work that way.
There is a
discontinued
Guerlain scent
called
Aromaparfum
Apaisant/Soothing
- thick, fluffy
linden with that
strange almost
chocolatty
undertone. If
anything, it
makes me more
stressed :-)
But L'Ete, on the
other hand, is
actually quite
soothing.

7:41 AM EDT
colombina said...

D,
Ooh, naughty
linden! :-) Never
thought about it
that way, but at
the very least the
smell of linden
trees in full
bloom put me in
a very romantic
mood :-)

7:42 AM EDT
elle said...

What a perfect
ad! I tried this
when it first
came out and
remember
thinking it was
nice, but
decidedly not
something I
needed. I think
for me it was the
white musk - I
wouldn't be at all
disturbed to see
that note banned
from perfumery.
It doesn't bother
me in the way
celery does, but
it manages to
throw a clean,
bland blanket
over scents that
makes me lose
my ability to
appreciate them.
Still, your
powers of
persuasion w/
this review have
me thinking I
need to go dig
out my sample
and retry this. I
want a scent
like that ad.

7:42 AM EDT
colombina said...

M,
Thank you!
The new bottle is
boring and has
that horrible
bolt-like cap, but
hey, it's all about
the scent (it
doesn't match
the scent! :-((

7:43 AM EDT
colombina said...

Judith,

That is a great
idea, to layer it
with Vetiver. No,
the ad wouldn't
do. We'd have to
dress the girl in
less feminine
clothes, in
earthier tones
and make her
pose in an aloof
manner :-)

7:45 AM EDT
colombina said...

L,
I absolutely
agree, white
musk is capable
of throwing a
clean, bland
blanket and
making a
composition
bland. It doesn't
quite happen
here, but I don't
think a scent
would have lost
any of it charm if
there wasn't
white musk. Not
a fan of clean,
white musks,
me :-)

7:47 AM EDT
ttmp00 said...

this sounds so
lovely

2:09 PM EDT
NowSmellThis
said...

Great review,
and do hope
L'Artisan
appreciates your
efforts on their
behalf -- love
that ad!!

2:11 PM EDT
boisdejasmin said...

I actually have a
large spray vial
of the original
Extrait de
Songes, which
was given to me
by none other
than Ina. :) It is
very lovely.

2:26 PM EDT
colombina said...

Tom,
It really is! :-)

2:31 PM EDT
colombina said...

R,
Thank you very
much! :-) They
can have it for a
couple of bottles
of something :-
DDD

2:33 PM EDT
colombina said...

V,
I have a feeling
that if I were to
count, at least
60% of my
samples would
turn out to be
from The
Magnificent
Enabler that is
the lovely Ina :-)

2:35 PM EDT
faizanjax said...

Sorry, to my
nose this is
extremely light
and stays at that
abstract
minimalist level.
I like how you
tried to coax
some substance
out of this
composition, but
to me this is a
very subdued,

disappointing
fragrance. Next!

11:18 PM EDT
colombina said...

F,
It is rather
subdued. I
believe when I
tried it a while
ago, when it was
still called
Extrait de
Songes, I was
disappointed. I
guess I am now
in the mood for
this kind of a
scent.

8:26 PM EDT

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