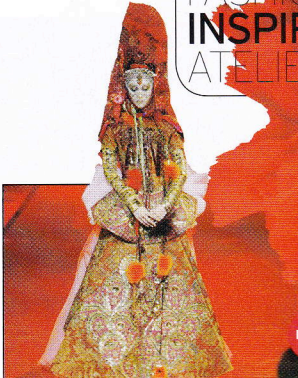


COUNTER CULTURE

Alchemy of Style

FASHION DESIGNERS BRING A STORYBOARD OF INSPIRATIONS WHEN THEY STEP OUT OF THE ATELIER AND INTO THE PERFUMERY. BY MEGAN DEEM



BULL MARKET

The toreador's cape in this Christian Lacroix fall 2002 couture gown symbolizes passion; **plum blossom** smells like it.



RED CARPET

After every Lacroix couture show, red (a color that "moves" the Frenchman) **carnations** are tossed onto the runway.



INTO THE WOODS

Lacroix wanted the eau to smell "smoky and magical, like a forest," so **oak** and **tree moss** notes were added.



Christian Lacroix Rouge



SPARK IT UP

"You get shivers from New York's energy at night," says Donna Karan. "So we started with a **chilled blackberry martini**."



BRIGHT IDEA

Crushed ginger "gives buzz, creating an effervescent sensation like pulsating lights do," Karan says.

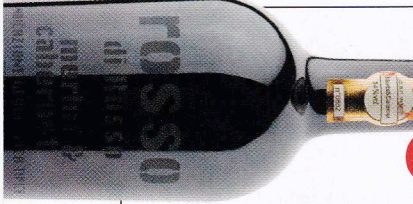


BASE INSTINCT

"Everyone knows my favorite scent of all time is **amber**," says the designer. "Here, it simmers with sensuality."



DKNY Delicious Night



WINE TASTING

Diesel founder Renzo Rosso translated his Rosso di Rosso Merlot & Cabernet, into a fragrance using **cassis**.



HIGHER POWER

Rosso envisions his **jasmine**-tinged perfume as an elixir God might have taken from man but Rosso is returning to earth.

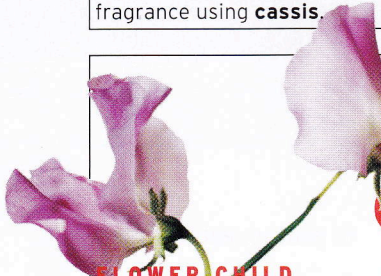


IN COUNTRY

"Being outdoors goes hand in hand with a sense of freedom," Rosso says. "**Patchouli** evokes that pleasure."



Diesel Fuel for Life for Women



FLOWER CHILD

"My grandmother had **sweet peas** in her garden when I was growing up," says rocker Gwen Stefani.



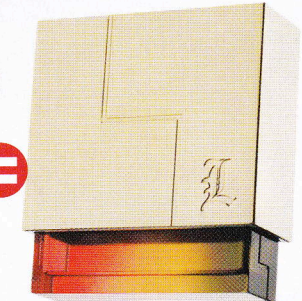
TINY BUBBLES

Stefani wanted her perfume to be glamorous, like a flute of sparkling champagne. **Water hyacinth** plays stand-in.



JUST PICKED

Warm **peach skin** and **musk** provide sex appeal to a scent that "incorporates all aspects of my personality," she says.



L, a L.A.M.B fragrance by Gwen Stefani

All still lifes: Vicente Pouso; amber, peaches, and flowers: gettyimages.com; New York street scene: Jerry Friedl/Getty Images; Sistine Chapel: Bridgeman Art Library; remaining images: courtesy of designers