

NARCISSUS AND JONQUILLE

The narcissus and jonquille are a "team" somewhat like neroli and orange flower. The narcissus odor can be best described as an extremely cloying mixture of gardenia, rose and hyacinth with neroli overtones. Its fragrance is so sweet that it is disagreeable to many people. As single floral fragrances, there have been very few versions of narcissus that have achieved any measure of popularity. The "black" narcissus fragrances, which were really narcissus fantasies rather than flower reproductions are the only exception of note in recent years.

However, the narcissus odor does have a moderate use as a flowery adjuvant in lilacs, hyacinths, chypres and fancy orientals. Traces are attractive in white roses and carnations.

The jonquille resembles a mixture of jasmin, tuberose and hyacinth, with nuances of rose and lilac. It is sweet but in a pleasant way in contrast to the cloying quality of narcissus. It should be an attractive single floral fragrance, but for some reason is not. Perhaps it has not been given enough consideration because of its relationship (in odor) to the narcissus.

Jonquille compositions find a substantial (and increasing) use as flowery adjuvants in fantasy fragrances, largely as variations on jasmin. They are especially good in fancy chypre designs, and as floral backgrounds for colognes containing petitgrain.

The following are the "purpose" classifications of the components of these two florals:

Basics

Para cresyl caprylate, para cresyl acetate, para cresyl phenylacetate, petitgrain, hydroxycitronellal, tolyl acetate, sandalwood, rhodinol, citronellol, geraniol, nerolin, vanillin.

Blenders

Terpineol, linalool, oil bergamot, cinnamic alcohol, hydratropyl alcohol, styrallyl propionate, cinnamyl acetate, cinnamyl isovalerate.

Adjutants

Ylang Bourbon extra, benzyl acetate, benzyl propionate, hydratropyl acetate, phenylethyl propionate, methyl anthranilate, dimethyl anthranilate octyl isobutyrate, oil of cananga (natural and terpeneless), benzyl isobutyrate, methyl ionone, alpha ionone, amyl salicylate, oil clary sage, anisic aldehyde, amyl cinnamic aldehyde, para cresol ethyl ether, para cresol methyl ether, heliotropine, oil sweet basil, oil estragon, patchouli oil, vetyvert, vetyvert acetate, citronellyl oxyacetaldehyde, aldehyde C-21 MNA, aldehyde "Veronol," acetates and propionates of rhodinol, citronellol geraniol, dimethyl octanol and its acetate, as well.

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