



SAY IT WITH SCENT

Let these luxurious fragrances envelop your senses this Valentine's Day, writes RACHEL READ

A BUNCH OF FLOWERS or box of chocolates might not last much longer than Valentine's Day itself – but there's no denying that a beautiful fragrance is timeless. After all, what could be more evocative than a perfectly crafted scent, with the power to trigger memories and stimulate senses with just one spritz?

Scent-lovers will find themselves spoilt for choice this February, with a raft of perfumes available that are designed to appeal to each and every personality. Bottega Veneta's new Knot Eau Florale is inspired by the Italian Riviera, with a delicate combination of rose, peony, mandarin and tonka beans that captures the sunny spirit of the Mediterranean.

Florals also come to the fore in Elie Saab's Rose Couture, where the most romantic of blooms is complimented by jasmine, orange blossom, rose nectar and sandalwood to create a radiant couture-inspired fragrance.

Roses also served as the muse for Les Parfums de Roisin's Rose d'Amour, a special Valentine's Day limited-edition scent available only at Parfumerie Trésor. Featuring top notes of rose morning dew, peach and grapefruit that develop into almond, cedar and sandalwood base notes, this is a light but sensuous fragrance that will appeal to any romantic.

Meanwhile, Givenchy's Live

Irresistible features an exhilarating blend of sharp pineapple, bold Jamaican allspice berries and warm amber, ideally suited to vibrant and vivacious spirits that dare to be different.

Cult American brand Fresh's signature scent Sugar smells almost good enough to eat, with a delicious mix of zesty lemon and bergamot, sweet caramel and vanilla, and soft white lily and heliotrope that's bound to invigorate.

Seductive and sophisticated, Black Orchid is Tom Ford's latest creation; heady notes of black truffle, bergamot and blackcurrant – plus, of course, a heart of intoxicating black orchid itself – are layered to form this dramatic and unique eau de toilette.

Guerlain favourite La Petite Robe Noire Eau Fraiche has a beautiful new bottle to go along with its delightful pistachio scent; decorated with buzzing bees and hand-sealed with a pastel green silk cord boudoirage, this is one perfume that's proud to hold court on any dressing table.

Meanwhile, for something a little different, Dior's Miss Dior Silky Body Mist combines the olfactory pleasures of perfume with the moisturising benefits of skincare all in a light and refreshing mist – allowing the trademark floral yet musky charms of Miss Dior to linger on the skin even longer. **P**