

A Fragrance Addict's Guide To Gift Giving

by Monique Dunn

(NAPSA)—For Christmas 2000, my true love gave to me...the floral inspired scent of Gucci Envy. Since then, I have become a self-certified fragrance addict and this holiday season I'm encouraging my family and friends to be as scent-uous as me. With this task at hand, I will bring them good cheer while I present each one with scents to match their unique personalities and tastes, and double as a gift that will last all year.

As I took a stroll through the wonderland of fragrance at the local department store, to what my wondering eyes did appear, but a fragrance selection that made me grin ear to ear. As I was dashing to each counter checking out the new scents, I went down my shopping list, and I knew right away these fragrances were it!

Spraying and sniffing the new arrivals, I was full of good cheer. I was thinking of my boyfriend, when I spotted the gift that would top all the past years. His impulsive and unpredictable personality has finally been captured in the new Dunhill scent, X-CENTRIC. This fresh, woody scent is perfectly charming. So quirky yet masculine, even the flip-top cap mechanism is inspiring.

Although I already know I'm one of my mother's treasures, her endearing words will be reiterated when she opens her gift and discovers something better than a new cashmere sweater: the new fragrance from Ellen Tracy, Inspire. This crisp floral scent perfectly fits my mom who is elegant, confident, cheerful and my most optimistic best friend.

My younger sister is going to get a "rush" after she opens her



Ellen Tracy Inspire: the perfect gift for my Mom this holiday season.

gift! Once again, Gucci has created another addictive scent, Rush 2, a transparent floral fragrance bottled in a radiant, electric pink square. I was so seduced by this blend of lily of the valley, rose, gardenia and musk that I purchased one for myself! It's a sensual fragrance that complements both my sexy Gucci stilettos and her favorite Gucci loafers!

My dad, the last person on my list, is a man who deserves a special gift. He's so intelligent and strong, I was sure purchasing Montblanc Presence for him, I couldn't go wrong. His passion and confidence can't be missed, I knew the warm mix of bergamot, ginger, cinnamon and sandalwood would smell wonderful on his wrist.

Finally...with the bundle of fragrances I had in my bag, I looked like a holiday shopper who truly went mad! As I exited the store, I was all aglow; satisfied with my purchases, my mouth drew like a bow. The holiday shopping experience that many do dread, ended with fragrant scents dancing in my head.