

# SNIFFAPALOOZA

## MAGAZINE



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### THE SCENT OF A WOMAN THE ESSENCE OF A LADY JULIET by Juliet Stewart



#### New Fragrance Review

By Suzanne Keller

There is an image of Isabella Rossellini that I've held in my mind since the late '80s, when she starred in the sweetly offbeat romantic comedy, *Cousins* (the Hollywood remake of the French film, *Cousin, Cousine*). The movie begins with a wedding, where new cousins-by-marriage, Rossellini and Ted Danson, strike up an acquaintance when they are left stranded at the reception by their respective spouses, who are off together having hanky-panky somewhere. The next day, with Rossellini convinced they've been cheated on, she and Danson decide to teach their spouses a lesson by having a pretend affair of their own, which in due time leads to an actual affair of which you can't help but applaud them. Both have quietly suffered through mismatched marriages and share a bond of maturity that places them in a realm completely apart from their superficial spouses.

That you root for them so strongly, however, is a credit that belongs almost entirely to Isabella Rossellini. She is the very picture of grace, charm and uncontrived beauty. With her girlish laugh and patrician European accent, you can't help but fall in love with her. Dressed conservatively in long flowy skirts paired with linen jackets, she makes "the other woman," Danson's wife (played by Sean Young), look foolish in her flashy, body-hugging dresses. While that's precisely the reaction the movie director wants you to have, the effect itself goes beyond what is intended. Isabella Rossellini is so calmly, quietly luminous in the film, she delivers true believability to the story and, at the same time, manages to steal every scene she's in without even trying.

About a month ago, someone sent me a fragrance sample that perfectly recalled this vision of Isabella Rossellini that I became fixated with so long ago. Whether coincidental or not, the name of the fragrance is congruous with the image it evokes for me of a singular elegant woman.

Quite simply, it is named **Juliet**, and its creator, make-up artist **Juliet Stewart**, shares at least a couple things in common with Rossellini—both being Italian-born beauties who had careers with Lancôme Cosmetics at one time. Stewart worked for more than twenty years in the upper echelons of the cosmetics industry (including a ten-year stint as National Make-up Artist for Prescriptives Cosmetics) before opening her luxury boutique in Nyack, New York, where she currently offers professional make-up and personalized skincare. Juliet, the perfume bearing her name, is a delicate and joyous fragrance that wears like the most delicious of secrets. It was created to reflect Stewart's beauty philosophy and motto, "Be Unforgettable...Own Your Own Beauty," and her belief that "what makes women of all ages beautiful and sexy is their self-assurance. The place to start is in the mind."

With aromatic top notes of lemon, basil, bergamot, Sicilian orange and Mediterranean herbs, the first spritz of Juliet reminds one of a classic eau de cologne—uplifting and refreshing. What lies beneath those brisk and airy notes, however, is like a long and lingering caress; a creamy-velvety scent that retains some its cologne-like alfresco character, but is far more substantial than a cologne. It's a bit difficult to describe, in the



Juliet Stewart

same way it is difficult to describe the sly beauty that is Hermès Eau des Merveilles, or the streamlined and graceful L'Artisan Parfumeur Orchidée Blanche: fragrances that are kith and kin to Juliet. Perhaps "soft floral oriental" is the best description I can give you, as from this point forward Juliet becomes a whispery filigree of jasmine, amber, vanilla and sandalwood (or what I think is sandalwood. I also detect hints of pepper and iris that keep the fragrance's sweetness in check, though perhaps these, too, are only figments of my imagination, as they are not listed among the fragrance's official notes.)

Juliet confers upon its wearer an aura of beautiful scent, more so than a wafting sillage. It's power lies not in the art of seduction but in the art of gracious enchantment. Juliet is a scent of serenity, good manners, and that old-school notion of "class," to which (I would like to think) some of us still cling. Considering how little heed such notions receive these days, wearing a scent like Juliet almost seems a subversive statement. In fact, would you please excuse me as I go freshen up with a spritz?

Who knows? If I play the part right, I might just have people wondering whether I've been to finishing school or am a cousin of Isabella Rossellini's—kissing or otherwise.

Juliet eau de parfum can be purchased from [Juliet Stewart's website](#); \$125 for 50 ml. (She also offers a deluxe sample for \$4.00). Created by Juliet Stewart and formulated by a master perfumer in Italy, the fragrance is comprised of notes of Amalfi lemon, basil, bergamot, Sicilian orange, fresh Mediterranean herbs, Italian jasmine and Madagascar vanilla, on a background of amber and precious woods from the Orient.

[You can also go straight to the "Juliet Perfume web site" here](#)

[Purchase a sample of Juliet here](#)

Images courtesy of Juliet Stewart. JULIET STEWART Photography by Dorothea Erichsen , Make-up by Juliet Stewart, Hair Styling by Robert Weinberg of Pamaya Red

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Suzanne Keller is the owner of [Eiderdown Press](#) and has her own fragrance blog called Suzanne's Perfume Journal. Eiderdown Press is publisher of books along with the publication of Free Spirits, a coffee-table book celebrating the community of artists and other creative types in Suzanne Keller's community. Her Top 10 Favorite Fragrances: Amouage Jubilation 25, Robert Piquet Fracas, Hermes 24 Faubourg, Caron Tabac Blonde, Chanel Coromandel, Chanel No. 22, Parfums DelRae Amoureuse, Frederic Malle Carnal Flower, Parfums de Nicolai Sacrebleu, and Serge Lutens Chergui. Eiderdown Press and [Suzanne's Perfume Journal](#)

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