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OLIVIER GILLOTIN

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Perfumer

Moellhausen S.p.A. - Italy

“Every perfume I create is inspired by the art of simplicity. I work with essential formulations to extract the soul of a fragrance from its deepest notes. A perfume does not require a thousand ingredients to tell a story: it must be a powerful and indelible echo, an emotion long resonating in the air and in the soul.”

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The Master Perfumer Olivier Gillotin is a prominent figure on the international scene, an artist gifted with the ability to translate the inner symphonies of the world around him into perfumes. His journey, started in fascinating Brittany, has turned into an intense olfactory adventure that has conquered the globe.

IN THE NAME OF RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY

His first love was science. Olivier studied biology in Paris, a background that provided him with the foundation for a meticulous and analytic approach. However, as in every great story, fate weaved its plot in unexpected ways. It was his cousin, perfumer at an historic Parisian maison, to lead him into a world where chemistry combines with dreams, opening the doors to the prestigious perfumery school of one of the world's leading fragrance houses within the industry. There, amidst precious raw materials and the design of sophisticated olfactory architectures, Olivier realized his calling was to give shape to invisible sensations. His creative philosophy, by him defined as "minimalist," was indeed born during those years of study with the idea that beauty lies in clarity and a fragrance does not demand superabundance to be extraordinary.

A JOURNEY OF MASTERY BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

His career at the big fragrance corporation has been a steady ascent, marked by unmistakable talent. He achieved the highest positions up to holding the role of Vice President at the perfumery division in the United States, an assignment that took him to New York.
The contrast between the placid quiet of Brittany and the pulsating energy of the Big Apple nourished his art. In New York, he discovered a new form of urban inspiration he happily knew how to blend with an innate sensitivity to nature. His iconic creations for luxury brands and fashion houses are testament to such fusion of worlds and emotions. Among his most acclaimed compositions are fragrances evoking the intimacy of a men's parlor with accords of vanilla and tobacco, or those revealing the hidden elegance of spices and woods. His work has left as well an indelible imprint on the olfactory lines of one of the most well-known American fashion icons and a fashion house noted for its essential style.
In 2022, his legacy was acknowledged with the Lifetime Achievement Perfumer Award granted by the American Society of Perfumery, a tribute not merely to his technical prowess, but also to his skillfulness in infusing soul into every drop of perfume.

THE ART THAT INSPIRES FRAGRANCES

Olivier's creativity is a seamless flow of influences and memories. His muse is everywhere: a flower blooming in his garden on the native island, the scent of earth in his property on the American mountains, the geometries of a modern painting, or the pages of an antique book. The fragrances he crafts are personal narratives, where the favorite ingredients – musk, Australian sandalwood, iris and vetiver – are not just raw materials, but actual characters interacting within an olfactory script. At various times, he explained that his goal is to "bring happiness and peacefulness" with his creations because scents have the capability to connect viscerally and influence our state of mind.

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A NEW CHAPTER, A NEW MISSION

Today, Olivier has embarked on an exciting new chapter in his career by joining the Moellhausen family. His mission will not be limited to new fragrance design, yet it will extend to educating and mentoring the future generations of perfumers. As teacher at the Moellhausen Academy, he will share his vast experience, passion and philosophy. Under his guidance, tomorrow's talents will learn not only technique, but also the art of listening to emotions so to transform them into fragrances capable of leaving an indelible imprint on the world.

Olivier Gillotin
Perfumer

MOELLHAUSEN
THE CHEMISTRY OF EMOTIONS

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