

Anya's Garden Kaffir Perfume ~ fragrance reviews on Now Smell This

Posted by [Kevin](#) on 31 January 2008



Natural perfumer Anya McCoy of [Anya's Garden](#) released two new fragrances this winter: Kaffir and Temple. I have a [kaffir lime](#) tree (*Citrus hystrix*) growing in my bedroom and love the scent of its flowers, fruit and leaves, and the word "temple" brings to mind exotic travels, smoky incense, and the Buddhist and Hindu artworks I discuss on my gallery tours at the Seattle Asian Art Museum — so, based on their names alone, I *had* to try McCoy's latest perfumes.

Kaffir

Kaffir contains kaffir lime leaf, galbanum, tarragon, tinctures of eight varieties of jasmine, Grasse jasmine, heritage oak, musk seed, agarwood and leather. Kaffir starts with sumptuous, and pungent, galbanum and lime leaf notes that produce earthy and deep "green" aromas. As Kaffir develops, one smells the foody scents of Thai cuisine, which uses lime leaf to season soups and curries. The first time I wore Kaffir, my partner exclaimed: "*You smell like [Tom Ka!](#)*" (and I *do* love the "hot" lime leaf note in this perfume). Peeking through the strong lime leaf and galbanum accords is the scent of lush "hothouse" jasmine. I can also detect a (Robert Piguet) [Bandit-like](#) leather note in Kaffir's dry-down.

The oils and tinctures used in this perfume are powerful, especially during the first hour of wear, but after three hours on the skin, Kaffir's scent becomes very light. I would love for Kaffir to be available in an Eau de Cologne concentration (in the style of Guerlain Eau Impériale) — in that form, I can imagine using Kaffir every day during hot weather as a "pick-me-up." Since I can dream of new products in my reviews, I will imagine the sturdy, opaque notes of Kaffir turning sparkly and effervescent with the addition of, gulp, an *aldehyde!*