

COLIN FARRELL

Wild, untamed, manly man—bottled. That's the new Dolce&Gabbana scent. **Shantila Lee** gets the dish from Colin Farrell on how he epitomises the new resolutely homme fragrance as the face of Intenso

What do you think of the scent? I think the scent is beautiful. It is really gorgeous, really, really beautiful. It has a subtlety that renders it not overbearing. Anything that is too overbearing and musky for me is something that I would find not too intriguing, but this has lightness to it. There are wood notes and accessibility to it. I find it a very pleasing fragrance.

How do you represent the Dolce & Gabbana man? The designers [Stefano Gabbana and Domenico Dolce] released a quote saying that the Dolce&Gabbana man is strong, and then they spoke about frailties. They were talking about the contrast in man, not contradictions. At times it is a battle in man to reconcile his inner strength with his inner sensitivity, and I think that is a battle that a lot of men have daily.

Some men deal with that battle by writing poetry, or some deal with it by

playing musical instruments, some deal with it by going into the boxing ring, but I think Domenico and Stefano have a really keen respect for the duality of man, for the fact that there is part of us that is at times brutal and brutish. And other times, frail, vulnerable, sensitive.

What's your favourite smell? The scent of fresh-cut grass is a very, very potent one for me. It reminds me of my childhood, of summer holidays and playing soccer with boys on random fields in Dublin. It reminds me of the sound of lawnmowers in the distance in the neighbourhood.

Do you have a fragrance 'routine', like applying it after showering or over body lotion? A spritz on the inside of the forearm, a little bit on the neck and chest, and that is it, out the door.

What's your grooming regime like? And what's the thing behind your man bun? It is minimal. It involves toothpaste and a tube of Rembrandt on most days. That is pretty much it. I don't have many things, maybe a little bit of hair pomade and a little bit of moisturiser. I just throw my hair up in a little scrunchie every now and then just to keep it out of my face.

What was it like shooting the ad campaign—based on the behind the scenes video, you were smouldering the whole time! It was a strange one for me because you're not playing a character and yet you're not playing yourself. It is the idea of a lifestyle. It is the idea of a particular way of being or viewing the world. It's interesting for me to see from

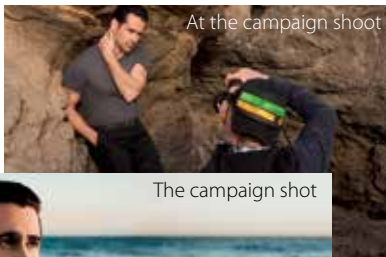


The designers Stefano Gabbana and Domenico Dolce

the inside that these things are packaged in such a way that it's not just a bunch of fragrances or a bunch of scents that are put together and mixed. There's a whole philosophy around it that comes from Dolce&Gabbana with regards to the scent and all the fragrances that they do.

I had worked with Mark Seliger before and he's really cool and easy to shoot with. We were on a beautiful stretch of coastline and it was a gorgeous day.

What's your favourite scent on a woman? It depends. Any scent smells slightly different on each different individual. My friend Elizabeth Taylor used to wear a particular scent. That is something that, since she passed a few years ago, I have smelt twice. It is a head spinner, which is more to do with my own personal past and more to do with nostalgia. I think that is how fragrances work in some way, shape or form. It can inspire some nostalgia or ignite the idea of comfortable familiarity. **mc**



At the campaign shoot



The campaign shot