

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT OF PERFUMES ENTRUSTED TO THE OSMOTHÈQUE



I. THE PERFUME COLLECTION IN THE OSMOTHÈQUE VAULT

The Osmothèque vault is a locked room, sheltered from daylight, containing “wine refrigerators” and a laboratory bench.

These “wine refrigerators” are maintained at **12°C**, insuring a “stable” interior temperature sheltered from any variations in the external temperature.

The Osmothèque vault contains more than **3 000 perfumes, 400 of which have disappeared from the market** (*updated January 2013*). These discontinued perfumes consist, for the most part, of old perfumes of immense celebrity, no longer available on the market. Their original formulae, entrusted to the Osmothèque, have allowed for their faithful reproduction, often that of veritable masterpieces.

Only several members of the Osmothèque’s team (the perfumer-osmocurators, the project manager and the two apprentices) may access the vault, containing as it does products both fragile and precious.

Nothing may leave the site without the permission of the President, excluding the supply of perfumes required for the Osmothèque conferences.

II. PROTOCOL FOR THE ENTRY OF A PERFUME INTO THE VAULT

1/ Receipt of perfumes at the Osmothèque

Upon the arrival of a perfume at the Osmothèque, the product is controlled, verified and made the object of an update to our database. **All information relative to the perfume** is then specified and archived (*Osmothèque datasheets filled out by the brand: Brand, Perfume name, Release date, Arrival date at the Osmothèque, Name of the perfumer-creator and of the Company responsible for creation, Olfactory family, Concentration: extrait, eau de parfum, eau de toilette...*).

2/ Bottling and assigning of a code

After verifying all information concerning the perfume, the fragrance is transferred into a **bottle made of smoked glass** (*uvir*), insuring protection from any harmful light sources. It is then labelled and classified in the vault. It bears a **code number** (the equivalent of a library “reference number”).

3/ Preservation of the perfume under argon

Into the bottle is introduced a quantity of **argon**, a neutral gas heavier than air, which spreads itself across the surface of the perfume (liquid) and prevents any evaporation and oxidation otherwise caused by contact with air.

4/ Evaluation of the collection

Each perfume is subjected to an olfactory evaluation by our team of perfumers at least once a year.

III. PRESENTATION OF PERFUMES TO THE PUBLIC

Conferences, encouraging either discovery or further development, are offered to both Professionals and the General Public.



Some thirty perfumes are selected to be smelt during the conferences. With every passing year we organize an increasing number of conferences (123 conferences in 2009; 139 in 2010; 165 in 2011) and we have welcomed over **80 000 visitors** to the Osmothèque since its founding. It is during these conferences that the perfumes entrusted to the Osmothèque are exhibited to the public. Certain perfumes are exhibited on an exceptional basis; others, more regularly. This depends upon the quantity of the perfume at our disposal, the orientation of the conference and public demand.

NOTE: DEPOSITING OF FORMULAE

Should a brand so desire, it may in complete security confide perfume formulae to our care. The Osmothèque respects a strict code of confidence: the formulae are not given but rather confided to the Osmothèque, which remains a mere depository and guarantees all necessary discretion as the content of the formulae. A special agreement, called the “*Convention de dépôt de formules au coffre*”, is available upon request. The formulae are stored in a bank safe, only accessible according to the protocol defined by the “*Convention de dépôt de formules au coffre*”.

Octobre 2014,

Patricia de NICOLAI
Chairwoman of the Osmothèque

