

EDWINA INGS-CHAMBERS

THE BEHOLDER

Three of a kind

Suddenly, the fragrance world seems obsessed with the power of three. The cynic in me says this is all just clever marketing: why use an advertising campaign to sell one perfume when you can sell three? The dreamer in me, on the other hand, rather likes the idea — it speaks of opportunity and reminds us that whatever the route that lies ahead, it can be traveled in many different ways.

Sometimes, that can mean being spoilt for choice. It was a dilemma faced by the D'Omanas, the owners of Sisley, when they decided to launch a new fragrance. They narrowed their options down to three. Then, unable to distill them any further, they launched them all and named them, simply, 1, 2 and 3. And I don't blame them, for I'm equally enamoured of all three.

Pucci continues the summer theme with its Vivara Variazioni. Inspired by sun, sea and sand, the three eaux de toilette (varying types of heady florals) take their name from the Mediterranean island of Vivara, the birthplace of the fashion house's famous fabric (the bottles, above, are like colourful pebbles). Jil Sander, meanwhile, has gone pastel: Blush Pink (a woody floral), Tender Green (floral, with green tea) and Soft Yellow (a "sunny" orange) focus on the "nuances of femininity". There's a similar concept behind Sarah Jessica Parker's fragrant trilogy — the idea that we gals should "make every moment lovely". It's not only about pretty smells, but pursuing the idea that we can all be many things, live many lives — even in a single day. Her scents take us from Dawn to Endless and on to Twilight as we pursue the dream that we can be more than what we are. That hope really is Endless — and maybe it's not a bad thing to have it written on a bottle to remind us to think beyond boundaries.

1, 2 or 3, \$90 each for 100ml, by Sisley; 020 7591 6380. Pastel fragrances, \$44 for 50ml, by Jil Sander; 0800 652 7561. Vivara Variazioni, \$59 for 100ml, by Pucci; 020 7660 0392. Dawn, Endless or Twilight, £23 for 30ml, by Sarah Jessica Parker, from Boots.

THE PROFESSIONALS

After succumbing to winter's trend for dark polish, my nails have been peeling and splitting badly. What can I do to make them strong and healthy again in time for summer?

Francesca, north London

Leighton Denny's Renovate Nail Repair Therapy (£12; leightondenny.com) is a godsend for fashion-fatigued nails. Small enough to slip into your bag, this nourishing kit will restore your talons to their former glory. Use the rich hydrating cream every day for two weeks, together with Denny's brilliant multi-sided buffer, and your nails will soon be hard as... well, nails.



PHOTO: CAROLINE.COM

PULSE POINTS



BLACK MAGIC

I know what you're thinking: £73 for a pot of body scrub — I must be crazy. But this Anne Semonin Black Sand Body Scrub is wondrous to use. Its glittering blackness adds an elegant drama to bath time and the stuff itself leaves your skin so silky smooth, you feel like proffering yourself as a model's body double. Save for treat time. annesemonin.com



TUMMY TECH

The Pose hand-held Skin Tightening Device by Tripollar uses radio-frequency technology to rid us of those wobbly bits. All I can say is, the skin across my stomach feels a touch tighter than before. Hmm, Pose, £349, by Tripollar; stop-age.com

TOP COAT

CALLING ALL MAKE-UP OBSESSIVES: TERRY BARBER, THE CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF MAC, IS GIVING A TALK AT SELFRIDGES LONDON ON APRIL 22 ON THE ART OF SUPER BEAUTY. TICKETS COST £60, REDEEMABLE AGAINST PURCHASE. TO BOOK, CALL 020 7318 3276