

The award-winning perfume critic presents what he considers to be the finest oudh creations

## Oudh Perfumes

THE OUDH trend has now been around long enough in modern perfumery to justify a look back at some of my favourite agarwood-based fragrances. So draw the curtains, take a deep breath and enjoy my guide to the very best scents in which to seek out the unmistakeable, animalic heat of oudh.



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## **Thirty Three**

Ex Idolo: 2013

Thirty Three's pedigree is very '21st-century-multinational' - it comes to us courtesy of Matthew Zhuk, a 30-something Canadian living in London - but its approach to its subject is entirely traditional. A majestic combination of rose, patchouli, musks and agarwood, it pays homage to the past whilst remaining relevant throughout.

## Interlude Man

Amouage; 2012 Pierre Negrin's work here is worthy of attention not because it focuses on the smell of pure oudh oil but on the subtly different scent of the smoke produced by burning agarwood. Somewhere, in a mythical East, a space is filled with a smell that is elemental, imperious and authoritative... the



## Dahn Al Oudh Al Shams

Aimal

This is, quite simply, a barn yard. As filthy as it is compelling, it creates a fecal, woody cyclone which demolishes everything in its path. Resistance is futile.