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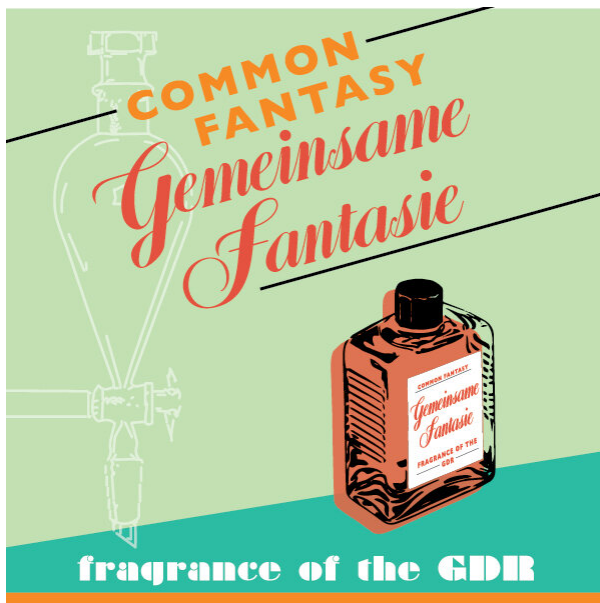
The Scent Of East Germany In A Tincture + Sample Giveaway

News Roundup

by [Eddie Bulliqi \(/news/author/Eddie-Bulliqi/\)](/news/author/Eddie-Bulliqi/)

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Revealed to the fragrance community on the last day of The Institute for Art and Olfaction's Experimental Scent Summit, LA-based artists Regina Mamou and Lara Salmon of the moniker "[Research For The Bermuda Triangle](http://www.reginamamou.com/research-for-the-bermuda-triangle)" (<http://www.reginamamou.com/research-for-the-bermuda-triangle>)" are in the finishing stages of a formula designed to evoke the lost smell of objects and landscapes particular to the post-war, intra-Soviet, pre-Berlin-Wall-fall German Democratic Republic (East Germany).



Entitled Common Fantasy / Gemeinsame Fantasie, the finished olfactory work will be shown as part of an installation at the Wende Museum Of The Cold War in Culver City, California, when appropriate after lockdown restrictions ease;

however, if you won't be able to attend the exhibition but would still like to experience the concept, Mamou and Salmon are currently offering complimentary sample vials via a [contact form](https://www.researchbermudatriangle.xyz/scent-by-mail) (<https://www.researchbermudatriangle.xyz/scent-by-mail>) on their website, scheduled to be sent out in September 2020 (while supplies last).

Of their latest project, the duo says, "In March 2020, RBT [Research For The Bermuda Triangle] obtained relics from a former office building of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) along with East German clothing, food, and personal products. Since this time, they have been tincturing the materials to produce a scent reminiscent of the GDR era. The fragrance explores the notion of Ostalgie (nostalgia for the East) and its complex relation to geopolitics."



In addition to tangible artefacts, the team supplemented source research on the idiomatic sensory landscape of East Germany with interviews probing the smells of the products, architecture and pastimes uniquely prevalent, memorable and characteristic of that era of East German history to the people who were intimately familiar with it. The most common mention from interviewees was of the distinctive pang of linoleum flooring followed by memories of soft serve ice cream, petrol, detergent, lignite (a type of coal), ceiling tiles, and Milka chocolate. Driven by a fascination to uncover the sensory roots of "Ostalgie" culture, a portmanteau of the German word for east (ost) and nostalgia (nostalgie) that represented East Germans' melancholy and reminiscence over aspects of their identity and quotidian infrastructure lost through integration with the West, the artists are continuing to trial experimental tinctures of the authentic East German supplies and mementos they collected to capture the truest essence of the GDR's atmosphere as they can.

Author



[Eddie Bulliqi \(/news/author/Eddie-Bulliqi/\)](/news/author/Eddie-Bulliqi/)

Columnist

Eddie Bulliqi is a writer and speaker who analyses what people want from their senses, specialised in the interpretation of tastes and smells, with a background in musicology and history of art. He has worked with Coty, the Estée Lauder Companies, Esxence, the Institute for Art and Olfaction, and the World Perfumery Congress. For *Fragrantica*, he produces trend reports, interviews, raw material studies and reviews.