

August 2006
Rose of the Month:
'Mozart'

Hybrid Musk by
Peter Lambert, Germany
By Dona Martin



'Mozart' blooms with brilliant gold stamens in a white eye. Hybrid Musks all set hips well.

Among the earliest of the Classic Shrub roses, the Hybrid Musk roses were first developed in 1904. Peter Lambert of Germany named the first variety 'Trier', after his hometown. It was from 'Trier' that the most famous Hybrid Musks were developed, in the period from 1913 to 1926. These came from the work of a retired clergyman, Reverend Joseph Pemberton in England.

Lambert continued as well with his breeding programs and in 1937, he introduced the Hybrid Musk, 'Mozart.' He bred this variety from Pemberton's 1927 medium red Musk, 'Robin Hood,' and Rote Pharisaeer, a large flowered hybrid tea with medium red blooms, bred in Germany by Hinner. This floriferous shrub has enormous flushes of bright cerise-pink 1" blooms with white centers, borne in long trusses on gracefully arching canes. The blooms have from 4 to 8 petals and while only a light fragrance, it will repeat bloom throughout the season. It is shade tolerant, a good choice for an area with dappled sunlight, and, like most Hybrid Musks, is extremely disease resistant.

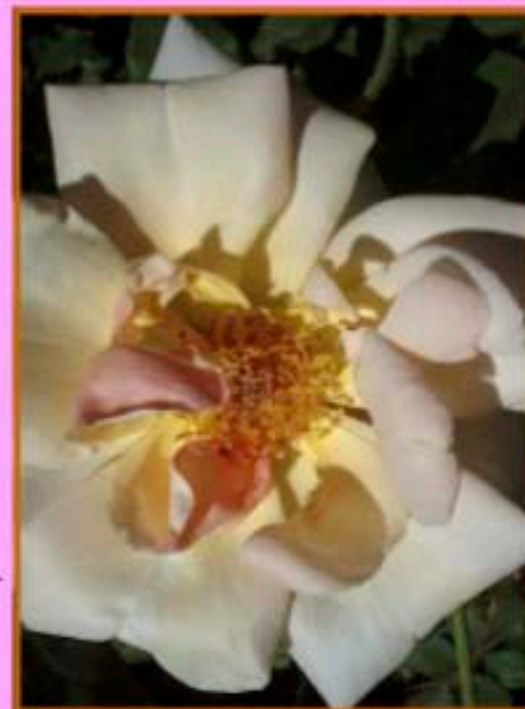
These qualities make Hybrid Musks among the best shrub choices for



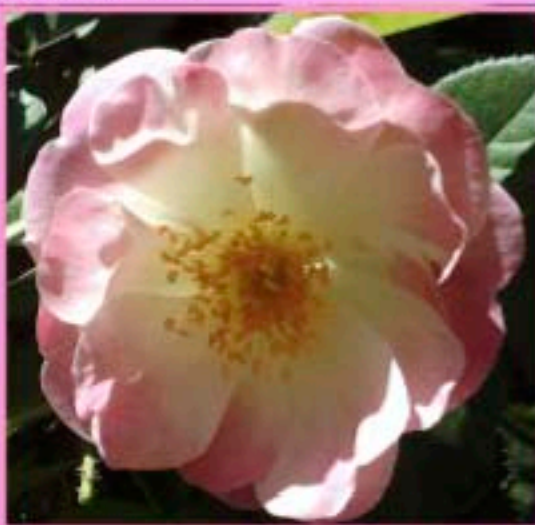
'Mozart'

landscaping. They make good specimen plants, grown free standing or as a hedge, and can also be grown against a

wall or on a support, like an obelisk, for vertical accents. Like its cousin, the more famous 'Ballerina,' 'Mozart' will grow 3' to 4' high and 5' to 6' wide. Only very light pruning is necessary to shape them up or keep them within a designated space. To encourage later flowering, the spent trusses should be cut back to the second set of leaflets after the first flush of bloom. If the plants become leggy over the course of time, one or more of their main shoots may be cut back fairly hard to induce fresh growth from the base.



Bishop Darlington, pale apricot, with darker apricot reverse on the center "petaloids", small curled petals surrounding the stamens.



Hybrid Musk, 'Erfurt', smaller shrub than the others, delicate in color and moderate in size.

Hybrid Musks grow very well in Arizona in full sun, but will better retain their color in partial or late afternoon shade. In addition to 'Ballerina', I have grown stunning 'Buff Beauty' on an obelisk with great success, and a smaller shrub with a larger 3" flower, 'Erfurt', in a moderately shady area. Another unusual Hybrid Musk, which grows more upright, is 'Bishop Darlington.'

****See these beautiful blooms in color in the pdf copy of the newsletter.**