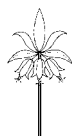


20
White snakeroot
Eupatorium rugosum
21
Rosary pea
Abrus precatorius
22
Daphne
Daphne giraldii
23
Yew
Taxus cuspidata
24
Climbing nightshade
Solanum dulcamara
25
English ivy
Hedera helix
26
European mistletoe
Viscum album
American mistletoe
Phoradendron flavescens
27
Christmas rose
Helleborus niger
28
Foxglove
Digitalis purpurea
29
Opium poppy
Papaver somniferum
30
Henbane
Hyocyamus niger

31
Belladonna
Atropa belladonna
Thorn apple
Datura stramonium
32
Valerian
Valeriana officinalis
33
Lily of the valley
Convallaria majalis
34
Autumn crocus
Colchicum autumnale
35
Left:
Goldenseal
Hydrastis canadensis
Right:
Dogbane
Apocynum androsaemifolium
36
May apple, Mandrake
Podophyllum peltatum
Pinkroot
Spigelia marilandica
37
False hellebore
Veratrum viride
Carolina jessamine
Gelsemium sempervirens
38
Bloodroot
Sanguinaria canadensis



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Poisons in our path: *Watercolors by* *Anne Ophelia Dowden*



This exhibition of 42 original watercolors by Anne Ophelia Dowden shows us that despite the poisonous qualities of these plants, they also hold much beauty and interest, and give us a new respect for the parts they play in nature to harm and to heal. It also shows the importance of precise scientific identification rather than reliance on common names that vary all over the world.

All of these paintings were used to illustrate her book *Poisons in our path: Plants that harm and heal*. They were based on research paintings she made from living specimens over several years. She also wrote the text, designed the layout of the book, and prepared everything for publication. Mrs. Dowden ceased painting and made a gift of her brushes after Harper Collins published this book in 1994.

Mrs. Dowden was educated at the University of Colorado, Carnegie Institute of Technology, and Beaux Arts Institute of Design and Art Students League, both in New York. Formerly drawing instructor at the Pratt Institute, Chairman, Art Department, Manhattanville College, New York, and free-lance textile designer in New York, she has been a free-lance botanical artist and writer since 1950. She began her botanical career in illustrating for magazines such as *Life*, *Audubon*, *House beautiful*, and *Natural history*, and she has illustrated a number of books: Jessica Kerr's *Shakespeare's flowers* (1960), Louis Untermeyer's *Roses* (1970) and *Plants of the Bible* (1970), Hal Borland's *The golden circle, a book of months* (1977) and *Plants of Christmas* (1997), Phyllis Busch's *Wildflowers and the stories behind their names* (1977), Robert Crowell's *The lore &*

legends of flowers (1982), and Dowden's own *Look at a flower* (1963), *The secret life of the flowers* (1964), *Roses* (1965), *Wild green things in the city: A book of weeds* (1972), *The blossom on the bough* (1975), *State flowers* (1978), *This noble harvest: A chronicle of herbs* (1979), *From flower to fruit* (1984), *Consider the lilies: Plants of the Bible* (1986) and *The clover and the bee: A book of pollination* (1990).

All of the artworks included in this exhibition are watercolor on paper.

1
Carolina jessamine
Pokeweed
Pontic azalea
Climbing nightshade

2
Left:
Locoweed
Lily of the valley
Monkshood
Belladonna
Right:
Carolina jessamine

3
Left:
Snow-on-the-mountain
Euphorbia marginata
Poinsettia
Euphorbia pulcherrima
Right:
Crown of thorns
Euphorbia splendens

4
Left:
Philodendron
Philodendron oxycardium
Right:
Jack-in-the-pulpit
Arisaema triphyllum

5
Poison ivy
Toxicodendron radicans

6
Castor bean
Ricinus communis

7
Fly agaric
Amanita muscaria
Deadly Amanita
Amanita virosa

8
Daffodil
Narcissus pseudonarcissus
Narcissus
Narcissus poeticus
Death camas
Zigadenus venenosus

9
Wild black cherry
Prunus serotina

10
Milkweed
Asclepias syriaca

11
Pokeweed
Phytolacca americana

12
Pyrethrum
Chrysanthemum coccineum

13
Monkshood
Aconitum napellus

14
Pontic azalea
Rhododendron luteum

15
Poison hemlock
Conium maculatum

16
Mountain laurel
Kalmia latifolia

17
Wild iris
Iris versicolor

18
Water hemlock
Cicuta maculata

19
St. John's-wort
Hypericum perforatum
Locoweed
Oxytropis lambertii

