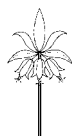


20  
White snakeroot  
*Eupatorium rugosum*  
21  
Rosary pea  
*Abrus precatorius*  
22  
Daphne  
*Daphne giraldii*  
23  
Yew  
*Taxus cuspidata*  
24  
Climbing nightshade  
*Solanum dulcamara*  
25  
English ivy  
*Hedera helix*  
26  
European mistletoe  
*Viscum album*  
American mistletoe  
*Phoradendron 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*

