

Entry Form
BSO 2nd Audrey Eagle Botanical Drawing Competition, 2005

Name
Address

Email

Phone

Title of entry

Enclosed

No. of drawings

No. of Botanical Notes.....

Return

I would like my drawings back and have included prepaid and addressed packaging. *Yes/no.*

Membership: I am a current financial member of the Botanical Society of Otago, and this is all my own work.

Signed..... *Date*.....

Post to: Botanical Society of Otago, PO Box 6214, North Dunedin, to arrive by 31 August 2005

Botanical Art Feature: *Datura* sp.

Toni Atkinson,

second place-getter in the 2004 competition.

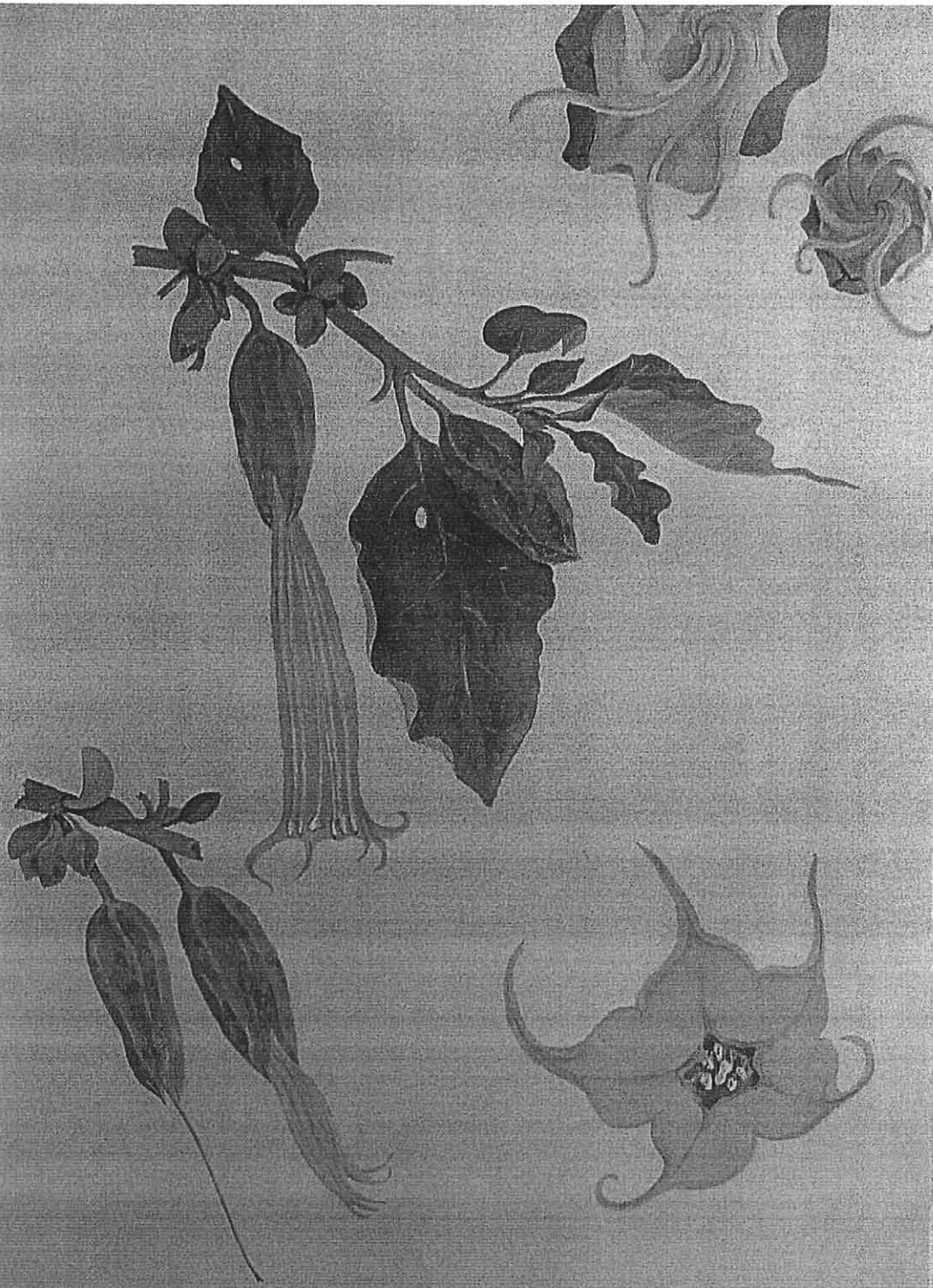
I chose the flower of the yellow *Datura* (= *Brugmansia*) because I have been fascinated with it since I did Stage 1 Botany at Victoria University in the late '80s, and was required to draw it cut lengthwise. Here at Otago University, several plants grow near the Botany glasshouses - warmed by the proximity of the glasshouses and museum building, and protected overhead by trees.

What I like about the flower is the way the tapered, rolled ends of the petals swirl tightly together in the developing bud, then lengthen and expand, to fling themselves out and upward when the flower is ripe. Each bud has its own swirl, some seeming so sure of themselves they make me laugh.

I attempted to identify the plant to species level, but none of the three *Brugmansia* species or the two *Datura* species recorded in New Zealand (by the online Landcare database, <http://nzflora.landcareresearch.co.nz>) appear to fit. In the process I discovered that there are immense Internet databases of nursery cultivars with photo after photo of incredible twirled, whorled, and coloured, trumpet-flowers, and international societies devoted to their cultivation.

In the past I have usually painted in watercolour but chose to experiment in oils this time, because I felt they suited the opaque colours of the leaves and flowers.

Next page: Details of *Datura* sp, cropped from Toni Atkinson's 2004 entry.



Solanum...
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