



## Art Feature—“Lane Poppy”

Martin Allums\*

“Lane Poppy” is a retrospective on botanical illustration, which was an important aspect of exploration and research during the 18th century. Back then, scientists and illustrators were only able to create black and white illustrations, so botanical illustration was restricted to laboratory manuals and field guides for the elite. Advancements to print media allowed for an explosion in popularity and creativity in the illustration field. Illustrators were able to create full color illustrations that ended up in peoples’ homes as well as field guides. My piece is the culmination of work started by the illustrators in the 18th century. Much like the student research in OUR Journal, my piece represents the new wave of scientists and illustrators, built from the foundation laid by our forefathers in the field. I am very interested in medical and scientific illustration, so much of my work is explanatory. “Lane Poppy” uses composition of the flower stems to move the viewer throughout the image, which is unique from botanical illustration in the past.

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