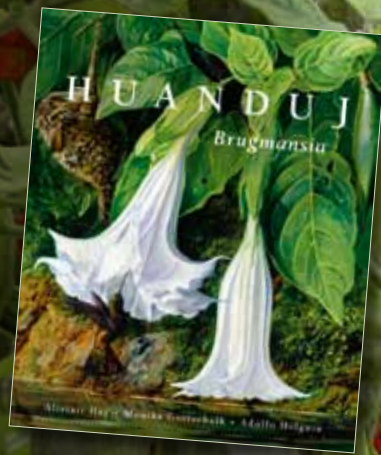


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DR ALISTAIR HAY is a retired Senior Research Scientist and Director, Botanic Gardens & Public Programs with the Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust, Sydney. A gardener from the age of three, his scientific interest in tropical plants was inspired by reading the work of the controversial botanist E.J.H. Corner as an undergraduate at Oxford. After graduating he lived in Papua New Guinea for several years before returning to Oxford and completing a doctoral thesis about tropical aroids, on which he has since published many papers. He has a large and not in the least botanical garden on the New South Wales South Coast, and a property in southern Colombia dedicated to the cultivation of rare indigenous Andean plants.

MONIKA GOTTSCHALK is the world's preeminent breeder and temperate climate grower of brugmansias with over 30 years experience. Her interest began in the 1970s but it was not until a degenerative eye disease cut short a promising career in management at the age of 36 that it changed from hobby to occupation. Initially mentored by one of the great pioneers, Mme Herta Blin, she has been raising new *Brugmansia* hybrids of the finest quality for more than two decades. Her garden in the Vogelsbergkreis in Hessen, Germany, is a magnet for brugmansia-lovers during the fleeting montane growing season.

DR ADOLFO HOLGUÍN is the leading South American expert on brugmansias, involved with their study and cultivation for over 40 years. His first thesis was on the extraction and purification of the alkaloids, and he has collected brugmansias from throughout his native Ecuador and further afield. He has collaborated closely with the Herrenhäuser Gärten in Germany, famous for its work with this genus. He now works in a small chemical products company in Quito, and has a large brugmansia-filled garden at his home at Cumbayá.

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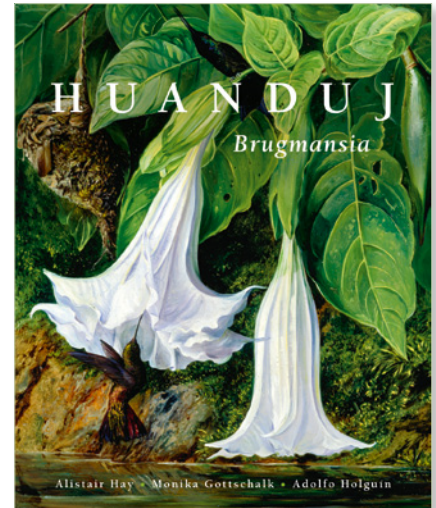
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