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*Kinderkrug* (Beer Stein for children), c. 1905, Karl Diesinger (German), Earthenware, Gift of Laura Moss, 1936.4.1335; *Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething*, containing morphine, c. 1880, lithograph printed on cardboard, Museum purchase, L2017.16.3; *Destroying Whiskey Stills*, 1926, Thompson Brothers Photography Studio, Knoxville, Courtesy of C.M. McClung Historical Collection, Knox County Public Library, N-242; *Tobacco Plant and Butterfly*, 1705, Maria Sibylla Merian (German, 1647–1717) Plate 36 from *Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium* (Insects of Suriname), Amsterdam, Hand-colored engraving, Museum purchase made possible by Michael and Kathy Mouron, 2017.10.8

## PICK YOUR POISON: INTOXICATING PLEASURES & MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS

*Pick Your Poison: Intoxicating Pleasures & Medical Prescriptions* examines how mind-altering drugs have been used throughout the history of America.

Featuring over forty medicines, advertisements, historic and popular culture documents and books, video footage, and paraphernalia, the exhibition explores why some drugs remain socially acceptable, while others are outlawed because of their toxic, and intoxicating, characteristics.

These classifications have shifted at different times in history because of social and historical factors, and will continue to change.

The exhibition explores some of the factors that have shaped the changing definition of some of our most potent drugs—alcohol, tobacco, opium, cocaine, and marijuana—from medical miracle to social menace.

*Pick Your Poison* is produced by the McClung Museum and co-curated by Catherine Shteynberg with content provided by the US National Library of Medicine and Manon Parry, University of Amsterdam.

The exhibition is presented by Roswitha Haas and the late Arthur Haas and Profs. Helen Baghdoyan and Ralph Lydic. Additional support is provided by Knox County, the City of Knoxville, and the Arts and Heritage Fund.

The exhibition is organized into five thematic areas by drug type.

Key objects not pictured include:

- Various medical and drug paraphernalia, as well as patent medicines.
- Original *Harper's Weekly* reports on alcohol and opium use in the US.
- A clip from the 1936–1939 American propaganda film *Reefer Madness*

Current planned programming includes:

- April 12, 2018, 5:30 pm, Lecture on the rise of modern drug development by Monica Black, Associate Professor and Associate Head of the UT Department of History

See other programming and information at:

[tiny.utk.edu/pickyourpoison](http://tiny.utk.edu/pickyourpoison)

Left: "Help Build a Better America....Get Stoned!" 1969, Robert Crumb (American, b. 1943), from Zap Comix, #0, 2nd print, Anonymous lender; Middle Top: Chuspa (Coca Leaf Carrying Bag), c. 1979, Peruvian, Anonymous Lender; Middle Bottom: Syringe with Morphine Vial, c. 1926, Parke Davis, Museum of East TN History, Gift of Charlotte M. Davis, 2012, 43.25; Right: Advertisement claiming more doctors smoked Camel cigarettes than any other, c. 1946, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, Museum purchase, L2017.16.14.

