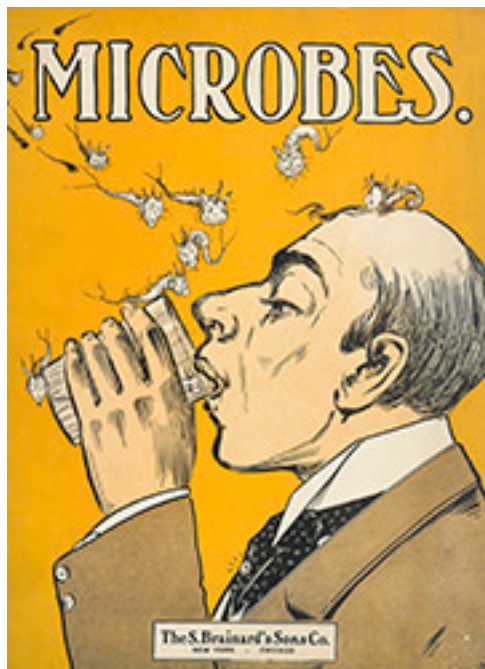


## **Exhibit Tour of "A Cure for What Ails You: Songs from the Medical Library's Sheet Music Collection"**



Thursday, February 13, 2014 11:30 AM  
Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library  
333 Cedar Street, New Haven, CT 06511

There will be a curatorial tour of the newest exhibit from the Medical Library on Thursday 13th, which is free and open to the public. Please meet at the entrance to the Medical Library a few minutes before the tour is due to begin.

The exhibit celebrates a new collection of medically themed sheet music recently donated to the Medical Historical Library by William Helfand, retired pharmaceutical company executive, historian of medicine, and collector extraordinaire. There are over a thousand items in the collection on medical providers, purveyors of remedies, ailments both real and imagined, cures for all purposes (especially for lovesickness), health songs for children, and music advertising patent medicines. Most of the music was written for public entertainment, whether in London music halls, Parisian theaters, or American vaudeville and early musicals. Later songs in the collection were aired on the radio, featured in movies, recorded on record labels, or served as themes for TV shows on doctors and hospitals. Songs range from "The Cork Leg," a traditional Irish song about a self-propelling prosthetic cork leg, to Loretta Lynn singing about the advantages of "The Pill." The engraved and lithographed covers of the music provide striking images of medicine and popular culture. Discover the entire collection through the finding aid: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.pam.0005> [1]

**External link:** [http://www.library.yale.edu/librarynews/2014/02/exhibit\\_tour\\_of\\_a\\_cure\\_for\\_wha.h...](http://www.library.yale.edu/librarynews/2014/02/exhibit_tour_of_a_cure_for_wha.h...) [2]

---

### **Source**

**URL:** <https://web.library.yale.edu/news/2014/02/exhibit-tour-cure-what-ails-you-songs-medical-librarys-sheet?page=2>

---

## Exhibit Tour of "A Cure for What Ails You: Songs from the Medical Library's Sheet Music Collection"

Published on Yale University Library (<https://web.library.yale.edu>)

---

### Links

[1] <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/med.pam.0005> [2]

[http://www.library.yale.edu/librarynews/2014/02/exhibit\\_tour\\_of\\_a\\_cure\\_for\\_wha.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/librarynews/2014/02/exhibit_tour_of_a_cure_for_wha.html)