Harlem Renaissance
Object Details

Toy: Marionette "Clippo's Lucifer" in Original Box with Instructions, 1938
Mr. Hicks: "This I bought from a toy dealer in Iowa City right before he moved out east and he was liquidating a lot of his collection and he gave me a real good deal on this. Plus it has the box so it's a really neat toy."

Toy: Tin Wind-Up "Alabama Coon Jigger", 1920
Mr. Hicks: "I just got this one three weeks ago. He'll dance, but I try not to wind them up."

Tin: "Sambo Axle Grease" 1930
Mr. Hicks: "I got this can at a sale in Sigourney about 3 or 4 years ago."

Coffee Can: "Mammy's Favorite Coffee" 1920

Pipe: Carved Painted Wood Pipe, 1920

Tin: "Bigger Hair Tobacco" 1930
Tin: "Nigger Hair Tobacco" 1920
Mr. Hicks: "I bought most of these tins when I first started collecting, because you don't even see this stuff come up for sale anymore. The "Nigger Hair" tins are the like the Holy Grail of tins in collectability. They're in all the books. There's one here with "Nigger Hair" and one with "Bigger Hair" because they changed the name to be more politically correct in the 1930s. In the early 30s there was an uproar over the name so they changed it. But it's interesting that it was made in Milwaukee-up north."

Tin: "Dixie Kid Cut Plug Tobacco" 1920
Mr. Hicks: "I got this when I first started collecting. I got it at a sale in Ft. Madison."

This exhibit is divided into 10 sections

1. Introduction
   - The James Hicks Collection

2. The Burden of Slavery, 1619-1861

3. The Civil War, 1861-1865

4. The Price of Freedom: Reconstruction, 1865-1877

5. Say Hello To Jim Crow, 1878-1897

6. Up From Slavery: The Self Help Period 1898-1919
7. The Harlem Renaissance, 1920-1946

8. The Civil Rights Era, 1947-1968


10. The Turn of the Century, 1981-2004

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