



**Publicity and reviews for *Craze: Gin and Debauchery in an Age of Reason*,  
by Jessica Warner**

**Publicity**

*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review), 15 July 2002  
*Toronto Star*, 17 July 2002  
*Publishers Weekly*, 5 August 2002  
*Foreword Magazine*, July/August 2002  
*Library Journal*, 1 October 2002  
*Baltimore Sun*, 13 October 2002  
 CFRB [Toronto] Saturday Afternoon, 19 October 2002  
 Jonathan Yardley, *Washington Post*, 24 October 2002  
*Austin American-Statesman*, 20 October 2002  
*Forbes Magazine*, 28 October 2002  
*Toronto Star*, 3 November 2002  
 CBC Radio Fresh Air, 9 November 2002  
 CBC Radio One, 21 November 2002  
 WORT Radio, Madison, Wisconsin, 16 December 2002  
 CBC Radio Metro Morning, 31 December 2002  
*Glasgow Herald*, 10 January 2003  
*Globe and Mail*, 11 January 2003  
*New York Times*, 19 January 2003  
 BBC Radio Four Saturday Review, 25 January 2003  
*London Times*, 25 January 2003  
*Independent*, 26 January 2003  
 BBC Radio Scotland, the Gary Robertson Show, 27 January 2003  
 London Broadcasting Corporation, the Sandy Toksvig Show, 27 January 2003  
*New Statesman*, 27 January 2003  
*Evening Standard*, 27 January 2003  
 Radio Ireland, the Pat Kenny Show, 28 January 2003  
*Daily Telegraph*, 1 February 2003  
 On the Record, I-Television, 5 February 2003  
 Globe and Mail/Nicholas Hoare Books and Brunch, 9 February 2003  
*Catholic Herald*, 14 February 2003  
*Scotsman*, 22 February 2003  
*Financial Times*, 1 March 2003  
*Eastern Daily Press*, 1 March 2003  
*Guardian*, 1 March 2003  
 Lead review, *Addiction*, vol. 98, 2003



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*Health Service Journal*, 20 March 2003  
*Tablet*, 29 March 2003  
*Geist*, vol. 12, no. 48, 2003  
*Focus*, 1 April 2003  
 National Public Radio, The Splendid Table, 5 April 2003  
*Yorkshire Post*, 17 April 2003  
*Dallas Morning News*, 20 April 2003  
*Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*, vol. 40, no. 8, 2003  
*Times Literary Supplement*, 2 May 2003  
*Nottingham Evening Post*, 31 May 2003  
*Good Book Guide*, 1 June 2003  
*Contemporary Review*, June 2003  
 CBC Ottawa, All in a Day Book Panel, 12 June 2003  
*American Brewer*, vol. 19, no. 2, 2003  
*Continuity and Change*, vol. 18, no. 2, 2003  
*Bloomsbury Review*, vol. 23, no. 4, 2003  
 BBC Radio 4, Thinking Allowed, 24 September 2003  
*Globe and Mail*, 11 October 2003  
*Washington Post*, 9 November 2003  
*Kultur. Svenska Dagbladet*, 14 November 2003  
*Globe and Mail*, 22 November 2003  
*Toronto Sun*, 4 January 2004  
*Irish Times*, 7 February 2004  
*Birmingham Post*, 28 February 2004  
*Alcohol & Alcoholism*, vol. 39, no. 1, 2004  
*Guardian*, 7 February 2004  
*Journal of Social History*, vol. 37, no. 2, 2004  
*Albion*, vol. 36, no. 1, 2004  
*Historian*, vol. 66, no. 2, 2004  
*Social History of Alcohol and Drugs*, vol. 19, 2004  
*Gastronomica*, vol. 5, no. 1, 2005  
*Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture*, vol. 12, no. 2, 2005  
*International Review of Social History*, 50, no. 2, 2005  
 BBC Radio 3 Night Waves, Undercurrents, 30 November 2005  
*Independent*, 20 January 2006



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**Kathryn Hughes, *Daily Telegraph***

“Jessica Warner is not the first to write about the gin craze, but her book is easily the best on the subject. Unlike Patrick Dillon’s soggy *The Much-Lamented Death of Madame Geneva*, which came out last year, Warner’s book is acutely alive to the difficulty of reading the past through the concerns of the present. Thus while she feels impelled to make parallels between the public reaction to the gin craze and our own current, impotent flap about drug use, she anchors her arguments in precise, scholarly data and is always ready to point to the places where the analogies do not stand up. Added to this, she writes like an angel, which makes her as cheerily compelling as a nice G&T at the end of a long, hard day.”

**Frances Wilson, *Guardian***

“*Craze* is not only about the 18th century’s attempt to control street drugs. Much of what Warner says is directly or indirectly pertinent to similar efforts made by contemporary governments. Arguing with great skill and wit that drug abuse is a symptom and not the cause of social problems, she is persuasive and compelling to a surprising degree. *Craze* stirs us into action rather than allowing us to feel, as do many historical accounts or several glasses of gin, comfortably distanced from the grim reality of the situation.”

***Nottingham Evening Post***

“This is a serious subject written with great flair and humour . . . This book is a must for anyone with an interest in the history of this period or a fascination with the history of mind altering substances.”

***Kirkus Reviews* (starred)**

“A tart, acute inquiry into the mania for gin that coursed through London during the early part of the eighteenth century. Warner . . . gives her savvy investigation a second, deeper dimension as a parable about drugs: why some take them and others worry when they do . . . The stink of various self-serving moral agendas (a couple of modern examples are nimbly exploited by Warner) get a proper and gratifying airing here. . . . Social history at its gimlet-eyed best.”



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*Publisher's Weekly*

"[An] intriguing slice of social history . . . This informative and accessible popular history should appeal to those with a taste for 18th-century English history as well as those interested in histories of mind-altering substances. . ."

*Globe and Mail*

[*Craze* is] "an intoxicating concoction . . . Jessica Warner . . . is the sort of writer every university hack should want to be: learned, fluent, funny, scabrous and hardly ever didactic. She tells you a lot of stuff you knew little or nothing about before and makes it entirely relevant to the current situation. In this case, the war on gin as a social evil in 18th-century England is equated to the ongoing war on drugs. In doing so, Warner shines a bright light on a murky corner of history. She is a master of the telling detail, both in laying out the scope of the epidemic and in pointing out the absurdities of those who sought to curtail it. Warner has a particular genius for statistics and anecdotes that leave your jaw hanging."

*Toronto Star*

"Fascinating and revealing . . . *Craze* is a compact and tart summary of the gutter-dwelling characters and events that brought [gin] to the fetid alleys of London, Bristol and Norwich. . . Warner may give the colourless spirit centre stage in *Craze*, but not only does she also come away with a colourful social history of urban 18th century England, but a lucid and devastating critique of the rusted moral chassis of the White House's failed war on drugs--frighteningly similar to the ill-conceived and equally vain attempts to curb the use of Mother Gin four centuries earlier . . . Thoughtful social history . . ."

*Foreward Magazine*

"What lifts the narrative out of substantive history into enthralling social narrative is Warner's crystal clear structure and her perceptive vignettes of the players -- politicians, moralizers, tavern keepers, informers, police constables, magistrates, and others. . . This well illustrated, well referenced book will reward readers and, importantly, teach politicians a valuable how-not-to lesson."