

The Case of the Sexy Jewess: Dance, Gender and Jewish Joke-work in US Pop Culture

- Book documents rise & return of a curious figure of American Jewishness: The Sexy Jewess.
- Comic legacies of Jewish female stage and screen performers across 20th & 21st centuries help frame self-parody within a contemporary post-feminist, post-assimilationist period.
- Historical, ethnographic and choreographic methods ask how and why the Sexy Jewess proliferates among neo-burlesque, alt porn, comedy tv, mainstream movies and magazine centerfolds to articulate today's Jewish woman through humor and gender rebellion.
- FYAP award helped complete and submit book proposal for manuscript, now under contract with Oxford University Press.
- The project is indebted to funny women everywhere.



Follies, film and radio star, Fanny Brice, circa 1916.



NYC burlesquer, Zoe Ziegfeld, 2014. Photo by Mark Shelby Perry

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