

Jenna Weissman Joselit
441 West End Avenue
New York, New York 10024

EDUCATION:

Ph.D., History, Columbia University, 1981
M. Philosophy, History, Columbia University, 1976
M.A., History, Columbia University, 1975
A.B., Cum Laude, Barnard College, 1973

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

Charles E. Smith Professor of Judaic Studies, The George Washington University, 2009-

Lecturer with the Rank of Professor of American Studies & Modern Judaic Studies,
Princeton University, 2002-

Member, Working Group on Jews, Religion and Media, NYU Center for
Religion and Media, 2002-

Horace W. Goldsmith Visiting Professor of Judaic Studies, Yale University, 2002

Visiting Professor of American Studies & Jewish Studies, Princeton University, 1999-
2002

Distinguished Visiting Professor of American Jewish History, Temple University, 2001

Visiting Professor of Art & Material Culture, Graduate School, Jewish Theological
Seminary, 1999

Visiting Professor, Department of History, Princeton University, 1998

Visiting Fellow, Center for American Art & Culture, Yale University, 1997

Visiting Professor, Department of Liberal Studies, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences,
New York University, 1993-1996

Visiting Professor of Art & Material Culture, Graduate School, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1995

Visiting Professor, Department of Religion, Princeton University, 1994-1995

Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Religion, Princeton University, 1992-1994

Senior Research Scholar, CUNY Graduate Center, 1991-1992

Faculty, Jewish Theological Seminary Graduate School, Summer 1991

Faculty, Jewish Theological Seminary Lehrhaus, Spring 1991

Fellow, Annenberg Research Institute, 1990-1991

Senior Research Associate, History, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, and faculty member, Max Weinreich Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, 1982 - 1988

Lecturer, New York State University at Stony Brook, 1981

Lecturer, New York Community College, 1980

Lecturer, Kean College, 1978

AWARDS, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Distinguished Visiting Scholar, John Kluge Center, The Library of Congress, 2007

Oakley Fellow, Williams College, 2000

Kutler Fellow, University of Wisconsin, 2000

Fellow, Center for American Art & Material Culture, Yale University, 1998

Fellow, Center for Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 1996-1997

Lucius N. Littauer Fellowship, 1996-97

National Jewish Book Award in History, 1995

National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, 1991-1993 for National Museum of American Jewish History Exhibition

Senior Fellow, Center for the Study of American Religion, Princeton University, 1992-1993

Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Fellowship, 1991-92

Fellow, Annenberg Research Institute (later, Center for Judaic Studies) 1990-91

New York State Council on the Arts Grant, 1989-90

New York City Municipal Research and Reference Fund Grant, 1986-87

New York State Council on the Arts Grant, 1986-87

New York State Council on the Arts Grant, 1984-85

New York State Council on the Arts Grant, 1983-84

National Foundation for Jewish Culture, Publication Grant, 1983

Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1982-83

Gustav Wurzweiler Foundation, Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1981-82

Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, Dissertation Grant, 1977-79

National Foundation for Jewish Culture, Dissertation Grant, 1976-78

Salo W. Baron Fellow, Columbia University, 1976-77

Columbia University Fellow, 1975-76

Danciger Fellow, Columbia University, 1974-75

CURATORIAL AND MUSEUM CONSULTING EXPERIENCE:

Consultant, "Grass Roots: The Suburbanization of American Jewry," Yeshiva University Museum, 2007-

Consultant, "From Haven to Home: 350 Years of American Jewish Life," Library of Congress, 2004

Senior Consultant, "The Other Promised Land: Vacationing, Identity and the Jewish American Experience," The Jewish Museum of Maryland, 2002-2003

Curator, "Seeing Ourselves," Inaugural Exhibition, American Jewish Historical Society, Center for Jewish History, 2000

Senior Consultant, "Tchotkes," The Jewish Museum of Maryland, 1999

Consultant, "Myer Myers," Yale University Art Gallery, 1998-1999

Consultant, "Summer Camping," The Adirondack Museum, 1998

Consulting curator, "Getting Dressed: Clothing, Identity and the American Jewish Experience," The Jewish Museum, 1998-2000

Consultant, "The Glitter and the Gold: Jewelry in America," The Newark Museum, 1995-1997

Consultant, "The Shapiro Story," Strawberry Banke Living History Museum, Portsmouth, NH, 1996-1998

Consultant, South Carolina Jewish Heritage Project, McKissick Museum, S.C., 1996-2003

Guest curator, "A Worthy Use of Summer: The American Jewish Camping Movement, 1900-1955," The Jewish Museum, 1994

Consultant, The Chicago Historical Society, 1993-94

Consultant, The Minnesota Historical Society, 1993-94

Consultant, The Skirball Museum, Los Angeles, 1993-1994

Consulting Curator, The Jewish Historical Society of Maryland, 1993-94

Consulting Curator, "Building on Traditions: Jewish Life in New York," Museum of the City of New York, 1990-1993

Guest curator, "A Worthy Use of Summer: The American Jewish Camping Movement, 1900-1955," National Museum of American Jewish History, 1990-1993

Consultant, Strawberry Banke Living History Museum, Portsmouth, N.H., 1991

Consulting curator, "Transforming Traditions: The Jewish Experience on Long Island, 1890-1965," The Museums at Stony Brook, 1989-1990

Guest curator, "Getting Comfortable: The American Jewish Home, 1880-1950," The Jewish Museum, 1989-1990

Consultant, The Hebrew Free Loan Society: Centennial Event, 1989-1992

Consultant, The Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women, 1989-1994

Consultant, The Eldridge Street Synagogue Restoration Project, 1989-1992

Consultant, The Tenement Museum/Lower East Side Historic Conservancy, 1985-1989

Consultant, Museum of Jewish Heritage, 1987-1989

Curator and Project Director, "D.A.: A Visual History," New York County District Attorney's Office, 1986-1989

Curator and Project Director, "A Promised City: New York and Its Immigrants, 1880-1940," New York City Municipal Archives, 1985-1987

Curator and Project Director, "Hello Landsman: A History of New York's Jewish Mutual Aid Societies," YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1984-86

Curator and Project Director, "The Cops and the Combination," New York City Municipal Archives, 1984-85

Exhibition Coordinator, "Traces in the Landscape: A Photograph Exhibition," YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 1984

Consultant, The Rockefeller Foundation/U.S. Committee for Refugees, 1984

Consultant, Special Projects, The Synagogue Council of America, 1980-82

Consultant, U.S. Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy, 1979-1980

Researcher, Center for Policy Research, 1975-77

PUBLICATIONS:

A Parade of Faiths: Religion in American Life (Revised paperback edition of Immigration and American Religion (Oxford University Press, 2007)

A Perfect Fit: Clothes, Character, and the Promise of America (Metropolitan Books/Henry Holt & Co., 2001)

Immigration and American Religion, Religion in American Life Series, eds., Jon Butler and Harry Stout (Oxford University Press, 2001)

The Wonders of America: Reinventing Jewish Culture, 1880-1950 (Hill & Wang/Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1995)

A Worthy Use of Summer: American Jewish Summer Camping, 1900-1960 (National Museum of American Jewish History, 1993)

Aspiring Women: A History of the Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women (1993)

Lending Dignity: A Centennial History of the Hebrew Free Loan Society of New York (1992)

Getting Comfortable in New York: The American Jewish Home (The Jewish Museum, 1990; distributed by Indiana University Press, 1991)

New York's Jewish Jews: The Orthodox Community of the Interwar Years (Indiana University Press, 1990)

Our Gang: Jewish Crime and the New York Jewish Community, 1900-1940 (Indiana University Press, 1983/Inaugural volume, Modern Jewish Experience Series)

ARTICLES AND REVIEWS:

Monthly column, "The Wonders of America," The Forward, 2000-

"Notice," Nextbook, January 13, 2009

"A Leap of Faith. Gilded Lions and Jeweled Horses: The Synagogue to the Carousel," Museum of American Folk Art, Images: A Journal of Jewish Art and Visual Culture, Vol. 2, January 2009

Review of David Kraemer's *Jewish Eating and Identity through the Ages*, Gastronomica, Vol. 9, No. 1, Winter 2009.

"Paste and Future": Review Essay of Jessica Helfand's *Scrapbooks: An American History*, The New Republic, November 10, 2008.

"Rules Writ Large: Keith Haring's Confounding Ten Commandments," Nextbook, November 19, 2008

Review of Laura Schenone's *The Lost Ravioli Recipes of Hoboken*, Gastronomica, Vol. 8, No. 3, Summer 2008

"Moses, Man of the People," TNR (The New Republic) Online, August 28, 2007

Review of Barry Glosser's *The Gospel of Food*, Gastronomica, Vol. 7, No. 3, Summer 2007

"You Should See Yourself": A Review Essay on American Jewish History, Material Religion, 3:3 (2007)

"Upward into American Life," in Alana Newhouse, ed., A Living Lens: Photographs of Jewish Life from the Pages of the Forward (Norton, 2007)

"Fun and Games: American Jews and the Pursuit of Leisure," in Marc Lee Raphael, ed., The Columbia History of the Jewish People in America (Columbia University Press, 2007)

"Harness My Zebras": American Jews and Popular Culture," Creighton University Studies in Jewish Civilization (2007)

"Best-in-Show: American Jews and the Modern Museum," in Jack Wertheimer, ed. American Jews and the Search for Community (New England University Press, 2007)

"Dinner Ware: Not Quite Forgotten Restaurants," TNR (The New Republic) Online, February 15, 2006

Review of *Raphael Soyer and the Search for Modern Jewish Art*, American Historical Review, December 2005

Review of *Selling Style*, American Historical Review, February 2005

"Lilly Dache," Notable American Women (Harvard University Press, 2004)

"Travel Date," TNR (The New Republic) Online, January 19, 2004

"The Patriot Act," TNR (The New Republic) Online, July 21, 2004

“The Jubilee Fashion Show,” New York Archives, Vol. 4, No. 1, Summer 2004

“From Ghetto to Suburb: American Jews on the Move, 1880s-1950s,” Occasional Papers, the Louis & Ida and Rose Lummer Memorial Lecture, Center for Jewish Studies, Queens College, 2004

“Food Fight: The Modernization of Kashruth,” Creighton University Studies in Jewish Civilization, 2004

“In the Driver’s Seat: Rabbinic Authority in Postwar America,” in Jack Wertheimer, ed., Jewish Religious Leadership: Image and Reality, Vol. 2 (Jewish Theological Seminary, 2004)

“Bezalel Comes to Town: American Jews and Art,” in Jewish Studies Quarterly, Vol. 11, No. 4, 2004

“Tin Pan Academy,” The New Republic, March 29, 2004

“Perspectives,” Princeton Alumni Weekly, May 14, 2003

“Southern Discomfort,” The New Republic, May 19, 2003

“Above and Below,” The New Republic, May 27, 2002

“Holiday Cheer: Jewish Greeting Cards,” Pakhn Treger: The Magazine of the National Yiddish Book Center, Summer 2003

“Land of Promise: East European Jewish Immigrants in the South,” in Ted Rosengarten, ed., A Portion of the People (University of South Carolina, 2002)

“Weighty Matters and the Teenage Reader,” American Academy of Religion, Spotlight on Teaching, March 2002

“Pomp, Circumstance and the American Jewish Wedding,” in Grace Cohen Grossman, ed., Romance and Ritual: Celebrating the Jewish Wedding (The Skirball Museum, 2001)

“Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: Clothing, Identity and the Modern Jewish Experience,” in Deborah Dash Moore and S. Ilan Troen, eds., Divergent Centers (Yale University Press, 2001)

“Promises, Promises: The Jewish Romance with America,” in Karen Mittelman, ed., Creating American Jews (University Press of New England, 1998)

"By Design: Building the Campus of the Jewish Theological Seminary," in Jack Wertheimer, ed., Centennial History of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1997)

"Jewelry: The Natural Gift," in Ulysses Grant Dietz, ed., The Glitter and the Gold (The Newark Museum, 1997)

"Holy Vestments," Culturefront, Winter 1997

"Reading, Writing and a Library Card: New York Jews and the New York Public Library," Biblion, Fall 1996

"Telling Tales: Or, How A Slum Became a Shrine," Jewish Social Studies, Winter 1996

"Jewish Geography," Reviews in American History, Winter 1996

"Saving Souls: The Vocational Training of Jewish Girls," in Jeffrey Gurock and Marc Lee Raphael, eds., An Inventory of Promises: Essays on American Jewish History in Honor of Moses Rischin (Carlson, 1995)

"Count Your Blessings: Gender, Religion and Social Science," Contemporary Sociology, Volume 24, No. 2, March 1995

"Jewish in Dishes: The Observance of Kashrut in the New World," in Robert Seltzer, ed., The Americanization of the Jews (NYU Press, 1995)

"In Search of the Exotic: Orthodoxy and its Ethnographers," Studies in Contemporary Jewry, 1995

"Al Harei Catskill: American Jews and Leisure," Studies in Contemporary Jewry, 1993

"From Nine to Five: Immigrant Women at Work," Review Essay in American Jewish Archives, 1993

"'Merry Chanuka': The Changing Holiday Practices of American Jews," in Jack Wertheimer, ed., The Uses of Tradition (Harvard University Press/Jewish Theological Seminary, 1992)

"Class, Style and the New York Jewish Experience," Metropolis (November 1991)

"Of Manners, Morals and Orthodox Judaism: Decorum in the Synagogue," in Jeffrey Gurock, ed., Ramaz: School, Community, Scholarship and Orthodoxy (Ktav, 1989)

"The Special Sphere of the American Jewish Woman: The Synagogue Sisterhood," in Jack Wertheimer, ed., The American Synagogue: A Sanctuary Transformed (Cambridge University Press, 1987)

"The Apprenticeship of Abraham Cahan," Reviews in American History, Volume 15, No. 1, March 1987

"The Landlord as Czar," in Ronald Lawson, ed. The Tenant Movement in New York City, 1904-1984 (Rutgers University Press, 1986)

"Modern Orthodox Jews and the Ordeal of Civility," American Jewish History, Winter 1985

"What Happened to New York's 'Jewish Jews'?: Moses Rischin's 'The Promised City' Revisited," American Jewish History, Winter 1984

"Closing the Golden Door: American Attitudes toward Immigration," U.S. Committee for Refugees, 1984

"An Answer to Commissioner Bingham: A Case Study of New York Jews and Crime," YIVO Annual of Jewish Social Science, Volume 18, 1983

"The Perceptions and Reality of Immigrant Health Conditions in America," U. S. Select Commission on Immigration and Refugee Policy (Government Printing Office, 1981)

"From Kitchen to Storefront: Women in the American Tenant Movement," New Space for Women (Westview Press, 1980)

"Without Ghettoism: A History of the Intercollegiate Menorah Association," American Jewish Archives, Volume 30, 1978

FORTHCOMING ARTICLES:

"The Americanization of the Ten Commandments," The New Republic (Fall 2009)

"Culture Mavens: Understanding American Jewish Life," in Jewish Cultural Studies, Volume 2 (May 2009)

WORK IN PROGRESS:

America's Tablets: The Ten Commandments and the Making of the Modern Nation

COURSES TAUGHT:

The Ten Commandments in Modern America

Growing up Jewish in America, 1880s-1960s

Prejudice on Trial: Law, Justice and Anti-Semitism

Culture Mavens: American Jews and the Performing Arts

Jews on Display: Exhibitions on the Jews and Judaism in the Modern and Postmodern Era

Fashioning the Modern Jewish Experience: Clothing and the Jews

Jewish Geography: A Survey of the Modern Jewish Experience

Looking at Ourselves: Material Culture and Jewish History

The Promised City: New York Jewish Life, 1654-1954

Minhag America: A Survey of American Jewish History

Daily Life in Historical Perspective (History Junior Seminar)

The 1950s

The American Suburb: Its Culture and History

Let's Eat: Food in Contemporary American Culture (Freshman Seminar)

The American Metropolis: New York City, 1880s-1950s

The Making of Americans: Material Culture and the Immigrant Experience

Show & Tell: The Exhibition in Modern and Postmodern Culture

Celebrating Life in America: Rites of Passage in Historical Perspective

Hallowing the City: Religion and the Modern Urban Experience

The Almighty Dollar: Religion and Money

American Religious History: A Survey

Celebrating Life in America: Rites of Passage in Historical Perspective

Princeton Junior Colloquium in Religion