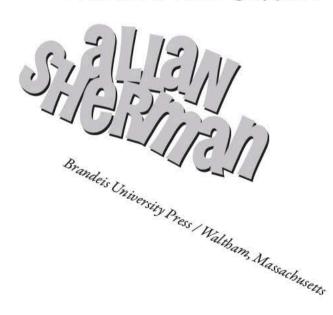
Sallsall Self

THE LIFE AND COMEDY OF



Brandeis University Press
An imprint of University Press of New England
www.upne.com
© 2013 Mark Cohen
All rights reserved
Manufactured in the United States of America
Designed by Mindy Basinger Hill
Typeset in Garamond Premier Pro

University Press of New England is a member of the Green Press Initiative. The paper used in this book meets their minimum requirement for recycled paper.

For permission to reproduce any of the material in this book, contact Permissions, University Press of New England, One Court Street, Suite 250, Lebanon NH 03766; or visit www.upne.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Cohen, Mark.

Overweight sensation: the life and comedy of Allan Sherman / Mark Cohen.

p. cm. — (Brandeis series in American Jewish history, culture, and life)
Includes bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 978-1-61168-256-4 (cloth: alk. paper) —
ISBN 978-1-61168-427-8 (ebook)

Sherman, Allan, 1924–1973.
 Singers—United States—Biography.
 Jewish comedians—United States—Biography.

4. Humorous songs—United States—20th century— History and criticism. I. Title.

ML420.S5373C65 2013 782'.42164092—dc23

[B] 2012038565

5 4 3 2 I



contems

PROLOGUE / Overweight Sensation / xi

INTRODUCTION / Humpty Dumpty / 1

ONE / Witz-Krieg! / 8

Two / College in Sex Acts (Printer's Error) / 33

THREE / I've Got a Secret / 58

FOUR / There Is Nothing Like a Lox / 83

FIVE / Ollavood! / 103

SIX / My Son, the Folk Singer / 121

SEVEN / My Son, the Celebrity / 145

EIGHT / My Son, the Nut / 170

NINE / Allan in Wonderland / 188

TEN / Peyton Place, U.S.A. / 207

ELEVEN / Oddball / 222

TWELVE / Hallowed Be Thy Game / 236

THIRTEEN / Hail to Thee, Fat Person / 251

Acknowledgments / 261

APPENDIX / "Goldeneh Moments from Broadway" and Other Parody Song Lyrics / 265

Notes / 284

Bibliography / 324

Index / 340

Illustrations follow page 144.