

# Brandeis

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# The Jazz Barn

Music Inn, The Berkshires, and the Place of Jazz in American Life

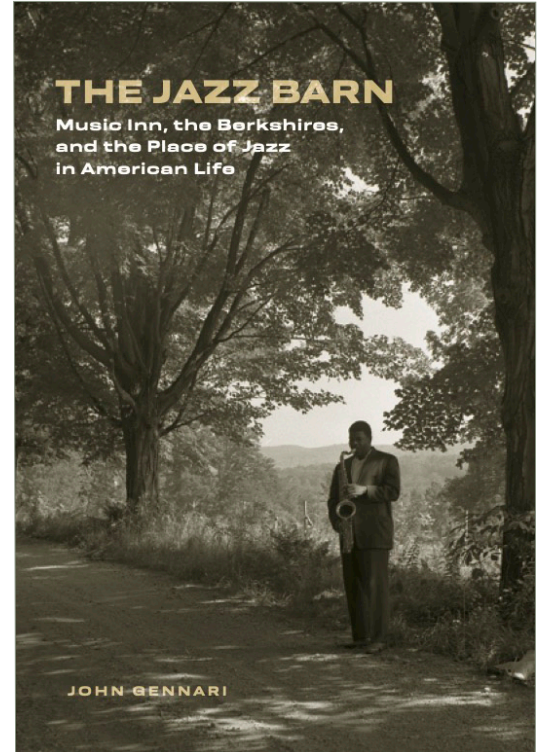
**John Gennari**

**How a small-town in New England became a home for jazz, challenging conventional assumptions about the relationship between culture and landscape, art and geography, town and city, and race and place.**

This is a book about what happened in the 1950s in a barn, an icehouse, and a greenhouse in the verdant Berkshire Hills of western Massachusetts. Against the backdrop of McCarthyism, the civil rights movement, the expansion of the Afro-Caribbean diaspora, and postwar cultural tourism, two New Yorkers bought part of a sprawling estate in Lenox, where they converted an old barn and other outbuildings into an inn that could host musical performances and seminars. The Berkshire Music Barn went on to host jazz greats like Duke Ellington, Dave Brubeck and Billie Holiday, as well as jazz roundtables grounded in folkloric approaches to the music.

*The Jazz Barn* explores the cultural significance of venues like the Berkshire Music Barn and later the Lenox School of Jazz to tell a surprising story about race, culture, and place. John Gennari explores how a predominantly white New England town became a haven for African American musicians, and reveals the Berkshires as an important incubator not just of American literature and classical music but also of the Modern Jazz Quartet and Ornette Coleman's "new thing." The Berkshire Music Barn became a crucial space for the mainstreaming of jazz. By the late 1950s, the School of Jazz was an epicenter of the genre's avant-garde.

Richly illustrated with the photographs of Clemens Kalischer among others, *The Jazz Barn* demonstrates that the locations where jazz is played and heard indelibly shape the music and its meanings.



OCTOBER

254 p. 5 x 8

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-285-3

Paper: \$35.00

JAZZ / MUSIC / HISTORY

**John Gennari** is professor of English and critical race and ethnic studies at the University of Vermont. He is the author of *Flavor and Soul: Italian America at Its African American Edge* and *Blowin' Hot and Cool: Jazz and Its Critics*.

# Weimar Under the Palms

Pacific Palisades, German Exiles, and the  
Invention of Hollywood

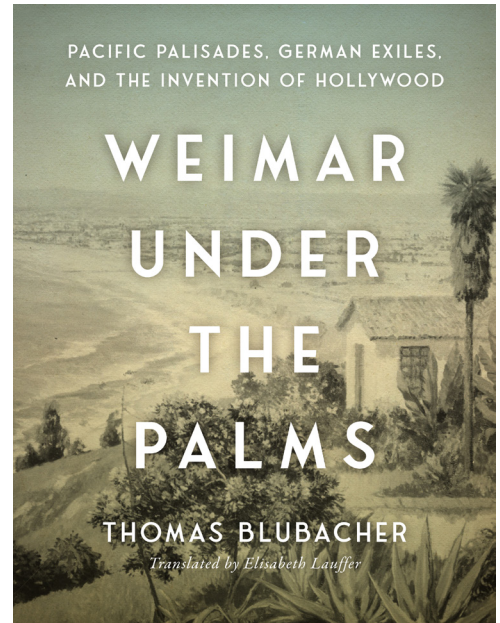
**Thomas Blubacher**

Translated by Elizabeth Lauffer

**The story of the German exiles—and cultural titans—who settled in Pacific Palisades and influenced American culture.**

In the early twentieth century, Pacific Palisades was home to America's most modern film studio of the time as well as the proposed site of the world's largest Christian center. But by the end of the 1920s, the Los Angeles neighborhood had become the refuge of the rich and beautiful as German and Austrian filmmakers, among them Salka and Berthold Viertel, settled there. They were soon followed by cultural and intellectual giants of the Weimar Republic who were fleeing Europe, such as Max Reinhardt, Hanns Eisler, or Max Horkheimer. These great minds turned Pacific Palisades into a "Weimar under the palm trees." Though many were successful in exile—including Vicki Baum, Thomas Mann, and Lion Feuchtwanger—others felt as if they were in a "sun prison" far from home.

Recounting a story of glamor and great minds, Thomas Blubacher tells of the history of German-speaking exiles that is still alive there today, going on a foray through the film industry, taking us on a journey to this special place which was so recently devastated by fire. Many of the homes in this book have now gone, but Martha Feuchtwanger's Villa Aurora and the Thomas Mann house still stand as a testament to luck, resilience, and history.



OCTOBER

256 p. 7 x 9

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-287-7

Cloth \$29.95

CINEMA / GERMAN / HISTORY / LOS ANGELES / ART

**Thomas Blubacher** has written over thirty books and has worked as a theater director in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. A specialist on theater and film of the 1930s, his books include biographies of the siblings Eleonora and Francesco von Mendelssohn, Gustaf Gründgens, Oscar Wälterlin, Ruth Landshoff-Yorck, and Ruth Hellberg. He has also written essays and travel features, and has published a bestselling book on cruises and several historical crime novels. **Elisabeth Lauffer** is a German-English literary translator based in the United States. She has translated many books of fiction and nonfiction since then.

# Lessons in Drag

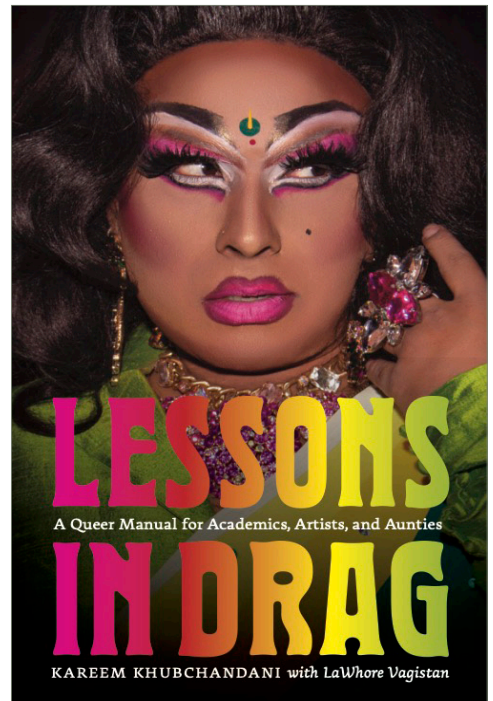
A Queer Manual for Academics, Artists,  
and Aunties

Kareem Khubchandani with  
LaWhore Vagistan

**Scholarship and performance combine to show how drag can be a blueprint for critique, care, teaching, and worldmaking.**

*Lessons in Drag* brings to life a vibrant and thought-provoking dialogue between scholar Kareem Khubchandani and his drag persona LaWhore Vagistan. Beginning with an intimate interview, the book unfolds in alternating chapters where the two exchange insights, stories, and critiques. Khubchandani delves into the lessons LaWhore's drag practice offers about academia—shaping his approaches to research, teaching, and writing—while Vagistan reveals how Khubchandani's scholarship influences her performances, inspiring her understanding of fashion, music, divas, and aunties. Together, their reflections and conversations weave a compelling tapestry of drag's instructive power. Witty, bold, and deeply personal, *Lessons in Drag* is both an invitation to explore drag as a practice and a celebration of its transformative potential.

**Kareem Khubchandani** is associate professor of theater, dance, and performance studies and associate professor of studies in race, colonialism, and diaspora at Tufts University. He is the author of *Decolonize Drag* and *Ishtyle: Accenting Gay Indian Nightlife* and the coeditor of *Queer Nightlife*. **LaWhore Vagistan** is your favorite aunty's favorite aunty—always over-dressed, over-educated, and over-opinionated. Her music videos, including "Sari" and "There's a Stranger in My House," have been featured at international film festivals. In 2009, she cofounded the queer South Asian party Jai Ho! in Chicago, and in 2023, she launched Dragistan, an annual South Asian drag showcase in New York.



OCTOBER

300 p. 5 x 8

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-289-1

Paper: \$29.95

QUEER STUDIES / SOCIAL STUDIES / EDUCATION



# Milk Money

Cash, Cows, and the Death of the American Dairy Farm

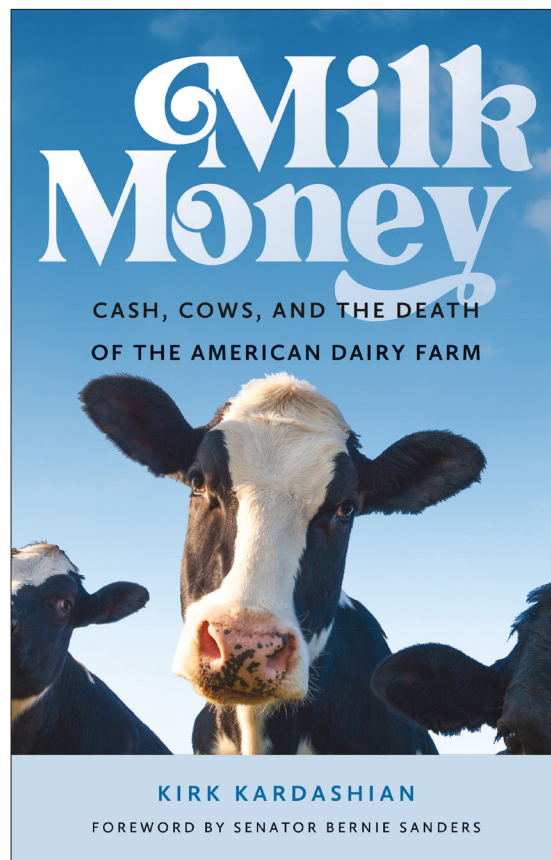
**Kirk Kardashian**  
**Foreword by Bernie Sanders**

**A gripping and witty exploration of the economic forces that make it challenging for small dairy farms to survive.**

The dairy business is at the heart of the culture and economy of Vermont, just as it is in many other states. That fact meant little to Kirk Kardashian until he started taking his daughter to daycare at a dairy farm a few miles from his Vermont home. The farm had been owned by the same family for generations but struggled to make ends meet in a market where retail milk prices have held steady for decades while the prices paid to farmers have plummeted. Suddenly, the abstractions of economics and commodities markets were replaced by the flesh and blood of a farm family whom he greeted every day.

In the tradition of Michael Pollan and Eric Schlosser, Kardashian asks whether it is right that family farmers in America should toil so hard, produce a food so wholesome and so popular, and still lose money. His investigation uncovers the hidden forces behind dairy farm consolidation and explains why milk—a staple subject to both government oversight and industry collusion—has proven so tricky to stabilize, even as scores of small dairy farms close. This new edition brings the story up to date, as farmers grapple with an ever-changing landscape that includes shifting consumer preferences, immigration issues, climate change, and bird flu.

**Kirk Kardashian** is a senior writer at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth and a freelance journalist who writes about agriculture, business, and the outdoors. He lives in Woodstock, Vermont with his wife and three children.



**OCTOBER**

278 p. 5.5 x 8.5

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-294-5

Paper: \$29.95

AGRICULTURE / AMERICAN STUDIES / BUSINESS /

SOCIAL STUDIES

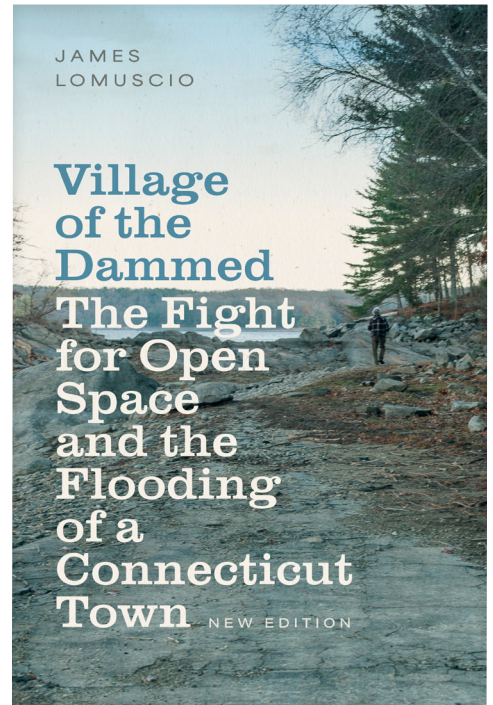
# Village of the Dammed

The Fight for Open Space and the Flooding of a Connecticut Town

**James Lomuscio**

The powerful afterlife of a town that was seized by eminent domain and flooded to create a reservoir, featuring new material which brings the story up to date.

In the early 1940s, the Bridgeport Hydraulic Company flooded Connecticut's Saugatuck River Valley to create a reservoir that would meet the region's growing population. Under twelve billion gallons of water lay Valley Forge, once a thriving iron and steel manufacturing town, which was seized by eminent domain to create the reservoir and dam. In *Village of the Dammed*, journalist James Lomuscio tells the story of the rise and fall of Valley Forge, drawing on Civil War-era photographs of the town and other sources to show what the town was like, document the futile battle to save it, and reveal the flooding's life-altering repercussions. He also recounts a grassroots movement to prevent the development of nearby Trout Brook Valley in the 1990s, a heated fight with a different outcome. As the population of the American northeast continues to swell and spread, placing new demands on existing resources, communities are frequently confronted with forces and choices not unlike those faced by Valley Forge and Trout Brook Valley. *Village of the Dammed* reminds us to be ever vigilant in the protection of our irreplaceable environmental heritage.



SEPTEMBER

150 p. 6.5 x 9.6

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-296-9

Paper: \$29.95

ENVIRONMENT / NEW ENGLAND / HISTORY

**James Lomuscio** has written for Gannett newspapers, the *New York Times*, the *Connecticut Post*, *Stamford Advocate* and has served as the editor of the *Westport News*, *Westport Magazine*, and the associate editor of *WestportNow.com*. He is the author of the textbook *Writing with Your Head and Your Heart: Balancing Logic and Emotion to Create Powerful Nonfiction* and the book *Imagination Revisited, Imagination Regained*. He is an adjunct professor of journalism and composition at Norwalk Community College and has taught at Western Connecticut State University and Sacred Heart University.

# Between Jaffa and Tel Aviv, 1870-1930

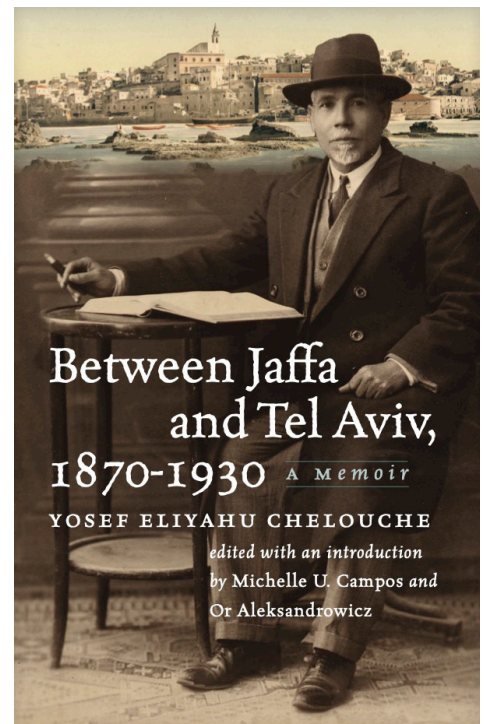
A Memoir

Edited by Michelle U. Campos and  
Or Aleksandrowicz

The literary memoir of a founder of Tel Aviv, now available  
for the first time in an annotated English translation.

Born in Jaffa in 1870, Yosef Eliyahu Chelouche grew up within a notable Sephardi family in the local Jewish community. He went on to become a prominent entrepreneur; a founder of Tel Aviv; and a fierce critic of the Ashkenazi Zionist leadership, Arab nationalism, and British colonial sectarianism; before emerging, in the last decade of his life, as an anguished public figure struggling to repair Arab-Jewish relations.

His memoir paints an intimate portrait of life in Palestine at the turn of the twentieth century, told from the perspective of a Middle Eastern Jew deeply embedded in local society. By centering on the world and experiences of a native Jew who was an eyewitness to and participant in the unfolding conflict in Palestine, this book shows how the course of Zionist politics and Jewish-Arab relations in pre-state Palestine might have taken alternative pathways. A comprehensive introduction sets the scene in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Jaffa and thoughtful annotations contextualize Chelouche's story within the modern history of Palestine and Israel. *Between Jaffa and Tel Aviv, 1870–1930* tells the fascinating story of a civic leader—and offers a complex view of the various cultural, social, and political forces that forged multilayered Jewish identities in the Middle East. The book includes a family tree and is illustrated with photographs of the family and scenes of Jaffa and early Tel Aviv.



DECEMBER

400 p. 6 x 9

ISBN-13: 978-1-68458-256-3

Cloth \$160 | Paper: \$40

JEWISH HISTORY / POLITICS / MEMOIR /  
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

**Yosef Eliyahu Chelouche** (1870–1934), was a prominent builder, entrepreneur, public figure, and a founder of Tel Aviv. **Michelle U. Campos** is associate professor of history and Jewish studies at Pennsylvania State University. A historian of late Ottoman Palestine, she is the author of *Ottoman Brothers: Muslims, Christians, and Jews in Early Twentieth-Century Palestine*. **Or Aleksandrowicz** is assistant professor in the Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. He is an architectural and urban historian and serves as the chief editor of *Architectures* book series at Babel Publishers. Aleksandrowicz is also a descendant of Yosef Eliyahu Chelouche.

# Beyond Brutality

Reclaiming Female Presence in Bavli Sotah

Jane Kanarek

**A feminist reading of one of the most troubling tractates of the Talmud.**

*Beyond Brutality* draws on feminist analysis and gender studies to examine tractate Sotah of the Babylonian Talmud as a literary unit. By interrogating how, why, and where women are invisible within Bavli Sotah, Jane Kanarek brings to light a ubiquitous female presence throughout the text. Despite the brutality of the sotah ritual—in which the woman accused of adultery is put through a divine ordeal intended to reveal her innocence or her guilt—this book demonstrates that Bavli Sotah is not primarily concerned with describing the sotah ritual or establishing male control over women. Instead, Bavli Sotah becomes a pedagogical text in which the sotah is secondary to moral and sinning men. As the sotah herself fades into the background, the sotah ritual nevertheless overflows its boundaries and weaves its way through a range of other topics within the tractate. In the process, Bavli Sotah teaches its audience who transmits and how one transmits rabbinic culture.

**Jane Kanarek** is professor of rabbinics at Hebrew College. She is author of *Biblical Narrative and the Formation of Rabbinic Law* and coeditor of *Mothers in the Jewish Cultural Imagination*.



**DECEMBER**

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Cloth \$130.00 | Paper: \$40

JEWISH STUDIES / FEMINISM / GENDER STUDIES



# ENACTing Change

A Handbook for Teaching Advocacy

**Kathleen Cole, Robert W. Glover,  
Richard J. Meagher, and Katharine A. Owens**

**Explains the ENACT model of student civic engagement, empowers instructors to implement it, and shows them how to assess its impact.**

ENACT: The Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation aims to teach college students about democracy through engagement with the state legislative process. Built on the values of knowledge, cooperation, justice, and integrity, ENACT is a national, intercollegiate nonpartisan network. The program empowers students to be active participants in democratic processes by connecting with policymakers and community organizations, conducting research and analysis, and informing public policy with evidence and expertise.

*ENACTing Change* introduces teachers to the philosophy and practice of the ENACT model—which includes workshops, courses, an online network, as well as pilot projects and other initiatives—while providing detailed guidance on how to incorporate the model into their courses, regardless of discipline or educational settings. The book offers instructors recommendations for developing and teaching courses that engage in state-level policy advocacy with a focus on learning outcomes. *ENACTing Change* takes instructors through each step of the course design process, from how to build the relationships needed to teach the class to the next steps for students to work in the community after ENACT.

**Kathleen Cole** is professor of political science at Metropolitan State University in Minnesota. **Robert W. Glover** is associate professor of political science and honors at the University of Maine. **Richard J. Meagher** is professor of political science at Randolph-Macon College in Virginia. **Katharine A. Owens** is professor in the Department of Politics, Economics, and International Studies and the director of the Rell Center for Public Service at the University of Hartford.

ENACTing Change  
A Handbook for  
Teaching Advocacy and  
Civic Engagement

KATHLEEN COLE · ROBERT W. GLOVER  
RICHARD J. MEAGHER · KATHARINE A. OWENS



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LAW / POLITICAL SCIENCE / EDUCATION