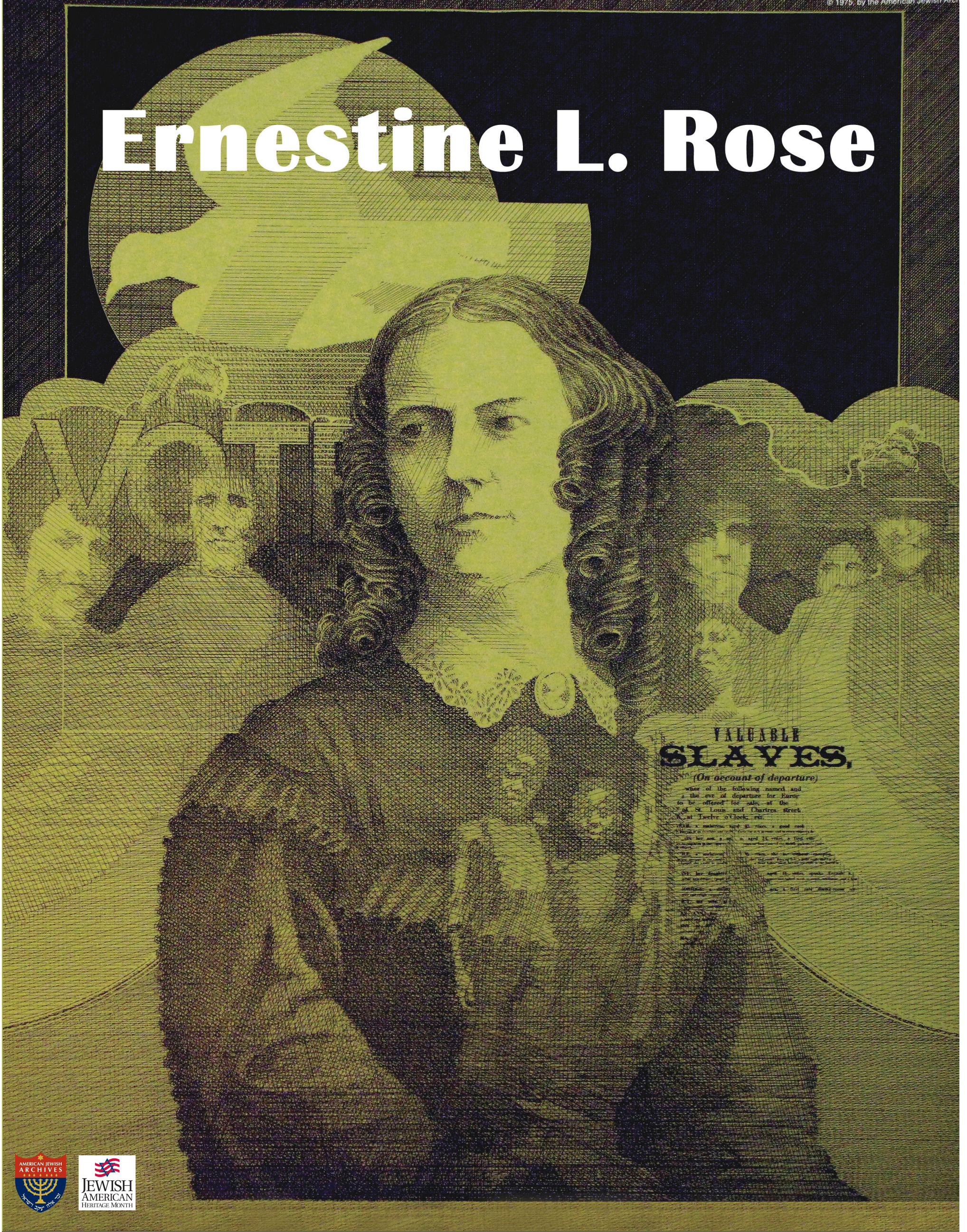


# Ernestine L. Rose



Though married to an English non-Jew, Polish-born **ERNESTINE LOUISE ROSE** (1810-1892) was the daughter of an Orthodox rabbi. She had no sympathy for organized religion, however; her religion was humanity, and her remarkable life embodies the social reformism so characteristic of the nineteenth century. Travelling extensively in France, Germany, and England, she found social and economic conditions crying out for remedy wherever she went. Between 1836 and 1869, she and her husband William lived in the United States. Mrs. Rose went everywhere in the East, and as far west as Michigan, to lecture on the controversial

humanitarian causes—women’s rights, free schools, the abolition of slavery, government reform—dear to her heart. She was especially devoted to women’s rights and labored for them with a fierce, eager energy. The fact that her views and her foreign origin often aroused bitter antagonism appears not to have discouraged her at all. For instance, between 1850 and her return to England in 1869, she played an important part in nearly every New York State and national convention for women’s rights. Neither fool nor fanatic, Mrs. Rose was possessed of a keen mind and the power to speak with logic as well as eloquence.