



Will and Grace star Debra Messing and comic actor Zero Mostel

# A people in pictures

A new book of photos provides a record of over 100 years of Jewry. Alex Kasriel leafs through its pages

**W**EIGHING AROUND 6.5KG (or just over 1st), and comprising 636 pages filled with over 600 photographs, *A Book of Jews* is one of the largest and most comprehensive collections of images of Jewish people and subjects ever to be published.

Virtually every Jewish figure who has achieved anything in the fields of arts, sciences, politics, and sport is in there—from the Marx Brothers to Sacha Baron Cohen, Pissarro to Rothko, Disraeli to Miliband. Freud, Einstein and Kafka are included, as are Mark Spitz, Sharon Osborne and Roman Abramovich.

Almost every significant personality in Israel's history is featured, but it is not just the famous who get in—there are striking, dramatic and beautiful images of Orthodox Jews at prayer, of settler protests on the West Bank, of drinkers at a club in 1950s Leeds. And there is, of course, also a section on the Holocaust.

The men behind the limited edition volume are Robert Marcuson and Marcus Flacks. Marcuson says the book took 4,000 hours to produce, during which time he sifted through 60,000 images. "I have always wanted to put together a big photographic book," he says. "It is not to do with religion—it is to do with culture and the Jews who have made a huge impact on the 20th century."

*A Book of Jews* is available at [www.abookofjews.com](http://www.abookofjews.com) for £275. A £25 discount is available to JC readers who quote the code JC01



Iconic images of Peter Lorre and Danny Kaye from 1940s Hollywood



Icons of contemporary music, Amy Winehouse and Mark Ronson



The pose is the same, the objects under inspection very different



Modern laughter-makers Sarah Silverman and Jack Black



Purim in Israel: come in fancy dress but don't leave your gun at home



Singer-songwriter Bob Dylan and a striking profile of Barbra Streisand