

Jessica Roda is an anthropologist and ethnomusicologist. She is currently serving as an assistant professor of Jewish Civilization in the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. Her research interests include music, performance, international politics, intercultural dialogue, subcultures, and diaspora. She earned Ph.Ds from both Sorbonne University and the University of Montreal respectively during which she studies the political implications of Sephardic and Arab-Jewish music as well as the Unesco Convention of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003). More recently, Dr. Roda began an ethnography of Ultra-Religious Jewish Life in Montreal and New York City. Specifically, she is researching the emergence of Hasidic subcultures and their influence on the transformation of kinship, sexuality, and popular culture in the religious Jewish world.

Before joining the Center for Jewish Civilization, Dr. Roda was a postdoctoral fellow at McGill University (Department of Jewish Studies), Concordia University (Department of History and Anthropology/Sociology), University of Quebec in Montreal (Canada Research Chair in Urban Heritage). Her research has been funded by several programs and institutions such as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the *Fonds de Recherche Société et Culture du Québec*, the Berman Foundation Early Career Fellowships, the *Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah*, the *Fondation du Judaïsme Français*, the French Society for Ethnomusicology and the Sara Marcos de Benveniste Fellowship. In 2014, she has been selected by the Royal Society of Canada and the Science Council of Japan to participate in the WISSET Program. Additionally, Dr. Roda has been a visiting scholar at UCLA (Department of Ethnomusicology), Columbia University (Heyman Center) and Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil. Beyond her academic life, she is also trained as a pianist, flutist and modern-jazz dancer (City of Paris Conservatory).