Although Israel Zangwill’s play *The Melting Pot* popularized the concept of America as a fusion of ethnicities, languages, and religions, little attention is paid to the role of language in the dramatization of this idea, in particular the representation of Hebrew and Yiddish. I will discuss the linguistic dimension of the play in its historical and social context and will examine how the representation of sound (dialect, accent and music) and image (stage props, alphabet, and collective memory) challenge prevailing ideas of the melting pot from a Jewish American perspective.

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