

Gladys Bentley

Queer Music Heritage. *Gladys Bentley*.

<https://www.queermusicheritage.com/bentley1.html>

This website is an amazing resource for American queer music history, and includes a scrapbook-style collection of newspaper articles and other ephemera relating to Gladys. Of particular note are Gladys Bentley's 1952 *Ebony* article "I am a woman again" (<http://queermusicheritage.com/bentley6.html>), the collection of articles pertaining to Gladys' supposed marriage to JT Gipson (<https://www.queermusicheritage.com/bentley5.html>), and Eric Garber's 1988 article "Gladys Bentley: The Bulldagger Who Sang the Blues", a key source of biographical detail (<https://www.queermusicheritage.com/bentley8.html>).

Jones, Regina V. (2012). "How Does A Bulldagger Get Out of the Footnote? Or Gladys Bentley's Blues", *ninepatch: A Creative Journal for Women and Gender Studies* Vol. 1 No. 1.

Church, Moira Mahoney (2018). *If This Be Sin: Gladys Bentley And The Performance of Identity*.

<https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=5705&context=etd>

Kasik, Mary E. (2016). *Performance and Sexuality During the Harlem Renaissance: Gladys Bentley and Ma Rainey*.

<https://digitallibrary.sdsu.edu/islandora/object/sdsu%3A1565>

Garber, Eric (1990). "A Spectacle in Color: The Lesbian and Gay Subculture of Jazz Age Harlem". In Martin Duberman, Martha Vicinus and George Chauncey Jr. (eds), *Hidden from history: reclaiming the gay and lesbian past*.

This chapter provides some good background on queer culture in blues and the Harlem Renaissance, with a few mentions of Gladys.

Wilson, James F. (2010). *Bulldaggers, Pansies and Chocolate Babies: Performance, Race, and Sexuality in the Harlem Renaissance*.

The book includes more background on the Harlem Renaissance, as well as a chapter on Gladys, with biographical information and lyric analysis of many of her songs.

Krantz, Susan (1995). "Reconsidering the Etymology of Bulldike", *American Speech* Vol.70 No. 2.

https://scholarworks.uno.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1041&context=engl_facpubs

This article explores the etymology of words like 'bulldyke'/'bulldike' and 'bulldagger', both of which have been used to describe Gladys' masculine lesbian identity

Lesbian Herstory Archives (1980, 1988). *Mabel Hampton oral histories*.

<http://herstories.prattinfoschool.nyc/omeka/exhibits/show/mabel-hampton-oral-history/item/71>

<http://herstories.prattinfoschool.nyc/omeka/document/SPW1145>

Mabel Hampton was a lesbian and contemporary of Gladys in Harlem. There are extensive oral histories interviews with her available through the Lesbian Herstory Archives. In the two tapes linked above she talks about her memories of lesbian marriages in Harlem.

Kellz LaB (2014). *SBK presents Gladys Bentley*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpfPPQin8Rg&feature>

This 1958 *You Bet Your Life* interview with Gladys Bentley shows her later, more traditionally feminine style, and includes the performance which we played in our podcast.