

Ernestine Rose (1810 – 1892), A Polish Born Leader of the American Woman’s Suffrage Movement

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A Lecture by Norman Kelker
The Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences in America
208 East 30th Street
New York, NY 10016



Ernestine Rose was a Polish born campaigner for human rights and a major figure in the American women’s struggle to gain the right to vote. She arrived in the United States in 1836 and began 32 years devoted the woman’s suffrage movement. Armed with magnificent oratory, superb debating skills and a keen mind she traveled throughout the country in an unceasing effort to gain the vote for women. She fought slavery advocates, anti-suffrage ministers, senators and congressman and anyone else who stood in the way of human rights. Ernestine Rose’s life is a unique testimony to the cause of freedom. She lived her life as she wrote in a letter to Susan B. Anthony, “All that I can tell you is, that I used my humble powers to the uttermost, and raised my voice in behalf of women’s rights in general, and the elevation of woman in particular, nearly all my life.”