

Review of: "Passing Strange: Radical Chic, Race, Sex, Song, and Dance in "Moanin' Low""

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The topic of the article is the number "Moaning Low" from the first Little Show in 1929 and its aspect of blackfacing. The author seeks to contextualize that number focussing on the dance within the discourse of the radical chic. That is an interesting approach as it also thinks about blackface asthetics in connection to racism and discourses at the time the dance was performed. What I do think needs more working on is the structure of the article. While the first part of the text is well researched and greatly focusses on context, the second part loses itself in details of other performances. The theory foundations that are mentioned (e.g. Habermas) would deserve a deeper exploration instead of the references to other performers. Furthermore, I am irritated by the fact that the lyrics of the song of "Moaning Low" do not receive any attention. They do belong to the performance and need analysis, too. Please also note that the youtube link given in the endnotes is no longer available. A replacement is needed. I recommend publication after the second part of the paper has been rewritten.

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