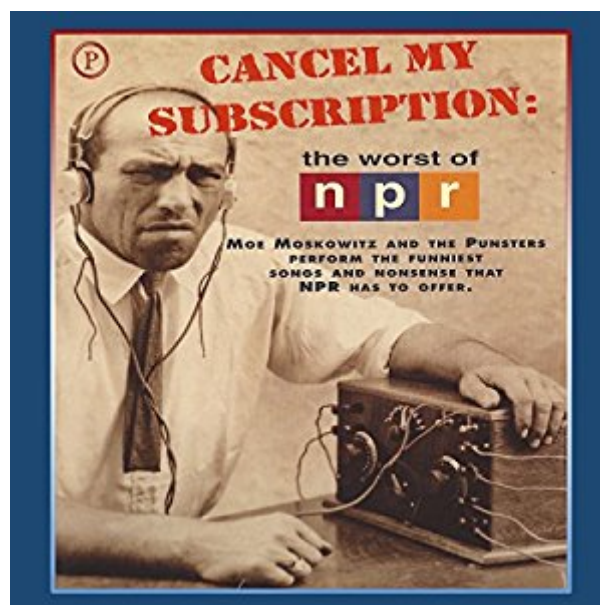




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Cancel My Subscription: The Worst Of NPR: Moe Moskowitz And The Punsters Perform The Funniest Songs And Nonsense That NPR Has To Offer



Synopsis

Moe Moskowitz is back! And this time, he's joined by NPR's Bob Edwards, Alex Chadwick, Terry Gross, Cokie Roberts, Susan Stamberg, Robert Siegel, Carl Kasell, Frank Tavares, and an outstanding array of people. The Punsters join him to perform the funniest songs and nonsense that NPR has to offer.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Originally published by Phoenix Books in April of 2001 Re-published in 2016 Multicast performance
Duration: 1 hour, 6 minutes
Moe Moskowitz used to be a semi-regular feature on NPR in the morning. He is a character created by author and high school English teacher Robert Kaplow. NPR is not known for its humor. In fact, I listened to one of their compilation CDs that was supposed to be funny and found it to be even less funny than the normal types of stories that NPR covers during a normal morning. Great news stories but, aside from the weekend stuff, they're not particularly funny. Moe Moskowitz must have been like the proverbial bull in the China shop when his bits were played. He is quick, clever and non-stop. His attention ranges all over the place. He sings, he pitches new product ideas, he pitches new story ideas, he parodies everything from Alvin and the Chipmunks to Cokie Roberts. The collection is sort of a recounting the amazing career of Moskowitz. The style is very much in the style of Spike Jones and the City Slickers, a group that was pretty much the Weird Al Yankovic of the 1940s and 1950s. Was it funny? For NPR this is a knee-slapper. I found it to be amusing with just a couple of truly funny moments. I listened, enjoyed it well enough but I have no plans to go back and listen again. Lots of parody songs, lots of clever

lines but nothing that really nailed it for me.

This collection of silly little songs and gags makes me gag. I'm not sure what Moe Moskowitz is doing on NPR, but his material is just horrible. It is worse when NPR celebs (with their wooden cadences and serious personas) join in the "fun." Moe's songs -- like "The Palimony Song" (throw in the VCR!) -- are vapid and stupid. The humor must be heavy irony, because there is little that is genuinely funny on this album. Maybe clever, maybe manic, but always painful -- with jokes at the level of a 1950s Dean Martin roast. Unbearable.

This is worth listening to for a couple of absolute gems, but the hour-plus of uneven material needed a much more ruthless editor. I loved the punk sendups of "This was a real nice clambake" and "Do you love me," the do-it-yourself hit record, and a couple of other bits. The musical quality and the mimicking of artist styles is dead-on throughout. But pervading the whole thing was a sensation that its creators thought that everything was way funnier than I found much of it. Parodies of things already parodies themselves, like the Prairie Home Companion bit and the WB cartoon bit, added nothing to the wit of the originals. The other reviewer who compared this to the Firesign Theater I believe was accurate (and I'm not a big FT fan); if you like them, you will enjoy this. Moe, get punk Rogers n Hammerstein and DIY Hit Record onto iTunes, and I will gladly download them.

I could only last 13 minutes

I've been a fan of Moe Moskowitz and the Punsters for many years. This compilation is wonderful selection of songs and gags--some of which I've heard--and most of which are new to me. The musical parodies are delicious: Beach Boys, Steely Dan, Rodgers and Hammerstein. And the wild, surreal sketches filled with their improbable products (a child's toy called Hasta La Vista, Mother Earth: "Study everything there is to know about our planet, and then blow it up! Cosmic debris sold separately") are truly hilarious. Plus you get to hear a dozen NPR types making fun of themselves. Moe rules! He is the man!

The NPR staff and Moe Moskowitz have produced pointed programs for over fifteen years, satirizing politics, music and the media -- Cancel My Subscription: Worst of NPR covers the history of NPR, from his hits to his classic observations of life and the ironies of society. Fun and entertaining.

Anyone who is tired of the sanctimoniousness of NPR will find this recording a superb surprise. Here are all those voices we know and love, but they're actually being funny and satirical and spontaneous! Who knew that Alex Chadwick and Cokie Roberts could sing! A witty collection of sketches and songs: clever, smart, and sly.

If you're a fan of Firesign Theatre or the Goon Show : fast, verbal, surreal humor, this is a great recording. It's a slickly produced pop-culture parody that takes on everybody. It's tuneful and genuinely hilarious. "Jive in Jersey" is worth the price of the compact disk. "The Do-It-Yourself Big Hit Record" is also a five-star track.

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