

Because Winters' brand of comedy was a bit strange and he invented so many interesting characters, he built a career on being a very funny person. His visits to late night talk shows were always popularly anticipated and terribly entertaining. Upon learning the octogenarian comedian would be releasing a new album on April 5, many felt that old anticipation kicking in.

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The new album comprises 12 tracks, each an interview (by Bob Shaw) of Winters as one of the characters that inhabit his head (100-year-old man, "Swedish Bowler," "Leading Terrorists," 700-pound man, animal trainer, Maude Frickett). Much of the material is perplexing, although not particularly humorous (which, in itself, is sad). There are laughs to be had, but they are few.

Listeners may be puzzled by the attempt at deriving humor from an elderly woman who has been raped many times, finding most attacks (with one exception) to be rather annoying. I hope political correctness is not creeping up on me because this seemed tasteless and insensitive at best. His "Leading Terrorists" bit is more ironic, but not in a funny way. It leaves listeners wondering, "What happened to Jonathan Winters?" Many of the "interviews" seem to just grind to an end, never succeeding in being memorable. Maybe I'm just losing my "unusual sense of humor."

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Two words describe Bob Etier: "female" and "weird." Like
many freelance writers, there's something about her that
isn't quite right. Read her stuff and find out what.

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