

# your show of SHOWS

## QUENTIN CRISP

I like Tom Selleck's *Magnum, P.I.* This kind of program is done better in America than anywhere else. I don't think people appreciate enough the enormous skills that are put into such a show. There's so much action, even between the titles and the first glimpse of dog food, that one must have enormous skills to carry it off. (Tel)

I wouldn't say that Mr. Selleck is one of the great personalities of television. I think he rather likes the idea of playing a mortal, and this is much of his appeal for me. For example, he's frequently wrong on the show; he frequently doesn't solve the problem, it solves itself; he's frequently defeated, and he *accepts* defeat. He is a human being, not a star. Now, Telly Savalas and Raymond Burr are stars; they rule the screen in a way which Mr. Selleck may not wish to emulate. (I wonder what happened to Mr. Burr? He was the same shape as the screen.)

I also love the wonderful black gentleman who refers to John Hillerman as 'Higgie-Baby'. He is terribly funny. In fact, all the supporting players are well-characterized: they're not just eccentrics. But what must account for *Magnum's* success is that anybody on the show, even the hero, can be made a fool of.