

# Mr. Television



For years, Milton Berle was known as Mister Television. Most people assume it was because of his long career – nearly nine decades! – on network TV. However, in real life, he really *was* a television. It took a team of a dozen brilliant makeup artists hours to reconfigure his head to that of a normal humanoid so that he wouldn't terrify his audiences. Once, when he was making a guest appearance before a live audience on Sid Caesar's "Your Show of Shows," a whole side of his façade fell off, revealing the glowing vacuum tubes underneath. The audience members saw it all, and many became hysterical. To quell the burgeoning pandemonium – and the potentially bad publicity – the Show of Shows producer ordered that the whole audience be euthanized. Berle's facial façade was reapplied – more permanently, this time – a new audience was summoned, and "Your Show of Shows, Part 2," went on without a hitch. Sadly, Mr. Television died in March of 2002 of a broken cathode ray tube.