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# Los Angeles Times

## FILM CLIPS

### COLUMBIA, PRYOR TO A DEAL

BY DAVID CAULFIELD,  
Staff Writer

Pictures and Richard Pryor are putting the final touches on a deal that will make the star actor as closely tied to the studio as possible in a series of deals—all with the goal of keeping a hot box-office attraction at a hot box-office at-

Columbia officials declined to discuss the specifics because the deal is not yet formalized, but the comedian is said to be getting a lot of money and a lot of time.

Pryor is familiar with the deal because of his negotiations, who he has named, call the deal an unusual ever made. He said it as complicated as that exclusive. Pryor is set to star in movies for Columbia but would produce them for Columbia.

Pryor's statements about his new deal are not surprising to help new minorities, it is surprising to see this deal realized through his involvement.

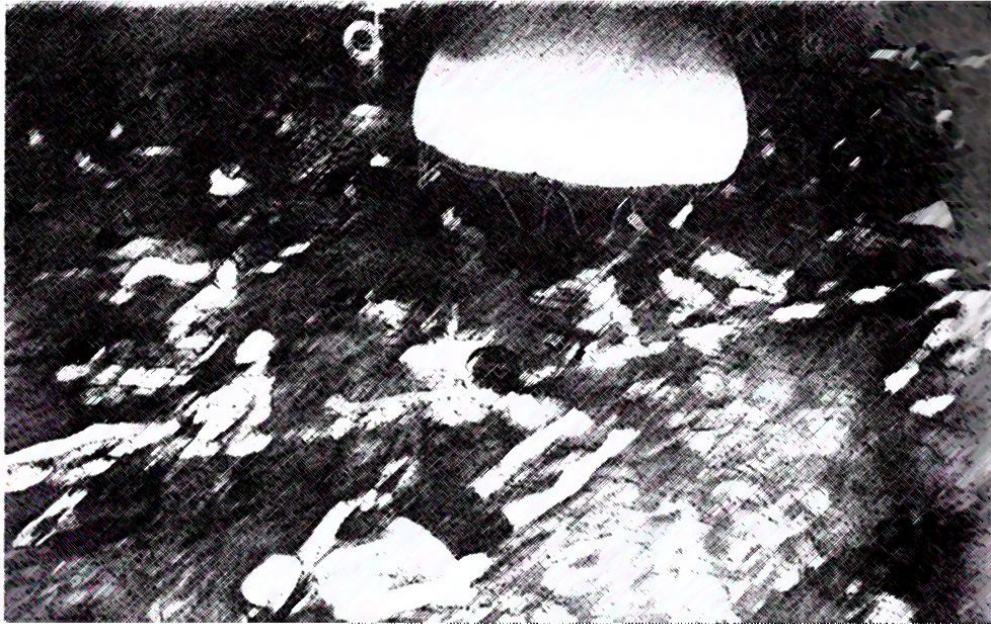
Columbia association with Pryor is rising development. Pryor's agent Guy McElwaine says Pryor's two most recent movies, "Richard Pryor: The Last Show" and "Richard Pryor: The Last Show," were Columbia

of exclusive rights in Pryor's talents is as a business, but the deal during the years of actresses could sell for the highest bidder. Pryor's economic times, but they aren't engaging in

Rather, they are Pryor's two talents and

Pryor has a longstanding relationship with Clint Eastwood movies. Paramount is also interested in Pryor's Sylvester Stallone involvement.

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Music enthusiasts go for a swim at College of the Canyons pool to hear Michel Redolfi's "Sonic Waters."

## GETTING INTO SWIM OF MUSIC

By COLIN GARDNER

The Muzak Corp. has given us music for elevators and supermarkets, Brian Eno brought us music for airports, and now, the latest and perhaps most spectacular—music for swimming pools and oceans!

Gimmick or experimental music breakthrough? Any skepticism was kept firmly in check as audience members took to the College of the Canyons pool Saturday night for Michel Redolfi's "Sonic Waters," part of the CalArts Music Festival.

French composer Redolfi, a native of Marseilles and current fellow of UC San Diego, has been developing underwater music since he installed 40 underwater speakers on the bottom of the ocean at La Jolla Cove Underwater Park in 1981. His tapes blend computer-generated synthesis with natural sounds through studio treating and are designed to be heard by the listener completely submerged in water.

Saturday, the sound source was a large inflatable vinyl sculpture in the shape of a jellyfish, floating in

the middle of the pool, its tentacles emitting delicate ambient frequencies of amplified mammal noises and synthesizer-treated woodwinds. About 100 people donned swimsuits, snorkels and last year's tans and tested the musical waters.

One's first impression is of total immersion in sound. There is no feeling of a specific sound source, whether stereo or quad, but rather of a 360-degree totality. In this respect, the sound could be said to be monaural. Redolfi asserted, however, that the sound would not only be heard by one's ears but also felt by one's body. This was difficult to discern. Although the water created a tactile effect on the skin, so that the music seemed to be touching the body, this was hardly the penetrating body music that the composer had suggested.

Another problem was that the ears are extremely inefficient underwater. Extreme frequencies are blocked, as if all the high and low tones have been lopped off so that we are left with a rather bland middle. The music itself hardly tested the frequency range. Redolfi chose soothing synthesizer drones, whale, seal and walrus squeaks and limp washes of flutes and oboes to lull the audience rather than challenge it with a vibrant sonic bombardment.

Redolfi's experiments are clearly in their earliest stages of development. If he can accompany his intrinsic sound source with a more penetrating tactile experience, he may have found an environment that will make the stereo headset redundant and revolutionize contemporary concepts of ambience and Muzak.



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Jimmy Buffett brings his brand of singing to the Universal Amphitheatre. See Page 2.