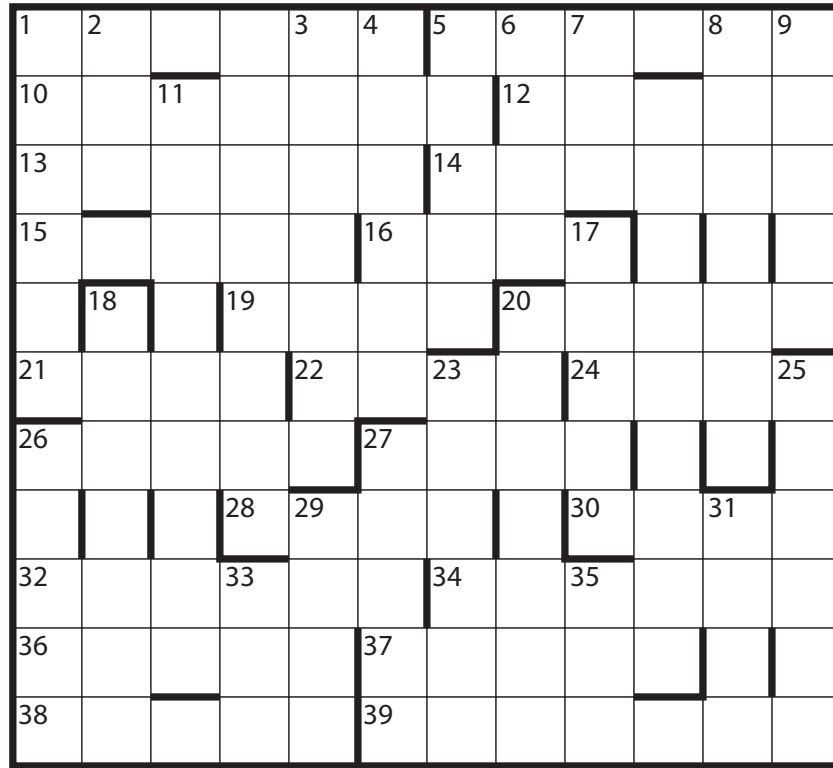


DO I HEAR A WALTZ?

by Mark Halpin

The melodic strains of a waltz may be discerned in this puzzle, in which certain passages spanning the grid should be entered in waltz tempo. To complete the puzzle, the two unclued Down entries may be filled with a fitting arrangement of A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC.



ACROSS

- 1 Experts overlooking earliest blooms
- 5 Roll and baloney gobbled up
- 10 *Seal*: "I'm swimming east a ways in the ocean" (2 wds)
- 12 Sticky issue concerning moral failing
- 13 Trying to disable terrible actors that start phoning
- 14 Person suspected at first has criminal charge
- 15 Return milking equipment in sacks
- 16 Officeholder being booted out commences pleas
- 19 Inclination to attack mounted
- 20 First off, mummy is different
- 21 Italian eats extra violin string
- 22 Used a number nine finally in cul-de-sac
- 24 Ryan left holding retrograde genetic material from everybody (3 wds)
- 26 Minions escape on secret bridge
- 27 Coarse fiber is more modest, one hears
- 28 "Goldfinger", to insiders!
- 30 Sport beginning in introduction of "Golden Snitch"
- 32 Menacing character sneers, sits in wreckage
- 34 Iran/USA atlas distributed from a region in the Pacific
- 36 Treasury chief questions charges...
- 37 ...standing proudly before New England state
- 38 Advantage for hunting dog following leader
- 39 Heartless spy made off with pump component

DOWN

- 1 Pattern in stone residue (note radius)
- 2 Joined edges appear sound
- 3 In grand style, leader rides around vantage points close to fighting
- 4 Single bald loony in Thornton movie (2 wds)
- 5 Band with *Monster Alien* encountered afresh
- 6 Indonesian native's fruit running short
- 7 Inventor partial to state's laboratories
- 8 Some jocks cinch barely passing grades (2 wds)
- 9 One incoming teen shook up adults-only TV drama
- 11 Stellar scientific team reformulated its robot's gas & oil
- 17 Sit-down + bedrest evens out drug users
- 18 Spear, like wild hogs
- 20 Model I use posed for some with complex personalities?
- 23 Betray rising club official
- 25 Redraft a nice legal partnership
- 26 Famous dog going after passing elbows and such
- 27 A bit of arugula leaves lightly touches salad greens
- 29 Dadaist painter is sort of stern
- 31 Space agency line lacking resonance
- 33 Barely get through middle of weekend
- 35 Reading aloud, followed along with pamphlet

If you're new to cryptic crosswords and would like tips for solving clues, contact the author at markhalpin3@gmail.com