

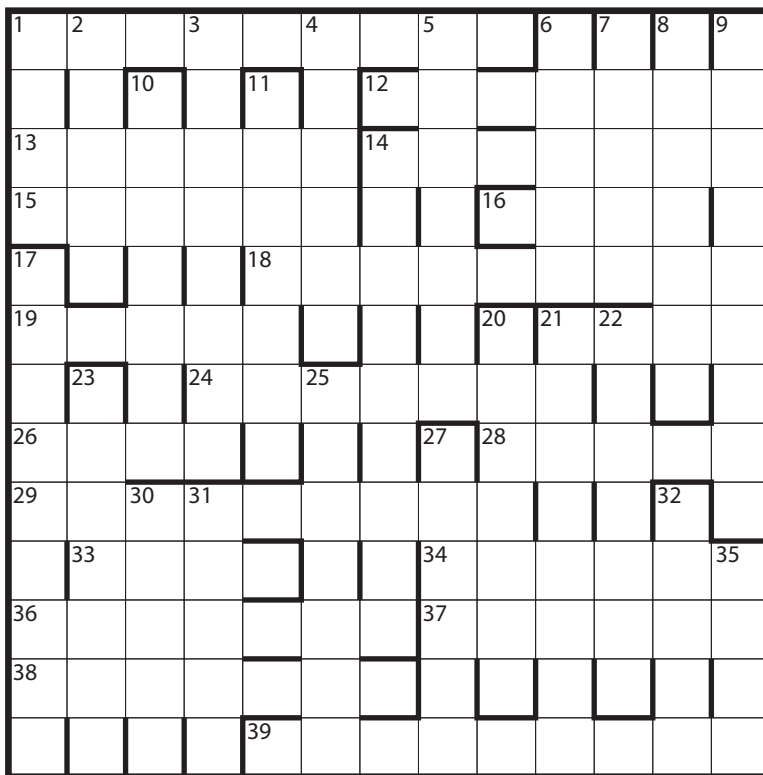
SIX BY SONDHEIM

by Mark Halpin

The recent HBO documentary *Six by Sondheim* draws special attention to six songs essential to understanding Sondheim's oeuvre:

1. Something's Coming
2. Opening Doors
3. Send in the Clowns
4. I'm Still Here
5. Being Alive
6. Sunday

Twelve clue answers are altered in ways suggested by these titles, two per title, all resulting in legitimate grid entries. Note the first character of the clues for the answers affected by Song One, followed by the second character of those affected by Song Two, etc. Taken together, these will explain why those particular songs were chosen as representative.



ACROSS

- 1 Where you might catch coaches moving dope during breaks (2 wds.)
- 12 Newborn's gas was corrosive
- 13 Cold-natured figure is now manipulating tenants
- 14 What's bad in France – hugging a certain meter maid – is a kind of bliss
- 15 Hilarious situations involving last of liquor in mugs
- 16 Clan's reformulated table salt
- 18 A little dog to stroke, one that's easily controlled
- 19 Seize control of half of upsurge in revolt
- 21 Fleece raincoats getting recalled
- 24 Set VCR's core by digital display, with object inside to be maintained
- 26 Topless nannies ... they might be wild
- 28 Latest in fashion: being privy to sheer fabric
- 29 Lunatic, too drunk to swallow Ecstasy, made an attempt
- 33 Acquirer of stolen goods to handle epees or foils
- 34 Yes I'm mercilessly hoarding stew
- 36 Consequence of too much lying sobered criminal
- 37 Irrational mania at heart of violent brute
- 38 Embracing all dancing? Then dip (*hyph.*)
- 39 Escaped felon originally was in the van

DOWN

- 1 Polish aficionado
- 2 Alternately, subvert any element relevant to some alterations in this puzzle (2 wds.)
- 3 Slight bit of drama is satisfactory
- 4 Cure ham initially in spicy mixture
- 5 A place where much water is boiled and tossed at Romeo
- 6 Groundbreaking computer actor Michael brought up
- 7 Shabby bum is near hero to some
- 8 Like Julius Caesar in a Latin I novel
- 9 a-Ha's doing just fine
- 10 Spoiled cat's beginning to purr deliriously
- 11 More than one plain piece of choreography's seen around gym
- 14 Missouri River ending in confluence, in addition
- 17 Try to acquire everything from tubby duo I made over (2 wds.)
- 20 Aunts and uncles, perhaps at onset of game, stacked checkers
- 21 Cast, describing *2001*, being flattering in a way
- 22 Denounce shifty con men taking in widow, essentially
- 23 Man Tolkien creature's pursuing (catching, ultimately)
- 25 Indulge autoerotic frolicking, canceling out IOU (2 wds.)
- 27 One from an African land; indeed, a West African land
- 30 Old man finally recalled D-Day deployment
- 31 Question dogging cummings about Eliot's footnote abbreviation (2 wds.)
- 32 Fashion crate for a relic
- 35 Those leading soap labels: Ivory, Dial, and Dove