

Karaoke Party

by Ucaoimhu

In keeping with this puzzle's title, each Across answer must be altered before entry, in one of two ways (the resulting entries include three names — two first, one last):

(A) Half of the Across answers will (collectively) supply you with the tune of a certain song; you must supply the lyric. Once the grid is filled, continuing the lyric will identify a certain square in the grid.

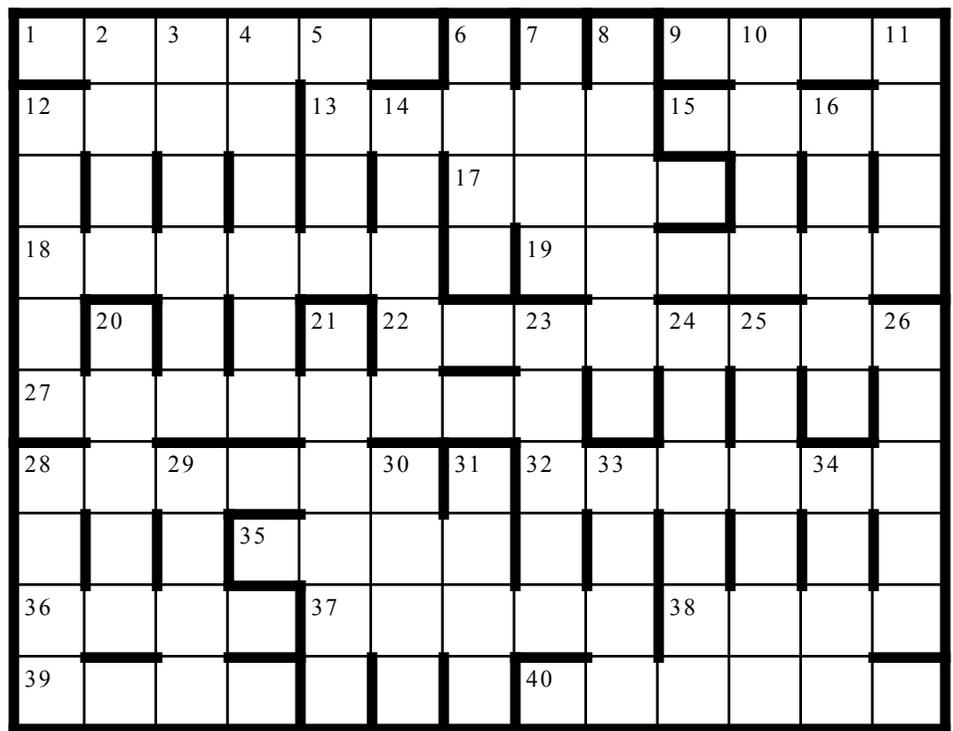
(B) The other half of the Across answers just carouse a lot. After entering each such modified answer, find the positions (within the entry) to which the (1) first letter and (2) last letter of the original answer go (in ambiguous cases, assume they move as little as possible), and find the letters in those positions in the *clue*. The clue letters from (1) followed by those from (2) will provide a hint towards another song (from the year after (A)'s song) which will tell you how to proceed from the square identified in (A).

Proceeding in this manner will reveal one important individual. The way this individual appears in the grid will also indicate two other songs, from the year after (B)'s song. As befits a karaoke event, you yourself get to choose which one of these songs you will "do"; that is, depending on how you answer two specific clues (an Across clue and a Down clue) you can make the artist for one or the other song appear in the grid, diametrically opposite the individual you found.

If all of the above is confusing, relax; all Down answers are entered normally. However, in each Down clue, the sequence of letters the cryptic part yields has an extra letter at either the start or the end; write this letter above or below (respectively) the grid column containing that Down entry. When all of these letters are in place, they will (in a way) give the complete list of songs referred to in this puzzle.

ACROSS

1. Animated cast or performers
9. Napoleon's in the middle, kissing each half-sister of Rachel
12. Boring book about the computer in 2001
13. Wear rubber ring
15. Tetrad of narcoleptic cabbages
17. Halyard's penultimate segment, caught in gear and stuff
18. Correct French of a fellow from Oxford (2 wds.)
19. Bit of calcium I concealed inside tooth's protective layer
22. With more enthusiasm, listen to row
27. Second notary — at heart, that is — is most sober
28. Rabbi and son interrupt journeys to obtain shrubs
32. Many a pacifist around Newton prays in synagogue
35. French filmmaker Jacques is embraced by statist
36. Applies one's tongue to circuits
37. Say, one making mosaics bright again the wrong way



38. One embraced by Madame Marceau, for example
39. Vocalizations Santa makes must have described, secondarily, apparatus for growing plants
40. Ruddy yellow-gold seraph perhaps lacks a tail

DOWN

2. AAA goes on about Swiss river (4)
3. More than one band outside of Davis splits up (6)
4. Feline *Red Dwarf* character's pout disheartened goddess from *Macbeth* endlessly (3 3)
5. Try going around without *Star Wars* droid model (1 3)
6. Demon inhaling helium and cannabis (4)
7. Catch that man coming out of medical treatment (4)
8. Put gas into and over Shea Stadium or Citi Field? (6)
10. Eatery contains old people from *The Time Machine* (4)
11. For example, no lady rotates for an extended period (4)
12. Cable channel'd evolved, superficially, as presaged (5)
14. Gets sharper individual to stop climbing tree (5)
16. Are mistaken about New England's sea eagles (5)
20. Sign sported by summands, essentially! (5)
21. In Spain, house chef Emeril's catchphrase is "melon" (6)
23. Once again, give a hint every other character (out of prurience) used (5)
24. Laugh about (ha!) vehicle in Cuba's capital (6)
25. One company bringing in retro comedian Kaplan to produce something cool (3 3)
26. Hides from your outrageous, incredible, iconic riveter (5)
28. Killer whale swallows small Tolkien creatures (4)
29. Getting stuff back from perverse criminal ring (4)
30. Box piano inside empty boxes on top of initially Alpine-style resorts (4)
31. Guy drinking lieutenant's beer, formerly (4)
33. To a vase that's mine 'n' his'n (4)
34. I will escape from social instability in an Alaskan city (4)