Birthday Jubilation by Ucaoimhu

In this diagramless cryptic, you must supply not only the letters in the entries, but also the bars that separate entries; these will display the usual crossword symmetry. All letters and bars will fit within the grid shown; one necessary square will appear to be missing at first, but when you complete the grid it will be there. If you take the operation indicated by the two-line dedication of this crossword, and perform it on the contents of that square, the result will indicate a time of great significance.

ACROSS
1. My enthralling but old-fashioned mistress started to become domestic again? (2 wds.)
7. Behold saint’s enigmatic TV show
9. Sack containing author’s charge card, in short
10. Brawny fellow from a gym
11. Dave translated Hindu scripture
12. Loud goblin exhibits anger about first line of dedication (2 wds.)
13. West Indian leaves produce matted soil
14. Use a shuttle or horse to escape The Thing
15. Last part of *Ulee’s Gold* shows Isaac’s son
16. Phonetic half of this clue was troubling
17. Once again, type in error-filled letter

DOWN
1. Forget a wild chase (2 wds.)
2. Embrace English sot drinking pint
3. Barbarian has quick way of finishing second line of dedication (2 wds.)
4. Homer talks about conspiracy of silence
5. Muse lacks time to intervene
6. One who demands and gets a quintillion folks from Conn.?
8. Lunar highlands author Pratchett mentioned