Puzzle

"Museum Piece"

by John de Cuevas

Instructions: The words defined by the cryptic clues are to be entered normally in the grid (heavy bars separate entries). However, twelve across answers won't fit in the grid unless a sequence of three or four of their letters is left out. Each such sequence is a word on its own. The twelve words thus left out are nonetheless preserved in the unclued entry that appears in the three central across squares of the correctly completed grid. Answers include three proper words.

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Clues:

Across

- 1 Pasta garnish has gelatin
- 4 South dam put under wraps
- 6 Listeners in rehearsal
- 9 Rifle broken in by not taking much time
- 10 Fight transit time in package
- 11 Big number vibration of charged particle
- 12 Breaking ice, row shell
- 14 Raid from spoil: gold penny
- 17 Most isolated single positions held by lieutenant
- 18 Antithesis of become in the past?
- 19 Call on Victor with a question
- 22 Formulates reputations around mid March
- 23 Information that might get one on a trip
- 24 Provides gas and flights costs, we hear
- 27 Flexible one in factory
- 29 Talk pastry in Sierra Leone
- 30 Fruit enthusiast
- 31 Abjured split about weight
- 33 Splendid head of Greek ancient
- 34 End time out with bribe
- 35 Color FBI agents in deep holes
- 36 Egotistical leader of society of little people
- 37 Petty point covering mistake
- 38 Act, but not in earnest
- 39 Appearance giving first half of speech in play
- 40 Distribute open crates around back of depot

Down

- 1 A woman overseas
- 2 Smile and leave Yank south of the border
- 3 Distance rolls over me
- 4 Laurel in funniest antics
- 5 See the light fantastic: raze Eli
- 6 Start undressing in loosened tie case
- 7 Get up around noon: wash
- 8 Narrow openings high in ship
- 13 Making off with trimmed pine log
- 15 Escape inside covering leaving primate to void
- 16 Guards return nourished before finals
- 20 Note turns up beat in force
- 21 Adepts of baseball division kept in shelters
- 25 Blend purée with goose egg on continent
- 26 Proust revised in a daze
- 27 Spruce up border between pages
- 28 Tear down, even up
- 29 Two rings in pen blackened
- 32 Briton found wrapped in parcel thread

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