Puzzle #191 — April 2017 "Film Noir"

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from three to nine letters, and eight are capitalized) then enter them in the grid one after another in the same order as their clues, starting in the upper left corner. Across words that don't end at the right continue on the next row, and down words that don't end at the bottom continue in the next column. Eight across words and eight down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those sixteen letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a three word phrase related to the title of the puzzle and the mystery entries. Thanks to Kevin Wald for test-solving and editing this puzzle.

Across

- 1. Mystery entry
- 2. Weird eruption involving Mark means trouble
- 3. Planet Henry will make official
- 4. Singer Rogers embraces sailor in circle
- 5. Crazy Pete's holding a note in gaiters
- 6. Meathead
- 7. Primate inhales nitrogen and has a breathing problem
- 8. Remembering about glowing coal
- 9. Shopping center manual has everything
- 10. Coach Troy exercising in rear
- 11. Airport fee: about fifty-fifty
- 12. Foreigner's American claim
- 13. Commotion around the French city
- 14. Policeman suppressing Mike's ticket for free
- 15. Panama natives having supernatural energy
- 16. Mr. Bridge has gone berserk winning rubber
- 17. First proper love
- 18. Show without a celebration
- 19. Child's toy vehicle fixing to score
- 20. Cook holds right to spread
- 21. Trouble maker has nothing for a sauce
- 22. Ugly, ragged weapon
- 23. Mystery entry

Down

- 1. Pal grabs lead bird
- 2. Insipid ground meat
- 3. Give fellow a telephone number
- 4. Unstable particle destabilized boundless amount
- 5. In favor of time and food
- 6. Genuine piece of money
- 7. Name of polar sea
- 8. Ill-smelling herd of whales? Yes!
- 9. Declarer's a low light in France
- 10. Gross technology company's struggle
- 11. Rode wildly around village to reach port
- 12. Idle Teddy irritated aunt
- 13. Tender love returned
- 14. Signal state within a period of time
- 15. Darts scare Dotty
- 16. Cat inside of campus running wild
- 17. Starting to trouble retinue
- 18. Formerly part of station center
- 19. Ill temper observed around Poland
- 20. Spot Miros being replaced with fakes
- 21. Tribe eager to hold a social event
- 22. Crop rot upset supervisor
- 23. Genetic unit is open or inoperative
- 24. Calm in tone about China