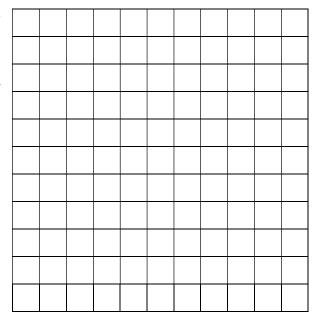
Guest Puzzle #49 – December 2012 "Theaters" (by Kevin Cadmus)

Instructions: Guess the words defined by the cryptic clues (answers vary in length from four to eleven letters, seven are capitalized, two are acronyms, and two consist of two words) 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. Seven across words and four down words won't fit in the grid unless one of their letters is omitted. Those eleven letters, taken in order as they occur in across and down words, spell a two-word phrase related to the mystery entries.



Across

- 1. Mystery Entry
- 2. A star backing up for rear exit
- 3. Discover resistance in incline
- 4. To castrate grasping the middle of knife is cold
- 5. Wide open love
- 6. Be a bird and get lost
- 7. Incompetent having no reaction with party leader replacing Republican
- 8. Prize fight interrupting commercial
- 9. Refuse replacing author with English character
- 10. Judge's action holds back lawsuit
- 11. Notice communist returning planter
- 12. Wild West has greeting for Caucasians
- 13. Audibly, permission granted to the audience
- 14. Lets in cast for old movie
- 15. Emphasize cutting front hair
- 16. Animal ooze contains hydrogen
- 17. Ben is absurd playwright
- 18. Opera for certain Asians
- 19. Nobel Peace Prize winner's costume
- 20. Having sufficient testosterone, ground liver has a bit of iron
- 21. Boundary vapor temperature dropped
- 22. A dish of many ingredients heading off disease
- 23. Mystery Entry

Down

- 1. One lion goes after female scientist
- 2. Take-off or landing area
- 3. Harmonious in duet arrangement
- 4. Maniacally hit Sue's buttocks
- 5. Examined IUD . . . date upset
- 6. Cold dish regrettably brought back before the start of dessert
- 7. More sensible shake-up nears
- 8. More timid Hobbit's home by the sound of it
- 9. First name of accused spy is awfully large
- 10. Lies we disseminated for Nobel Peace Prize winner
- 11. Some year's spring
- 12. Latin American revolutionary backing abhorrence for feline
- 13. Officer likely captured by first assassin
- 14. Cat heart, for example, stops short with onset of angina
- 15. NASA really grasps space
- 16. Site botched search for smart aliens
- 17. Without further ado, big storm ripped up
- 18. Most recent two compass directions
- 19. Male losing tail has beginning of big round protuberance
- 20. Hindu music coming back as a culture medium
- 21. Infectious illness defaces without a trace of a cure
- 22. Purple alien goes after instrument
- 23. Wipe out eastern state losing a war
- 24. High level Costa Rican man has a bit of illness