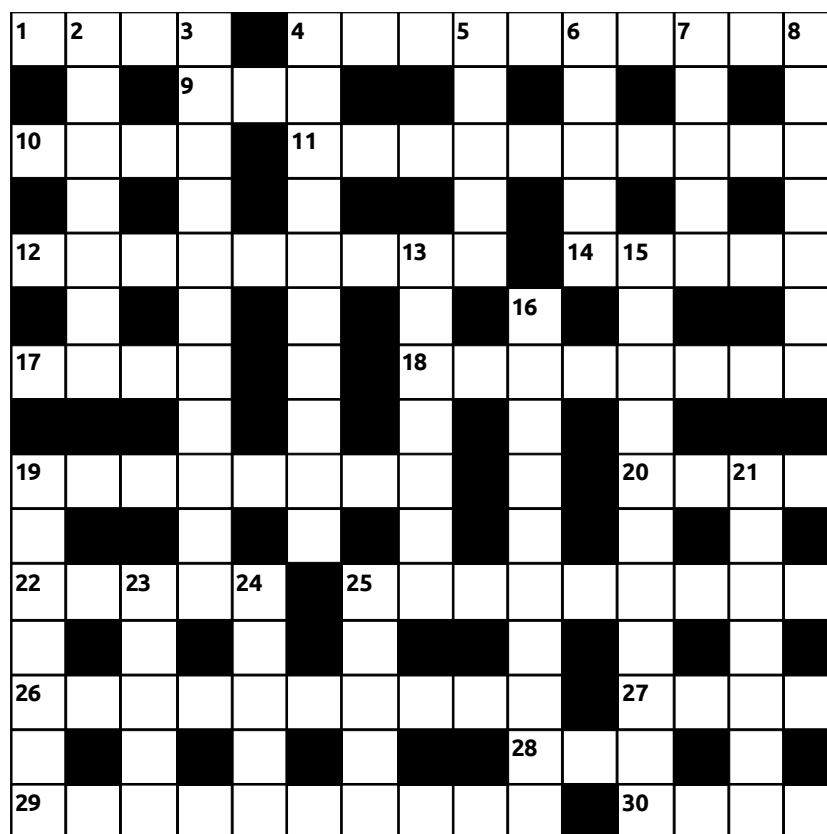


the cruciverbalist

Cryptic crossword #12

Set by: Lancelot



Across

- 1 Slender model removed watch (4)
- 4 REM tour with New Order, thus producing this? (5,5)
- 9 Blood groups compete, producing cells (3)
- 10 Reportedly empty over in first class (4)
- 11 Fibre direction embraces blue ray; TV set barely working? (5,5)
- 12 Hector? No, Theo and Kim - that's who he was with (5,4)
- 14 Jobs I put in for pretending it's a strain? (5)
- 17 Spirit new and leaving country (4)
- 18 Called into action, bugged out (8)
- 19 More vulgar supporter ultimately runs out of energy (8)
- 20 Chris Evert's body wax (4)
- 22 Slips by the lockers, I heard (5)
- 25 Acting timid near suspect (2,7)
- 26 With map he set out, checked on air, and drove home (10)
- 27 Sign about grand opening for *The Block*? (4)
- 28 Fitting carpet, oddly cut (3)
- 29 Care to try sculpture, embodying head of Joan of Arc? (10)
- 30,24-down Contract case of hepatitis by fish (9)

Down

- 2 Spooner's close call for photo from the east (7)
- 3 A short pitch forward (3,2,3,3)
- 4 Tabloid sweetie has a little bum (10)
- 5 Rent I have kept in case of repossession (5)
- 6 Shreds *Times* Cryptic (5)
- 7 Earns stacks from the net? (5)
- 8 Hold or lean against overhead (7)
- 13 In rows perhaps, indeed right beneath theatre (7)
- 15 Her lean, thin build suggests this? (5,6)
- 16 Current tenders renegotiated, stopping financial settlement (7-3)
- 19 Spanish inquisition into Trump legacy (7)
- 21 Trace origins of genetic engineering in criminal minds (7)
- 23 A sample from classical phase (5)
- 24 See 30-across
- 25 Keep animals at shelters guarded, ideally secured by leads (5)