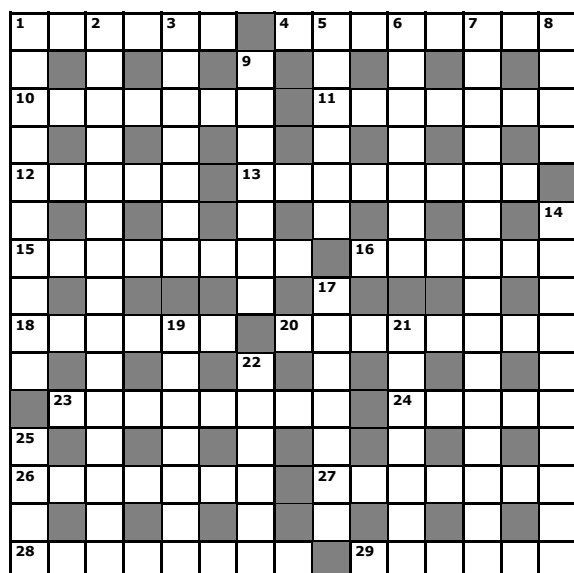


[* 1Ac 8Dn ***** 12Ac 9Dn *** * 22Dn
 ** *** 16Ac] is a famous acerbic quote
 showing disdain for modern art such as
 that illustrated on Page 9. The fourteen
 missing letters (six words) make "Haha
 - a nude twirp". The person responsible
 for the quote can be found in the puzzle.
 All clues are normal.

July 2026 Slot 6 by Betelgeuse



Across

- 1 Question and answer covered by confident conservative (6)
- 4 Knocking banality, nearly drunk after first sherry (8)
- 10 Repeated beat (3,4)
- 11 Worked in a brothel, having left inside type of a fingerprint (7)
- 12 Playing card first held in the palm perhaps (5)
- 13 Adults are into unorthodox refreshment (8)
- 15 Women leave dance after school with Monsieur Mush (8)
- 16 Fork out two hundred hot rands (6)
- 18 Devise art style at court (6)
- 20 He is lacking in enthusiasm but has affectation (8)
- 23 Cover for fast ride on river (8)
- 24 Small Scottish headdress for the homeless (5)
- 26 Could be caught, thrown and rejected (7)
- 27 What's left, right, side-splitting and initially unusually ear-piercing (7)
- 28 They make bits and pieces, or long reins (8)
- 29 Wit of fiendish priest (6)

Down

- 1 Back and forth to cut through sports teams (4,2,4)
- 2 Favoured treatment for English opposition after thunderstorm (5-3-7)
- 3 Flower, one in a coastal region (7)
- 5 Fish have fight in which to find the fainthearted? (6)
- 6 Catalogue includes old antagonist in *The Nun's Priest's Tale* (7)
- 7 As sheep do, flock has hesitation going about down the meadow (6,3,6)
- 8 Woman to wager about daughter (4)
- 9 Surmounts resistance in animals (7)
- 14 Most hideous deformed hag is Lett's nightmare (10)
- 17 It is owing to you being in it (7)
- 19 Restrain and throw into can (7)
- 21 First to enter in ship is adamant (7)
- 22 Sailor heading north loses North, but given turn with instrument (6)
- 25 Carol not beginning to lift sign (4)