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Across

- 1 1939 novel whose more than 50'000 words do not contain a single "E" (6)
- 4 Sir Roy, youngest ever director of the V&A (6)
- 9 Thomas Sutphen's first wife in *Absalom*, *Absalom!* (7)
- **10** _____ DeGeneres who played ______ (5)
- 11 Style sung by Carlos Acuña and danced by Pyotr Leschenko (5)
- 12 Sir Peter, actor and raconteur who died in Switzerland in 2004 (7)
- **13** Kubrick period drama based on a novel by Thackeray (5,6)
- **18** Key word in the title of Salman Rushdie's controversial 1988 novel (7)
- **20** Leonardo DiCaprio played him opposite Claire Danes for Baz Luhrmann (5)
- 22 He always has his security blanket with him (5)
- 23 Spanish philosopher who retold the Cain & Abel story in *Abel Sánchez* (7)
- 24 Dracula's creator (6)
- **25** Lead singer of *Echo Beach* band (6)

Down

- *Literae Humaniores* at Oxford University (6)
- **2** French-born film star once described as the male Brigitte Bardot (5)
- **3** Sir Andrew, Scottish doctor of tropical diseases, rugby player and author (7)
- 5 Middle (stage) name of co-author and performer of *Wishing Well* (5)
- 6 *Opera seria* by Handel based on an epic poem by Ariosto (7)
- 7 Adopted home city of 2dn (6)
- 8 Roman ambassador who demanded tribute from Cymbeline (5,6)
- 14 The name of the Merchant of Venice (7)
- 15 US rock band fronted by Kurt Cobain (7)
- **16** There are 150 of these in this book of the Bible (6)
- 17 The *Hertfordshire* _____, a 19th century catalogue of apples and pears (6)
- **19** Elizabethan pamphleteer and erotic versifier (5)
- **21** Evadne, Gilbert Adair's sleuth in a trilogy of Agatha Christie parodies (5)