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Across (contd.)

- 24** *Earth Trance Interlude* (initials)
25 Marvelous Italian composer known for timeless film music (*The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* etc.) (first name)
26 Jewish village of Eastern Europe mythologized in Yiddish magical fiction tradition such as *Fiddler on the Roof* or Elie Wiesel's *Night*
27 Elijah Muhammad *or* Edvard Munch *or* Eric Menendez *or* Ethel Mertz *or* Eddie McGuire *or* Ennio Morricone *or* Ern Malley *or* Endeavour Morse *or* Emma Memma etc. (initials)

Across

- 1** Mild or indirect way of referring to something embarrassing or unpleasant to avoid a blunt unvarnished account of the reality (enhanced interrogation, number twos, Israeli Defense Force etc.)
9 Nigerian, fired terra cotta drum
10 Marvelous Andalusian poet assassinated in Spanish Civil War for socialism or gayness
11 Number of strokes a first-class golfer would normally require for a particular hole ("The Shark finished five over ... losing the game")
12 Courageous Australian artist dropped by leading gallerist after harrowing five-hour performance piece with eyes closed on ladder referencing ongoing genocide in Gaza and intemperate historical reflections at afterparty (with first initial) (1, 4)
13 Advertises, promotes (esp. with hyperbole)
15 Person suffering from mental illness (unkind)
16 Famous Biblical wife
17 *Ny* ... Teen rapper from LA (*Arco* etc.)
18 Ice, Stone, Bronze, Iron, Golden, *The* etc.
20 Antiquated technology associated with *Ringu* horror franchise
21 Marvelous Catalan artist known for brutalist abstract paintings which look like something you could find in the rubbish
23 Famous Jerry Lewis role (**CLUE** unfinished, unseen, 1972 Swedish French production set in death camp embargoed by estate of late auteur until June 2024 called "so drastically wrong, its pathos and its comedy...so wildly misplaced, that "Oh, My God!"- that's all you can say" (initials)

Down

- 1** River in Iraq (associated with Garden of Eden)
2 Popular Iraqi name (mainly associated with eldest son of Saddam Hussein notable for lurid *Wiki* entry detailing perversion, sociopathy and sadism in apparent justification for extrajudicial murder in Mosul on July 22nd 2003)
3 Student hangout in 1963 Jerry Lewis masterwork *The Nutty Professor* and setting for mysterious, nightly appearances of Buddy Love (6, 3)
4 Setting for popular 80s horror franchise (3, 6)
5 Implement with absorbent material fastened to a handle for cleaning floors or something which resembles it such as a thick, unruly mass of hair (in 60s)
6 Islamic republic provoked and demonized in indefatigable Israeli propaganda campaign
7 Loop of decorative, fabric-covered elastic worn to hold back hair (or as accessory on wrist)
8 Death suffered in context of religious conflict or struggle (Saint Stephen, Thomas More, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, Khalil al-Wazir, Ali Dawabsha, Lubna al-Hanash, Hala Abu Sbeikha, Ramadan Mohammad Faisal Thawabta, Ismail Haniyeh, Hind Rajab etc., etc., etc.)
14 Eastern Orthodox (initials)
19 Philistine home of Goliath
22 Tiresome, perennial sketch comedy show on US TV (acronym)