THEME AND VARIEGATIONS  
by Trip Payne

The unclued entries include three theme words, each of which has three variegations. Letters in the squares where unclued entries cross each other can be rearranged to spell JET BY CASA. 37-Down is a variant spelling.

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ACROSS
1 VARIEGATION ON C (9)
10 Movie producer Ponti notices quantities of tourists (8)
12 Marsh near water in France, by the sound (5)
13 Old household masters sick dog on me (7)
14 Martians consuming first-class vittles (4)
15 VARIEGATION ON B (4,4)
17 Spanish writer left out television manufacturer (5)
19 Quickly answer gullible person (4)
21 Animated hunter expressed hesitation behind tree (5)
23 Bird runs next to interminable pile (4)
26 Day at the movies is initiated by Party Monster's conclusion (5)
27 Hope Lange has spirit (4)
28 Alternately, is "CDs!" (5)
31 Small town is put underwater east of Italian river (6)
32 Roman statesman and pair of Athenians parting company (4)
34 Down Under resident I use as orderly (6)
38 VARIEGATION ON C (6,3)
39 A club is something used for defense (6)
40 Set back eastern university (4)
41 VARIEGATION ON B (8)
42 Roger pursues large caustic substances (4)

DOWN
1 VARIEGATION ON A (8)
2 Support friend in a justified manner (7)
3 THEME WORD A (7)
4 Copyright that man's letters from overseas (4)
5 NFLer and military legal counsel linked to Egypt and Syria, once (6)
6 THEME WORD B (7)
7 THEME WORD C (5)
8 Journalist St. Johns edited a lead (5)
9 Out-of-control snit has no basis in reality (4)
11 VARIEGATION ON A (4,3)
16 Made a sheepish declaration: "Bad cops are heartless" (5)
18 VARIEGATION ON B (7)
20 VARIEGATION ON A (7)
22 Sailor reviewed excellent Gershwin musical (7)
24 VARIEGATION ON C (4,3)
25 Burrowing animal takes an hour making underground entrance (7)
29 I'm beginning to bandage foot (4)
30 Vehicle contains 1000 loafers (4)
32 Scratch Conservative ruling (4)
33 Shorthair holds Siamese (4)
35 Piece of furniture is yet unfinished (4)
36 Saucy girl clasps boomerangs (4)
37 Poetic work not being used in audition (4)