

0019. LEOPOLD MOZART<sup>1</sup> TO JOHANN JAKOB LOTTER,<sup>2</sup> AUGSBURG

*Monsieur / Monsieur Johan Jacobe / Lotter Bookprinter / in / [...]*<sup>3</sup>

[Salzburg, before 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1756]

Here, in the greatest haste, the *symph*:<sup>4</sup> for *Msr. Gignoux*;<sup>5</sup> I still have not seen the librettos for the *opera*,<sup>6</sup> perhaps they are coming with the next Munich post. [5] I will keep an eye on everything. It is an honour for me that they are willing to tolerate me in the *Collegium Musicum*,<sup>7</sup> yet *sans consequence*.<sup>8</sup> With the next post I will tell them a neat little mischievous fable,<sup>9</sup> which will leave them in complete wonderment. In the meantime, observe carefully who in Augsburg has good or bad things to say about me and particularly about the Peasant's and the Sleigh Ride Music,<sup>10</sup> for there are reasons for this. [10] But do not let anyone notice, otherwise the fun will be spoiled. The next post day should explain the rest. *Addio*.

LeMozart

You will be astounded.

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Leopold Mozart (1719-1787), born in Augsburg as son of a bookbinder. Started studies in law and philosophy in Salzburg, but neglected these and became a professional musician. Married Maria Anna Pertl in 1747. Only two of their seven children survived infancy. From 1763 until his death, he was *Vizekapellmeister* [deputy director of music] at the Prince-Archbishop's court in Salzburg.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Johann Jakob Lotter (the Younger, 1726-1804), son of the eponymous founder of the firm (c. 1683-1738), printer and bookseller in Augsburg. Under his management, the business grew, especially the music side. He printed Leopold Mozart's *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* (1756), of which there were three impressions. He also printed Leopold's collection of keyboard music *Der Morgen und der Abend...* (1759), containing works by Leopold Mozart, Eberlin and Eberl.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Leaf cut off.

<sup>4</sup> BD: It seems that Leopold had written, as requested, at least one further pastoral symphony besides the "brand-new one" of No. 0014/64. Cf. No. 0016/35 ff.

<sup>5</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0014/60.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0015/44.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0001/10-11, 45-46.

<sup>8</sup> BD: "sans consequence" ["without consequences"]: Leopold had obviously been asked to supply yet more compositions, but was not willing to commit himself.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0020/28 ff.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Two pieces of programme music by Leopold. Cf. No. 0010/43; No. 0011/53.