

1774

0300. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS WIFE, SALZBURG

À Madame / Madame Marie Anne Mozart / Salzbourg.

[Munich, 9th December, 1774]

We arrived¹ in Wasserburg² around 9 o'clock in the evening, and the next day, Wednesday, in Munich at half past 3 in the afternoon, [5] although we did not leave Wasserburg until after 8 o'clock in the morning.

Our lodgings may be confined, but are comfortable enough, and Herr von *Pernat*³ does indeed show us more courtesy and respect than we deserve, and I can see quite clearly that in many cases he sacrifices his own comfort for us out of true friendship. As far as the *opera*⁴ is concerned, I have nothing to write about yet. [10] We have only just got to know the persons today, who were all very courteous to us, and especially His Excellency Count Seeau.⁵ Otherwise we are well, praise God. As far as Nannerl⁶ is concerned, whom I greet, I cannot yet write anything. I have not yet seen anything which I could bring her. The time has also been too short for me. We kiss you both, and I am as always your
[15]

Mozart mp⁷

Give my compliments everywhere.

Herr von Pernat commends himself, as do the gentlemen von *Bellvall*⁸ and *Gilowsky*,⁹ who received us with great friendliness.

¹ BD: Leopold and Wolfgang are travelling once again, this time to Munich (6th December, 1744 to 7th March, 1775). The reason is a commission from the Elector's court in Munich to write an opera for Carnival, 1775, cf. No. 1212/335-338. The commission may have been given at the instigation of the Bishop of Chiemsee, Ferdinand Christoph, Count [Graf] Waldburg-Zeil (cf. No. 0261/6), one of Mozart's patrons. The Italian libretto to *La finta giardiniera* KV 196 was originally by Raniero de'Calzabigi and had been revised by Marco Coltellini. It had been set previously by Pasquale Anfossi (1722-1797) for Carnival 1774 in Rome. Mozart had probably finished parts of the score in Salzburg.

² BD: Approximately 85 km north-west of Salzburg. The journey from Salzburg to Munich normally lasted 18 hours at the time (cf. No. 0506/33-34) and was usually divided into two stages with an overnight stop in Wasserburg.

³ BD: Cf. No. 0301/35-36. Johann Nepomuk Sebastian (since 1777 Edler von [Esquire]) Pernat (1734-1794), son of a Munich patrician and vintner. Consecrated as priest in 1757; six years as parish priest; canon in Munich, where he was also named "patrician" [Patrizier]. He lived in "Bellvall's house" in Munich, where the Mozarts also found accommodation.

⁴ BD: *La finta giardiniera* KV 196.

⁵ "S^c: Ex: Graf Seeau". BD: Josef Anton, Graf Seeau († 1799), from 1753 supervisor of the Palace Theatre [Residenztheater] in Munich. One of his relatives, Ferdinand, Graf Seeau, (†1768) was Senior Stable Master [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg.

⁶ BD: Nannerl would later join them in Munich for the première.

⁷ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

⁸ BD VIII: Max Clement von Belval, staff commissioner and the Mozarts' landlord in Munich.

⁹ BD: Johann Joseph Anton Ernst von Gilowsky (1739-1789), court councillor [Hofrat], engineer, founder member of the Masonic lodge "Zur Fürsicht", a frequent traveller to Munich for matters relating to the salt trade. Cousin of the "Katherl" who was a frequent visitor at the Mozarts and friend of Nannerl. According to Salzburg.com, he represented Mozart's interests during the execution of his father's will; he took his own life in 1789.