

0564. MARIA ANNA (NANNERL)¹ MOZART TO HER BROTHER, MUNICH; POSTSCRIPT BY LEOPOLD

Dearest brother!

[Salzburg, 18th December, 1780]

I am heartily glad that you are in fine fettle once again and – this much I gathered from your letter – are in a good frame of mind. Here follows the end of the theatre performances before the Advent period: I have already written to you of the 46th performance [5] The Sleepless Nights.²

The 3rd December was thus the 47th performance, The Spleen;³ a new ballet, The Thrashed Lover;⁴ a good ballet.

The 4th: the 48th performance, The Prisoners Of War⁵ in 5 acts.

The 5th: the 49th performance, an original comedy in one act, [10] In Danger One Learns Who One's Friends Are.⁶ A passable little piece. A comedy, again in one act, The Sale of Commissions.⁷ A thoroughly good piece. The ballet Jealousy in the Seraglio.⁸

The 6th: the 50th performance, a tragedy in 5 acts, Eduard Montrose.

The 8th: I was at court to hear M^r: Esser play:⁹ he plays with exceptional ease, [15] you will of course hear him yourself.

The 9th: he gave an concert in the theatre, with Md:^{me} Haiden¹⁰ singing an *aria* and Ceccarelli¹¹ an *aria*.

The 10th: the 51st performance, The Tailor and His Son;¹² a new ballet in 3 acts of Herr Schikaneder's¹³ invention, The Pleasant Dream,¹⁴ or, [20] The Prince's Zest for Hunting, the music for it written by Herr Michel. A thoroughly entertaining and good ballet. And the music is thoroughly easy to listen to, and is appropriate to the story of the ballet.

The 11th: the 52nd performance, The Latest School for Wives,¹⁵ we saw it done by Böhm.

[25] The 13th: the 53rd performance, a play in 5 acts, Ambition and Garrulousness.¹⁶ Herr Schikaneder dedicated it to the Archbishop in gratitude for permission to play here throughout the winter.

The 14th: the 54th performance, a comedy in 2 acts, The Unequal Friends,¹⁷ the ballet The Pleasant Dream. Now the theatre remains closed until St. Stephen's Day. [30]

¹ BD: Mozart's sister, Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), (1751-1829).

² "Die Schlaflosen=nächte." BD: Gozzi/Werthes.

³ "Der Spleen". BD: Stephanie.

⁴ "Der Gedroschne Liebhaber". BD: Nothing known.

⁵ "Die Kriegsgefangenen". BD: Stephanie.

⁶ "In der Gefahr lernt man seine Freund kennen". BD: Author unknown.

⁷ "Der Chargenverkauf". BD: Lederer.

⁸ "Eifersucht im Serail". BD:

⁹ BD: Karl Michael Esser (* c. 1735, untraceable after 1791). He is not mentioned in the travel notes for Mainz. His unlikely feats on the violin are mentioned in No. 0556/21 ff.

¹⁰ BD: Maria Magdalena Haydn, wife of Michael Haydn.

¹¹ BD: Francesco Ceccarelli (1752-1814), castrato, employed in Salzburg and then, from 1795, in Dresden; often a guest in the Mozarts' house. Mozart wrote for him KV 374, cf. No. 0587/19; he also sang in Mozart's concert in Frankfurt in 1790. Cf. No. 0357/22, 42.

¹² "Der Schneider und Sein Sohn". BD: Fuss

¹³ BD: Emanuel Schikaneder (1751-1812), actor and theatre director. He took over the Moser troupe in 1778, which he took to Ulm, Stuttgart, Augsburg, Neuburg an der Donau, Nuremberg, Erlangen, Rothenburg ob der Tauber, Laibach, Klagenfurt and Linz 1780. They were in Salzburg 1780/81. He soon got to know the Mozart family, gave them free entry to the theatre every evening, and participated in the air-rifle club. He was important in giving Mozart familiarity with stage practice. In 1786 they performed operas ten times and plays three times in Salzburg.

¹⁴ "Der angenehme Traum". BD: Schikaneder.

¹⁵ "Die neüeste Frauenschuhle". BD: Stephanie.

¹⁶ "Ehrsucht und Schwatzhaftigkeit". BD: Dyk/Destouches.

Last Thursday, the 14th *December*, mourning dress was donned for the Empress, and also lasts 3 months, as in Munich.

If the Archbishop is still going to Vienna, as I have heard once again, perhaps a great number of Salzburgians will come to Munich to hear your opera: [35] *Msr: Fiala, the young Weinroter* are firmly resolved to do so.

The 17th: the esteemed Paymaster¹⁸ donated the first prize. *Mad. Maresquelle*¹⁹ and *Msr. Wirtenstädter*,²⁰ who is here again, had to share the first and 2nd prizes. She shot 4, 3, and a circle. *Msr. Schikaneder* has bought himself a new gun, and *Msr. Feigele* always has Ensign Antretter's gun fetched for him, [40] so we have 7 bolt guns. No one shoots with yours except *Mad. Maresquelle*.

*Msr: Sieger*²¹ is still here, but he very seldom gives us the chance to see him because he is too taken up with studies with *Msr: Döll*,²² was at the theatre only one single time and at the concert with *Msr. Esser*. I know of nothing more that is new, [45] except that on Sunday the 17th, in the evening, the wife of Count Ernst *Lodron*²³ was buried, that by order of the Archbishop 6 valets and 6 gatekeepers were to accompany the coffin. The first *requiem* is on the 18th, on the 19th the requiem for the Empress;²⁴ on the 20th the 2nd and on the 22nd the 3rd for the Countess. The Court Music will no doubt do the third one. The Chief Gentlemen in Mourning are [50] Count *Momolo*,²⁵ *Niclas Lodron*,²⁶ and *Carl Arco*; ²⁷ the Chief Ladies in Mourning are the 2 elder *Fraüleins*²⁸ and *Mimi Lodron*.²⁹

Aproposito,³⁰ are you having such abominable weather in Munich as we are here? It is dirty, and more snow is constantly coming, so that one often does not know how one should go. Today it froze completely for the first time.

[55] I am to write something to you for *Tresel*,³¹ and that is that she no longer wanted to stay with us because you are not here, so you know that when you write, write something about her, for she complains that you think about her so little. You know of course how whimsical she is. I have a thousand compliments to send to you, especially from *Threserl Barisany*,³² *Maresquelle*, [60] *Catherl* and *Seperl Gilovsky*,³³ the Mayer household,³⁴

¹⁷ "Die ungleichen Freunde".

¹⁸ "Zahlmeister". BD: Franz Vinzenz Lankmayr (1745-1823), Royal Paymaster [Hofzahlmeister], mentioned frequently in letters and notes as a friend of the Mozart family. Cf. No. 0337/9, 54.

¹⁹ BD: A dancer with Schikaneder's troupe.

²⁰ BD: Sigmund Wirtenstätter, court musician. Cf. Nos. 0527/15; 0533/6.

²¹ BD: Lawyer and music-lover in Munich; cf. No. 0549/55; 0555/13, 16, 19. His musical gifts are described in No. 0562/21 ff.

²² BD: Döll seems to have been a tutor for law students.

²³ BD: Maria Antonia, née Komtesse Arco (1738-1780), wife of hereditary marshal [Erbmarschall] Ernst Maria Joseph Nepomuk, Count [Graf] Lodron (1716-1779), cf. No. 0362/87. For her name-days (13th June) in 1776 and 1777, Mozart composed divertimenti: in 1776 KV 247, in 1777 KV 287 (271b, KV⁶: 271 H). In February, 1776, he furthermore wrote for her and her two daughters, Aloisia and Giuseppina, the concerto for three claviers KV 242. Giuseppina (Josepha, "Pepperl") was one of Leopold Mozart's pupils.

²⁴ BD: Maria Theresia (1717-1780), Holy Roman Empress [Kaiserin], mother of Joseph II. 0551: She died in the evening on 29th November, 1780.

²⁵ BD: Hieronymus Maria ("Momolo") (1766-1823), fifth child of the deceased.

²⁶ BD: Cf. No. 0551/23 ff.: Nikolaus Sebastian, Count [Graf] Lodron (1719-1792).

²⁷ BD: Karl Joseph Felix, Count [Graf] Arco (1743-1830), son of Count [Graf] Georg Anton Felix Arco, held various offices in Salzburg, including High Master of the Kitchen [Oberstküchenmeister]. Played a role in the dismissal of Mozart described in No. 0604/4 ff.

²⁸ BD: The eldest daughters, Aloisia and Giuseppina; the concerto for three claviers KV 242 was written for them and the deceased.

²⁹ BD: Mimi Lodron: daughter of the Nikolaus Sebastian Lodron mentioned above.

³⁰ Here: "by the way".

³¹ BD: Therese Pänckl, serving girl in the Mozart household.

³² BD: One of daughters of the personal physician to the Salzburg Archbishop, Dr. Silvester Barisani: Maria Theresia (1761-1854), known as "tresel" or "treserl".

Ceccarelli, Wirtenstädter, *D'ybold*,³⁵ Feigele,³⁶ Deibl,³⁷ and many others besides. Enjoy life and keep well until the time comes soon, very soon, that I see you in Munich. I am, with every thought for your good, your sincere

sister

Marie Anne Mozart

[65]

Catherl Gilovsky would certainly like to travel with us if only she had board and lodgings, but it would be too expensive for us if we had to keep her as well.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

[70] I have this very moment received your letter of the 16th safely. Here Herr Esser went on foot, wore his black woollen suit with spur attached to it,³⁸ and it seems to me that that is his entire wardrobe, although, as I know for certain, he earned a great deal of money in Vienna. – He may have taken 70 florins away with him from here after expenses. He is quite certainly a good, entertaining clown, [75] but also quite senseless in his housekeeping; furthermore someone who obfuscates his true merits by *charlatanry*, and yet obtains admiration and money from the unknowledgeable by these means. The goitre pillules will come by post-coach. Your sister thanks you for the fine recommendation for her 3 goitres. [80] Yet with a small one she can present herself as a good Salzburg lady, for this is the true national beauty. Regarding the matter of the six weeks, I will reply with the next post; I have too little time now. Keep well and we both kiss you from the heart and I am as ever your faithful father,

Mzt

[85] With the next post-coach the whole opera copied out for printing, with Italian and German side by side, will follow. – I pay out so much money for His *Excellency* Count Se[e]au³⁹ with letters and post-coaches that I do not know myself exactly how much it may amount to. He will hopefully refund me. I have already said in my previous letters, and say it yet again, [90] that I have no doubts at all about the quality and excellence of your composition, especially when you have a good orchestra, and that you have; *questo basta!*⁴⁰ I hope that the 2nd rehearsal turned out as well as the first one, and then the third act – – *Finis coronat opus*.⁴¹ Oops, *Finis Corona Topus*.⁴² Keep well!

³³ BD: Josepha and her better known sister Katharina Gilowsky (1750-1802); daughters of court surgeon Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky. "Catherl", "Katherl", "Cath" etc. was a member of the airgun club of earlier years, frequenter of the Mozart family home. Sometime governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz.

³⁴ BD: Family of Joachim Rupert Mayr von Mayrn (1732-1796), seneschal and financial administrator of the Salzburg workhouse. Wife and all three daughters were pupils of Nannerl.

³⁵ BD: Franz Armand d'Ippold (c. 1730-1790), Imperial and Royal Captain [k.k. Hauptmann], director of the page-training school in Salzburg. He added the "de" (in the Viennese style) himself. Sometime suitor of Nannerl – Wolfgang supported his romantic plans in 1781 (cf. No. 0625/24 ff.).

³⁶ BD: Karl Bernhard von Feigele, entered Salzburg University in 1777 to study law, romantically associated with Mozart's sister and then with Mozart's cousin, Maria Anna Thekla.

³⁷ BD: Franz de Paula Deibl (? 1698-1783), oboist, also violinist, in Salzburg.

³⁸ BD: The Order of the Golden Spur, cf. note on No. 0563/14.

³⁹ BD: Josef Anton, Count [Graf] Seeau († 1799), from 1753 supervisor of the Palace Theatre [Residenztheater] in Munich. One of his relatives, Ferdinand, Count [Graf] Seeau, († 1768) was Senior Stable Master [Oberstallmeister] in Salzburg. Cf. No. 0300/11.

⁴⁰ "This is enough".

⁴¹ "The close crowns the work".

⁴² BD: Reference unclear.