

0778. MOZART TO HIS FATHER, SALZBURG

À / Monsieur / Monsieur Leopold de Mozart / Maitre de la Chapelle de
S: A: R: / Salzbourg¹

Vienne ce 3 mars
1784

Mon très cher Père!² –

I received your letter³ of 24th February safely; – it is better if you always write by post – It was on Monday that I received this letter, [5] which I would not have received via Peisser's⁴ business before Tuesday or even Wednesday. – I have not yet received the *concertos*,⁵ but will at once enquire at *Artaria*'s. – You must forgive me that I write so little, but I do not by any measure have the time, since on the last three Wednesdays in Lent, starting on the 17th inst., I am giving 3 *subscription concerts* in Trattner's Room,⁶ [10] for which I already have 100 *subscribers*, and by then will easily get 30 more. – the price is 6 florins for each of the 3 *concerts* – in the theatre I will probably give 2 *concerts* this year – now you can easily imagine that I must necessarily play new pieces – so there I have to compose. – The whole morning is dedicated to my pupils. – [15] and in the evening I have to play almost every day. – Below you will read the list of all the *concerts* in which I must certainly play, – Now I must quickly tell you how it turned out that I am giving private *concerts* all at once. – the *clavier* master Richter⁷ is giving the 6 Saturday *concerts* in the room mentioned. – the *nobility* gave a written *declaration* that they were not interested [20] if I did not play in them. Herr Richter asked me to do so – I promised to play 3 times. – and started a *subscription* for myself for 3 *concerts*, to which they all put their names. –

Thursday, 26th Feb:^r at Gallizin's.⁸

Monday 1st March at Joh: Esterhazy's.⁹

[25] Thursday, 4th — at Gallizin's.

Friday 5th — at Esterhazy's.

Monday 8th Esterhazy's.

Thursday 11th Gallizin's.

Friday 12th Esterhazy's

[30] Monday 15th Esterhazy's

Wednesday 17th My first private concert.

Thursday 18th Gallizin's

Friday 19th Esterhazy's.

Saturday 20th at Richter's.

¹ Address in DME. "To Monsieur Leopold de Mozart, music director to His Royal Highness, Salzburg".

² "Vienna, this 3rd day of March, 1784 / My very dear father!"

³ BD: No. 0777, lost.

⁴ BD: Franz Xaver Peisser, banker in Vienna, correspondent of the Salzburg firm Hagenauer and known to the Mozarts since 1762.

⁵ BD: KV 414 (385p), KV 413 (387a) and 415 (387b), to be offered on subscription. Cf. No. 0715/8. The subscription was not successful; Mozart then offered the works to Sieber in Paris, again unsuccessfully. Finally, Artaria in Vienna advertised the concertos.

⁶ BD: Johann Thomas Trattner (1717-1798). When Mozart first came to Vienna, he was already the owner of several bookshops and printing works in and around Vienna. With the Trattnerhof, he erected one of the most impressive buildings of the period in Vienna. Mozart lived there between January and September, 1784. Trattner's wife Theresia took keyboard lessons from Mozart. The Trattners were on several occasions godparents of Mozart's children.

⁷ BD: Georg Friedrich Richter (c. 1759-1789), popular keyboard player and teacher from the Netherlands, possibly teacher to Mozart's pupil Josepha Auernhammer. It seems that Richter was organising not 6 (line 19) Saturday concerts, but 3.

⁸ BD: Dmitriy Michaylovitch, Prince Golitsyn (1720-1794), Russian ambassador in Vienna 1762 to 1792.

⁹ BD: Johann Nepomuk, Count [Graf] Esterhazy (1754-1794).

- [35] Sunday 21st my first theatre concert
Monday 22nd *Esterhazy's*.
Wednesday 24th my 2nd *private concert*
Thursday 25th *Gallizin's*.
Friday 26th *Esterhazy's*
- [40] Saturday 27th Richter
Monday 29th *Esterhazy's*
Wednesday 31st my 3rd *private concert*.
Thursday 1st April. My 2nd *concert* in the theatre.
Saturday 3rd Richter's.
- [45] Don't I have enough to do? – I do not think
I can end up out of practice this way. –
Adieu. – We both kiss your hands, and
embrace our dear sister from the heart, and
are, sir, eternally your

[50] most obedient children,
W: A: Mozart mp¹⁰

¹⁰ mp = “manu propria” = “in his/her own hand”.