

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzburg / par Innsbruck<sup>1</sup>*

Venice, 20<sup>th</sup> Feb., 1770<sup>2</sup>

We are well, praise God, and in good shape. Since your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> inst.<sup>3</sup> I have received nothing more. I do not know whether you have written again or not. This time again, I am writing in the home of Herr Wider,<sup>4</sup> [5] where I wrote the first letter,<sup>5</sup> which you will have received. We have already dined with him 4 times, his unmarried daughters are now busy washing and repairing my lace cuffs, and the eldest daughter has presented Wolfgang with a beautiful pair of lace cuffs. I cannot praise the uprightness of these people to you enough. They all commend themselves to you, and especially to the whole Hagenauer household.<sup>6</sup> If Herr Johannes<sup>7</sup> always speaks well of all the Widens, I assure you that he can never say enough. I too have tested the people in this world a little, but I have encountered few, yes, very few such as these are, for besides being ready to serve, upright and full of honesty and love for their fellow men, they are at the same time courteous, of entirely good manners and in no way proud of the courtesies shown. We will not leave Venice before the beginning of next month. Otherwise it is still correct that we will be in Salzburg, if not by St. Joseph's Day,<sup>8</sup> then indeed in Easter Week and |: with God's help |: certainly at Easter. I almost wrote at home!, but it occurred to me that we cannot live at home.<sup>9</sup>

So you must write to me whether we should take lodgings at the Sailerwirt, the Stern, or at Saulentzl.<sup>10</sup> I think it will be best if I take lodgings in the Löchl,<sup>11</sup> since I then do not have far to the Hagenauers. We cannot continue as we have been, sleeping |: like soldiers |: together. Wolfgang is not 7 years old anymore etc. Otherwise I have nothing to write to you about, except that we kiss you both 10 000 000 times etc. and that we live in good hope of seeing you both soon again so that I can say to you personally that I am as always your  
Mozart.

It was not long before we went for a *gondola* trip. During the first days, the whole bed was moving in my sleep and I thought I was still in the *gondola*.

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Note (by Frau Mozart? Nannerl?) beside the address: "N:º 59 from Venice".

<sup>2</sup> BD: Should be "1771".

<sup>3</sup> BD: No. 0229b, lost.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Giovanni Wider (Wieder) (1707-1797), merchant, previously in Salzburg, now in Venice. The Mozarts certainly had a letter of recommendation from Johann Lorenz Hagenauer, who did business with him.

<sup>5</sup> BD: No. 0231.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Johannes Nepomuk Anton Hagenauer (1741-1799), eldest son of Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer and the member of the family most frequently mentioned in the letters. He took over the family business on the death of his father in 1792, but became so depressed after the death of his wife Maria Anna in 1794 that his aged mother then took over the business.

<sup>8</sup> BD: 19<sup>th</sup> March. Leopold and Wolfgang returned to Salzburg on Thursday in Holy Week, the 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1771.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0224/36-38. The rooms occupied by the Mozart family in the house of the merchant Joseph Hagenauer were now due for repairs and redecoration; Leopold was worried that he and Wolfgang might be forced to stay in an inn on their return to Salzburg.

<sup>10</sup> ≈ "Sailer's inn", "The Star", "Sow-Lorenz". BD: Getreidegasse 10 (no longer extant), Getreidegasse 34/36 (brewery, still extant), Goldgasse 13 (butcher, no longer extant).

<sup>11</sup> "The Little Hole". BD: On the Löchlplatz; today Hagenauerplatz 2.

I too am still alive and am, praise and thanks be to God, in good health. *De Amicis*<sup>12</sup> sang here in *San Benedetto*<sup>13</sup>. Say to Herr Johannes that the little Wider pearls<sup>14</sup> are still talking about him, with *Mademoiselle Catharina*<sup>15</sup> leading them, and he must come back to Venice soon to let himself be given *N.B.* the *attáca*, that is, to let your bottom be bumped against the ground to become a real Venetian. They wanted to do this to me too, all seven womenfolk joined forces, and yet they were not capable of throwing me to the ground. *Addio*. My handkiss to Mama, and *compliments* to all good friends, ladies and gentlemen, from both of us. Fare well amen.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

We dined at *Sgr. Lugiati's* brother's.<sup>16</sup> Tomorrow we dine with Her *Excellency Catharina Cornero*,<sup>17</sup> on Sunday with the Patriarch, on Monday with His *Excellency Dolfino*<sup>18</sup> etc. In the coming week we will dine mostly with the *Nobili*.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> BD: Anna Lucia de Amicis (1740-1816), who met Wolfgang and Leopold in Naples in May, 1770 (cf. Nos. 0177/81, 102; 0184/71; 0266/24-25) and sang in the première of *Lucio Silla* in Milan in December, 1772 (cf. No. 0266/24-25).

<sup>13</sup> BD: Teatro S. Benedetto.

<sup>14</sup> BD: The six daughters in the Wider family, cf. No. 0231/31; cf. line 5 above.

<sup>15</sup> BD: The eldest daughter.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Bartoli (cf. No. 0235/5), brother of Pietro Lugiati (1724-1788), provincial tax official in Verona; cf. No. 0152/65.

<sup>17</sup> "S<sup>r</sup>: Ex: Catharina Cornero". BD: A member of the Corner family in Venice, one of whom became Doge (Francesco Corner/Cornaro, 1656). Probably the wife of Giovanni Corner/Cornaro.

<sup>18</sup> "S<sup>r</sup>: Ex: Dolfino". BD: Probably Giovanni Antonio Dolfin or his wife, cf. No. 0235/9-10.

<sup>19</sup> = nobles, aristocracy.