

Vienna, 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1773.

We met *Md:<sup>me</sup> Rosa*<sup>1</sup> on the *bastion* on Thursday evening,<sup>2</sup> we were in the company of Herr von Mölk.<sup>3</sup> The good *Md:<sup>me</sup>* acted as if she did not know us, for she was being led on the arm of a certain *Rosa*,<sup>4</sup> an animal painter and *gallery inspector*. [5] Yesterday, being the next day, we dined with esteemed *Baron du Beine*,<sup>5</sup> who then told us of the enamoured circumstances of that person and how she had pestered him in vain for his jewelled ring. That certain watchmaker<sup>6</sup> is also here. We met him in the theatre soon after our arrival, where he then told us that *Md:<sup>me</sup> Rosa* [10] had promised to send on to him the *portrait* which he had already paid her for. But she also imposed on him the *commission* of sending her a piece of a certain silk cloth.

But now she has written telling him she will not send him the *portrait* unless he first sends her the piece of cloth. – – The other day I met him, [15] and I brought him the news that *Md:<sup>e</sup> Rosa* will come to Vienna, yes, that she will probably arrive soon. I would like to be there when they meet, for he was very incensed against her by reason of her letter and her presumptuous demands. We visit *Msr. de Laugier*<sup>7</sup> often. He commends himself to you. –

[20] Baden<sup>8</sup> is a tiny little town. The baths are very numerous, all of the same type as in the Gastein,<sup>9</sup> only they are more comfortably built. Most of the houses are set up to rent rooms to strangers and to supply board. Frau Schultz,<sup>10</sup> whose husband, the old Schultz, died blind in Baden, and who then married a good Hanswurst,<sup>11</sup> is the *principal* at the *theatre* [25] and *acts* very well, although she was very inept in her youth.

Of Frau Leutgeb<sup>12</sup> I have seen nothing more, for even if she had come when we were not at home, Frau Fischer<sup>13</sup> would have given her the fan, and if she had taken it, she would also have given her 2 pairs of shoes to take with her. As Herr Leutgeb, to whom I ask you to pass on our compliments, is now there himself, he should travel, as far as I am concerned, by whatever means

<sup>1</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0292/2 ff. The Italian portrait painter Maria Rosa Barducci married court sculptor Johann Baptist Hagenauer, distant relative of the merchant Joseph Hagenauer, in Salzburg Cathedral in November 1764.

<sup>2</sup> BD: 26<sup>th</sup> August, 1773.

<sup>3</sup> BD: It is not clear which member of the family of Royal Chancellor [Hofkanzler] Franz Felix Anton von Mölk (1714-1776) is meant. Perhaps the Chancellor himself. Cf. No. 0289/17.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Joseph Roos (Rosa), moved from Dresden to Vienna in 1772 to become director of the Imperial Art Gallery.

<sup>5</sup> “H: Baron”. BD: du Beyne. Cf. Nos. 0249/21; 0251/66; 0783/14. Possibly retired Court Counsellor [Hofrat] Aedodat Joseph Philipp du Beyne de Malechamp (1717-1803), a noted music lover with an extensive music collection.

<sup>6</sup> BD: The same person, otherwise unknown, is described in No. 0294/36-37, 45-46 as a watch dealer from Geneva.

<sup>7</sup> BD: Alexandre-Louis Laugier (1719?-1774), personal physician to Maria Theresia.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Spa resort near Vienna, cf. Nos. 0288/4-5; 0291/4, 5, 6.

<sup>9</sup> Spa town south of Salzburg.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Josepha Schultz, née Rabenau (c. 1734-1786). Her husband, Johann Schultz, died in Baden in 1764.

<sup>11</sup> BD: Johann Matthias Menninger († 1793), married Josepha in 1766. His troop was given permission to build a permanent theatre in Vienna for all kinds of theatrical pieces and pantomimes except ballet. Hanswurst: Stock clown figure in German theatre, in No. 0956/83 equated by Leopold with “Pagliaccio”, typically employing coarse improvised lines.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0292/31. Joseph (incorrectly Ignaz) Leutgeb (Leitgeb) (1732-1811), horn player, one of the few people mentioned throughout the almost 30 years of correspondence (1763-1791). The large number of works written for him by Mozart (KV 371, KV 412 + 514 (386b), 407 (386c), 417, 447, 495) speak for his musical abilities. In 1773 his wife borrowed a sum from Leopold Mozart (cf. No. 0293/31-32; No. 0297/30); this was still outstanding in 1782 (cf. No. 0673/56 ff.).

<sup>13</sup> BD: Cf. No. 0288/4. Maria Anna Barbara Fischer, widow of the Vienna court cook, Johann Fischer († 1759). Her daughter, also Maria Anna Barbara, married the coppersmith Gottlieb Friedrich Fischer († 1793) and thus retained the same surname.

he pleases, [30] even if it is with the flying air-*machine*. The money that I lent her in Salzburg consists of 6 Cremona ducats and 5 Bavarian thalers.<sup>14</sup> Her letter of *obligation* is in my writing desk, in one of the first 2 small drawers on the left side when you reach into the desk. It is long time now since we were at Frau von Vauggen's.<sup>15</sup> [35] There she read me a letter from *Dr. Niderl*<sup>16</sup> saying that he would come to Vienna without delay.<sup>17</sup> But since you have never said anything to me, I think he will probably have reflected anew on the matter. The Messmer<sup>18</sup> household is at Rothmühl.<sup>19</sup> With that our little Fräulein Franzl<sup>20</sup> will fall ill again, and will perhaps even die. Not only she, but also her sister, [40] are constantly at the Messmers. Yesterday a great misfortune befell the Mayr household.<sup>21</sup> The elder son, whom Herr von Mayr has at home, and who already serves in a respectable post, had the misfortune, on a country estate outside Vienna, to fall from a boat into the water in a lake, and to drown along with an innkeeper who sought to come to his aid. [45] What a sad event for the old parents and his brother in Milan!

Our compliments to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies. We kiss you both many 100 000 000 times, and I am as always your  
Mzt mp

Both Fischer ladies and Herr Fischer<sup>22</sup> commend themselves, as do the young Mesmers,<sup>23</sup> [45] Herr Grill<sup>24</sup> etc. and many others etc. Tomorrow we dine at *Msr. Noverre's*.<sup>25</sup> Herr *Backer*,<sup>26</sup> the transverse flautist, also commends himself.

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<sup>14</sup> BD: Ducats minted in Kremnitz in Hungary, enjoyed a special reputation. 1 ducat  $\approx$  4.5 florins, 1 thaler  $\approx$  2 florins. (The sum here is  $\approx$  37 florins).

<sup>15</sup> BD: Probably the wife of the physician Dr. Xaver Fauken named in No. 0248/6-7.

<sup>16</sup> BD: Dr. Franz Joseph Niderl von Aichegg, Physician to the Parliament of the Estates [Landschafts-Physikus] in Salzburg, whose death in Vienna in 1773 after an operation is described in Nos. 0295/3, 0296/3 ff.

<sup>17</sup> BD: He came to Vienna on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 1773.

<sup>18</sup> BD: Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer (1734-1815), the famous "magnetizer" and healer. A brief memorial to his methods is found in the first finale of *Così fan tutti*. Sang (tenor) and played numerous instruments (violoncello, harpsichord, glass harmonica). Cf. letters since No. 0288.

<sup>19</sup> BD: Their country estate by Schwechat (Deutsch Bild No. 261), cf. Nos. 0289/54; 0292/22.

<sup>20</sup> BD: Franziska Oesterling, daughter of a captain from Baden, since 1772 a patient residing permanently with the Mesmers. A running theme since No. 0288/29.

<sup>21</sup> BD: Johann Adam von Mayr, cf. No. 003/85, 87, was court paymaster [Hofzahlmeister] in Vienna. The son Karl is meant here. Another son, Franz, also stayed in Vienna. Karl's brother Adam Michael was court secretary in Milan, cf. No. 0257/13, 15.

<sup>22</sup> BD: Cf. line 27.

<sup>23</sup> BD: The family of Joseph Conrad Mesmer (1735-1804), school director at St. Stephan's. A distant relative of Dr. Franz Anton Mesmer. Cf. No. 0288/25.

<sup>24</sup> BD: Probably Michael Grill, official at the War Ministry, mentioned in numerous letters since No. 0288.

<sup>25</sup> BD: Jean Georges Noverre (1727-1810), internationally active (Stuttgart, Milan), ballet master in Vienna 1755-1774. His memoirs mention Mozart aged 12; they certainly met in 1778 in Paris, where Mozart wrote part of the music for *Les petits riens* KV Anh. 10 (299b).

<sup>26</sup> BD: Unknown, unless this happens to be the flautist Johann Baptist Becke mentioned in No. 0333/20.