

1774

0300. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS WIFE, SALZBURG

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne Mozart / Salzbourg.*

[Munich, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 1774]

We arrived<sup>1</sup> in Wasserburg<sup>2</sup> 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*<sup>3</sup> 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*<sup>4</sup> 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.<sup>5</sup> Otherwise we are well, praise God. As far as Nannerl<sup>6</sup> 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 mp<sup>7</sup>

Give my compliments everywhere.

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

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Leopold and Wolfgang are travelling once again, this time to Munich (6<sup>th</sup> December, 1744 to 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> BD: *La finta giardiniera* KV 196.

<sup>5</sup> "S<sup>c</sup>: 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.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Nannerl would later join them in Munich for the première.

<sup>7</sup> mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

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

<sup>9</sup> 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.