

0306. LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS WIFE, SALZBURG; POSTSCRIPTS BY WOLFGANG AND LEOPOLD

*À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzburg / Franco*¹

On the evening of Holy Innocents' Day,²
for tomorrow the post leaves.
[Munich, 28th December, 1744]

[5] A Happily Blessed New Year!

Just on the day when you were visiting³ His *Excellency* Count *Sauerau*,⁴ at 10 o'clock in the morning, there was the first rehearsal of Wolfg.'s *opera*,⁵ which was liked so much that it has been put off until the 5th January⁶ so that the singers can learn it better, and when they have the music properly in their heads, *act* more confidently, [10] so that the *opera* will not be spoiled, which would have been an overly rushed matter for the 29th *December*. In brief, the musical *composition* is greatly appreciated and will therefore be performed on the 5th January. Now it only depends on the *performance* on stage, which, as I hope, should go well, as the *actors* are not averse to us. So a very good opportunity has presented itself to give [15] H. *Exc.* Count Sauerau news of the journey. I am happy about that. I can well believe that everyone is very polite, that is their policy, and they suspect all kinds of things.⁷ You or Nannerl must go to Herr Hagenauer⁸ and ask him to give her a letter of credit to one of his *correspondents* on my behalf. For although one is given a *gift*, it is often deferred [20] so much that one can hardly wait for it, yes, sometimes it is forwarded afterwards, and I do not want to be left waiting for anything, for here everything is slow and often confused. You should simply inform Herr Joseph,⁹ with my compliments. I have a little tin with Spanish tobacco. Nannerl can fill up a little snuffbox with it and take it with her, for my Spanish tobacco is running out. [25] In Wolfg.'s drawer there is an oval tombac¹⁰ snuffbox; that will do nicely. For Nannerl, once again, I *recommend* a good man's fur, and the hay for the feet.

Wolfgn. has had to stay at home for 6 days¹¹ with a swollen face. His cheeks were swollen on the outside and the inside, and the right eye; [30] for 2 days he could take only clear soup. So one must protect the face and the ears well, for in an open half-*chaise* the air blows into one's face constantly because one drives against the air. And if one sits in the *chaise* in such a way that the feet are not really warm, one cannot get them warm again the whole day. She will no doubt sit

¹ Postage paid.

² BD: Cf. Matthew 2, 13-16. Marked by the Catholic Church on 28th December.

³ BD: Leopold must have received news from Salzburg: No. 0305a, lost.

⁴ "S^c: E: gr Sauerau" BD: Joseph Gottfried, Imperial Count [Reichsgraf] von Saurau (1720-1775). Cathedral canon, cathedral dean, privy councillor. Cf. Nos. 0128/46, 0302/51, 0305/53 ff.

⁵ BD: *La finta giardiniera* KV 196.

⁶ BD: The premiere was originally planned for 29th December, 1774, but was postponed several times, finally taking place on 13th January, 1775.

⁷ BD: It is unclear what these suspicions were.

⁸ BD: Johann Lorenz Hagenauer (1712-1792), Salzburg merchant. Friend of the Mozarts and their landlord 1747-1773.

⁹ BD: Ignaz Joseph Hagenauer (1743-1780), second son of the Salzburg merchant Johann Lorenz Hagenauer.

¹⁰ BD: An alloy.

¹¹ BD: Cf. No. 0302/43, 49-50.

in beside Herr Gschwendner.¹² [35] The fur boots must therefore be brought out the day before and hung by the stove, and only put on when one is ready to take one's seat. Nannerl will probably, if necessary, take money with her in a bag. If anything else occurs to me, you will hear of it on the Monday before the departure, otherwise I know of nothing more to say. Keep well, we kiss you both, and am, [40] with my compliments to all, as always Mozart mp¹³

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

My dearest sister.¹⁴

I beg you, before your departure, do not forget to keep your promise, that is, to make that certain visit – – – for I have my reasons. I ask you to offer my compliments there – – but in the most emphatic way [45] – – – und most tenderly – – – and – – oh – I should not worry so much, I know my sister, tenderness is of course her very nature. I know with certainty that she will do everything possible to give me pleasure, and out of *interest* – – – a little maliciously – – – let us squabble about it in Munich. I wish you well.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

[50] Now Nannerl must also know where she has to drive to. She must write the following out for herself on a slip of paper and give it to Herr Gschwendner or keep it on her person. When one comes through the arch into the big square after driving up through the Valley,¹⁵ one keeps to the left by the arcades, [55] and when one has passed the little connecting lane, where one looks out onto the Cattle Market,¹⁶ it is the 5th house counting from the lane. On the house, which is white, there is a small, round painting of St. Francis Xavier in the middle, and right at the top, on the 4th floor, a statue of Our Lady. On the third floor is Frau von Durst's apartment.¹⁷ [60] We will already be there from between 2 o'clock and half past.

NB It is the 5th house when one has passed the lane where one looks towards *St. Peter's* church on the cattle market, and is called the Spazentreiter¹⁸ House on the square. Now I believe it has been explained clearly enough.

¹² BD: Joseph Franz Xaver Geschwendner (1740-1800), city councillor and merchant in Salzburg. Married (second marriage) Maria Cäcilia Schnürer (1751-1825) in January 1769; she bore a daughter in 1795, fathered illegitimately by Karl Joseph, Count [Graf] Arco, High Master of the Kitchen [Oberstküchenmeister]. Cf. 0302/52.

¹³ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

¹⁴ BD: Cf. No. 0270/28-29 and other presumably "romantic" matters in which Wolfgang sought Nannerl's help.

¹⁵ BD: "Thal" = literally "valley", but this was a street where many traders took lodgings.

¹⁶ "Rindermarkt".

¹⁷ BD: It was with Frau von Durst, whose husband was in charge of the salt works in Reichenhall 1765-1772, that Nannerl stayed in Munich in January, 1775, for the première of *Idomeneo*.

¹⁸ BD: Spatzenreuther; on the Marienplatz.