

À Madame / Madame Marie Anne / Mozart / à / Salzbourg / Franco¹

Munich, 18th January, 1775

The *opera*² was applauded by everyone – that you will hear, or will have heard, from my last letter as well as from other letters that have reached Salzburg, [5] and now from Herr Geschwendner³ himself. Just imagine how embarrassed His High Princely Grace⁴ had to be hearing the praise heaped on the *opera* by all the Electoral dignitaries⁵ and the entire nobility and receiving the most solemn congratulations from everybody. He was so embarrassed that he could only answer by nodding his head and shrugging his shoulders. [10] So far we have not spoken to him, for he is still too much surrounded by the nobility greeting him. He arrived at about half past six in the evening, just after the grand *opera*⁶ had begun, and entered the Elector's *box*; it would take too long if I wanted to write about the other *ceremonies*. The Archbishop will not hear Wolfg.'s *opera buffa*, [15] for since all the days have been allocated, it will be on a Friday: it cannot be this Friday, for that is the anniversary of the late Bavarian Emperor.⁷ And who knows if it can be put on before the next Friday, the 27th, as the second lady has fallen severely ill. I regret that so many people from Salzburg have come for nothing, so to speak. [20] At least they have seen the main *opera*. How very much amazed I was when I saw Herr von Antretter⁸ coming to join us, and as I arrived back at Albert's⁹ in the evening, he led us up the stairs to a room and there I found, to my amazement, young Waberl Eberlin,¹⁰ but she did not arrive until after the Archbishop and consequently only got there as the main *opera* was just finishing, [25] for their rear axle broke outside Munich. You and Nannerl write nothing to me about Herr Gschwendner not being able to take her back with him after all; now how shall I get her back without incurring

¹ "Franco" = "Postage paid".

² BD: *La finta giardiniera* KV 196.

³ BD: Joseph Franz Xaver Geschwendtner (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].

⁴ "S^c: Hochf: Gden". BD: Cf. No. 0309/17-18. Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812), Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg since 1772. Studied in Vienna, canon in Salzburg 1747, then to the Collegium Germanicum in Rome. Priest in Stanz, Austria, Canon in Passau and provost of Saint Moritz in Augsburg. 1761 Prince-Bishop of Gurk. He came to Munich on 13th January, 1775, but had no chance to hear Mozart's opera.

⁵ "Churfürst: Herrschaft". BD: Cf. No. 0309/17-18. Hieronymus Joseph Franz de Paula, Count [Graf] Colloredo (1732-1812), Prince-Archbishop of Salzburg since 1772. Studied in Vienna, canon in Salzburg 1747, then to the Collegium Germanicum in Rome. Priest in Stanz, Austria, Canon in Passau and provost of Saint Moritz in Augsburg. 1761 Prince-Bishop of Gurk. He had no opportunity to hear Wolfgang's opera during his stay.

⁶ BD: Tozzi's *Orfeo e Euridice*, text by Calzibigi, adapted by Coltellini. Cf. No. 0308/27.

⁷ "Bayr. Kaysers". BD: Charles [Karl] VII (1697-1745), father of Elector [Kurfürsten] Maximilian III Joseph. Charles died on 20th January, 1745.

⁸ BD VII: Siegmund. Son of Johann Ernst von Antretter, Esquire [Edlen von Antretter], († 1792), Imperial Knight [Reichsritter], farmer and Regional Chancellor to the Parliament of the Estates [Landschaftskanzler], Royal War Adviser [Hofkriegsrat]. After ending his administrative career, Johann Ernst ran into debt and died insane in a religious house.

⁹ BD: Franz Joseph Albert (1728-1789), landlord of the inn "Zum Schwarzen Adler" ["The Black Eagle"], where the Mozarts had stayed on a number of occasions. The keyboard competition between Mozart and Ignaz von Beecke (cf. No. 0110/7) took place there in the winter of 1774/75.

¹⁰ BD VII: Maria Barbara Gertrudis Eberlin (1740-1806), daughter of Salzburg music director Johann Ernst Eberlin (1702-1762); often called Waberl.

great expense? – – – I have already been able to read here the printed reports¹¹ of the *ball evenings* in Salzburg.

[30] I find the idea not at all bad: I only hope that they win a lot.¹²

Keep well, be patient, lock the rooms well. Our compliments to Miss Mitzerl¹³ and to all *etc. etc.* Whether the Archbishop will leave on the day after tomorrow or not until the coming Tuesday is not yet known. *Addio*. We kiss you many 1 000 000 times and I am as always your
Mozart mp¹⁴

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT TO HIS SISTER:

[35] My dear sister!¹⁵

What fault is it of mine that it has just struck quarter past 7 o'clock? – – – Nor is it in any way my Papa's fault – – Mama will have heard everything else from my sister. But now events have taken a bad turn, as the Archbishop is not staying here long – – they are even saying that he will stay until he leaves again [40] – – I am only sorry that he is not seeing the first *ball*. My compliments to *Baron Zemen*¹⁶ and to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies. I send kisses to Mama's hands. Keep well. I will collect you at once. Your faithful

Milan. 5th May, 1756.

Franz von Bloodynose.

LEOPOLD MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

[45] Tell Frau Mosshammer, who stays with us, that *Baron Gienger*,¹⁷ about whom she had asked, had already been released from his term as an noble page a year ago and is now probably to be found in Insprugg.¹⁸ I believe that there will be a grand *concert* on Saturday¹⁹ in the Imperial Hall,²⁰ and the Archbishop²¹ will accordingly probably remain here until Monday or Tuesday.²²

¹¹ BD: Presumably sent as enclosures with a letter from Salzburg: No. 0311b, lost.

¹² BD: Lotteries were a normal feature of such ball events.

¹³ "Jungf: Mitzerl". BD: Maria Anna Raab († 1788, aged 78), along with "Joly Sallerl" (cf. No. 0062/41) one of the most faithful friends of the family. Rented out the first floor of her house, the "Tanzmeisterhaus" ["Dancing Master's House"] to the Mozarts from 1773 until Leopold's death in 1787. Cf. No. 0283/24-25.

¹⁴ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.

¹⁵ BD: The postscript is addressed to his sister (in Munich since 4th January!) and has the wrong place and date (line 44). It was of course intended for his mother.

¹⁶ "baron Zemen". BD VII: This is the same person described as a Saxon ambassador in No. 0420/7–8. Salzburg court counsellor [Hofrat] and chamberlain [Kämmerer].

¹⁷ BD: Mosshammer and Gienger have not been identified.

¹⁸ Innsbruck.

¹⁹ BD: 21st January, 1775. Nothing is known about the concert, nor whether Wolfgang played.

²⁰ "Kaysersaal". BD: In the palace [Residenz] in Munich.

²¹ "Erzbischof".

²² BD: 23rd or 24th January, 1775.