

0579.<sup>1</sup> LEOPOLD MOZART TO HIS SON, MUNICH

*À Monsieur / Monsieur Wolfgang Amadé / Mozart Maître de  
Musique / à / Munic*

*Mon tres cher Fils.*<sup>2</sup>

Salzb., 13<sup>th</sup> January,  
1781.

[5] So the *opera*<sup>3</sup> has been postponed, consequently I will wait for the Archbishop's departure, which should have happened long before the 20<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>: kitchen and table linen &c. are constantly going off in great boxes. Now it is all over with the Royal Marshal's wedding.<sup>4</sup> He has declared that he no longer wishes to marry. In short, it is over! All sensible people are glad and laughing. [10] I hope the rehearsal of the 3 *acts* today, the 13<sup>th</sup>, will have gone well, but it will have lasted a long time, all the more so if the 3<sup>rd</sup> *act* was rehearsed for the first time. One should have rehearsed the 3<sup>rd</sup> *act* alone or at least right at the beginning when the orchestra was not yet tired. Do you know that Herr *Schickaneder*<sup>5</sup> will probably leave here for Laybach<sup>6</sup> at the end of the month [15] in order to play there for the last 3-and-a-half weeks, they are going to pay his travelling expenses! And from there he will go immediately to Gratz,<sup>7</sup> and this is also the reason why the women and children who are not acting are staying here until the end of Carnival and then travel to Gratz from here: since there are 12 balls here, he would not have such big takings anyway; [20] in contrast, there in Laybach the theatre will always be full over such a short time. Regarding setting up the heating stove, you will no doubt have considered what I wrote last time, that it will perhaps be better to set up a bed straight in front, where you compose. – Now I know of nothing more, other than that I have heard that the 2 *Barisanis*<sup>8</sup> will travel to Munich next Friday, the 19<sup>th</sup>, they already knew from a letter from the *Robinig*<sup>9</sup> household that the *opera* was postponed, from Fräul. *Louise*,<sup>10</sup> I believe. They are coming: so the others will probably stay in Munich. We both kiss you and hope to see you soon, stay healthy, I am as always your sincere father

[30]

L. Mozrt

Do not forget our compliments to the *Cannabich*<sup>11</sup> household and to all good friends, both gentlemen and ladies, then to the whole *Robinig* household. Regarding Catherl Gilow.,<sup>12</sup> it is nothing more that she often wished to go to Munich, and when I said to her that we wanted to let her drive with us [35] if someone takes care of feeding her in Munich, she said |: in the

<sup>1</sup> BD: Original lost. Copy c. 1850. Schiedermaid.

<sup>2</sup> = "To Monsieur Wolfgang Amadé Mozart, Music Director in Munich / My very dear son".

<sup>3</sup> *Idomeneo*, the second opera in that Munich season.

<sup>4</sup> "Hofmarschall". BD: Cf. No. 0551/23 ff. and No. 0578/4 ff.: Nikolaus Sebastian, Count [Graf] Lodron (1719-1792) was to marry the young Louise (Aloysia) Lodron (\* 1769).

<sup>5</sup> BD: Emanuel Schikaneder, actor and theatre director. Gave Mozart important insights into theatre practice.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Laibach; Schikaneder initially called off these performances, cf. No. 0551/15-17.

<sup>7</sup> Graz in Styria.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Dr. Silvester Barisani (1719-1810), personal physician to the Prince-Archbishop [Fürst-Erbischof] of Salzburg, member of an extensive Salzburg family. Cf. No. 0270/28.

<sup>9</sup> BD: (Maria)Viktoria Robinig (1716-1783), wife of the factory owner Georg Joseph Robinig von Rottenfeld (1710-1760), member of the air-rifle club and frequent guest at the Mozarts'. Cf. No. 0016/67.

<sup>10</sup> BD: Maria Aloisia (Louise) Robinig, one of the three children.

<sup>11</sup> BD: (Johann) Christian (Innocenz Bonaventura) Cannabich (1731-1798). Joined the Mannheim court music at the age of 13. After the death of Toeschi (see above), he was sole music director to the Elector in Munich. The Cannabich family became particular friends of Mozart's in Mannheim in 1777/78. Cf. No. 0057/13. In 1777 Mozart dedicated the clavier sonata in C KV 309 (284b) to his daughter Rosa.

<sup>12</sup> BD: Recent letters had speculated about her travelling to Munich. – Katharina Gilowsky (1750-1802), daughter of court surgeon Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky, member of the airgun club of earlier years, frequenter of the Mozart family home. Sometime governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz.

presence of *Fiala*<sup>13</sup> :| Oh, I will go to his father-in-law to lodge with him and get my food there. But *Fiala* did not say a word, and may in fact have written this to his father-in-law, otherwise I do not know how he could have known this. But I believe Herr Proschalka<sup>14</sup> would voice his thanks, [40] and perhaps he addressed these words to you to find out if she really would come, perhaps in apprehension; one cannot know.

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<sup>13</sup> BD: Joseph Fiala (c. 1754-1816), oboist in Prague, Regensburg, Wallerstein, Munich, Vienna, Salzburg, St. Petersburg, Donaueschingen. Also composed. Cf. Nos. 0485/67; 0529/7.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Matthias Prohaska, the father-in-law, hunting horn player at the Electoral court in Munich.