

Salzb., 24<sup>th</sup> Sept., 1784.

So I expect you at midday on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup>, it can be at 1 o'clock or later, it's all the same to me. Meanwhile it would be unnecessary trouble to write much about the *theatre* and other things, since I can say it in person. [5] the *opera l'Italiana in Londra*,<sup>2</sup> and the *comedy*<sup>3</sup> were both very good. Here are the programmes, – I do not need them – and will send them out to you every week. With today's *drama* I must wait and see. The piece is certainly good: *Kronau und Albertine*.<sup>4</sup> – and the *Perücken*<sup>5</sup> truly amusing. What I have seen until now was very well played: and – –, they have their roles off by heart like the Our Father. – [10] *Bologna*<sup>6</sup> has kept his word, and had to keep his word, otherwise we would not have invited him to the dance on the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup>. Where? At Eitzenberger's.<sup>7</sup> There were 15 of us at Herr von Eckardshausen's<sup>8</sup> as guests at his table at midday. In the evening we decided among ourselves on a little dance. I sent for 5 persons for the music, – and for *Joseph Barisani*<sup>9</sup> and *Bologna* to dance, [15] then the Senior Equerry's<sup>10</sup> family were also there at midday; I said to Frau von Schidenhofen,<sup>11</sup> As long as he does not perhaps become madder and put off his journey. No! she replied, he is certainly going on Wednesday. And he did indeed leave on Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I will let the 2 maids know.<sup>12</sup> – If only the cook can get away. [20] the other will probably not be hindered. – If the hospital clerk's daughter<sup>13</sup> is not so urgently required out there because an old woman is there now anyway to watch the children, she can go out on 2<sup>nd</sup> October with the Graz messenger,<sup>14</sup> – or with me; for I am thinking of driving out to you for perhaps a week when you go back. In a word! [25] I would wish for her not to come into contact with the old servants.<sup>15</sup> In the meantime I kiss both of you from the heart and am, in the most longing expectation,

Your sincere father,  
Mzt mp<sup>16</sup>

<sup>1</sup> BD: Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), née Mozart, (1751-1829). After her marriage in 1784 her name was Maria Anna von Berchtold zu Sonnenburg. In all letters to Nannerl after her marriage Leopold refers to her as "Frau Tochter" [madam daughter] and to his son-in-law as "Herr Sohn" [esteemed son].

<sup>2</sup> BD: By Cimarosa, cf. No. 0809/21.

<sup>3</sup> BD: *Freundschaft und Argwohn* [Friendship and Suspicion] by Johann Friedrich Jünger (1759-1797), Act 5.

<sup>4</sup> BD: Play after the French of Jacques Marie Monvel (known as Boudet; 1745-1812) by Friedrich Ludwig Wilhelm Meyer (1759-1840)

<sup>5</sup> BD: "Wigs": comedy in one act by Christian Heinrich Spiess (1755-1799), performed as second piece.

<sup>6</sup> BD: Michelangelo Bologna, castrato, active in the court music in Salzburg 1782-84. Involved with Regerl von Weyrother, leading to friction with the Weyrother family. Cf. No. 0809/58.

<sup>7</sup> BD: One of the better inns in Salzburg.

<sup>8</sup> BD: Karl von Eckartshausen (1752-1803), confidential archivist and court counsellor [Hofrat] in Munich, author of dramas.

<sup>9</sup> BD: Joseph Barisani (1756-1826), eldest son of the Salzburg Archbishop's personal physician, Dr. Silvester Barisani.

<sup>10</sup> "Oberbereiter". BD: Oberbereiter: Gottlieb von Weyrother, Esquire [Edler] (1731-1816), active in the Salzburg riding school and court stables. His daughter was known as "Regerl".

<sup>11</sup> BD: Johann Baptist Joseph Joachim Ferdinand von Schiedenhofen made a successful career in the state administration of Salzburg. Married Anna Daubrawa von Daubrawiack in 1778. The Schiedenhofens were in frequent contact with the Mozarts, offering mother and daughter accommodation in Schloss Triebenbach during the travels of Leopold and Wolfgang.

<sup>12</sup> BD: The long search for domestic staff recorded in recent letters.

<sup>13</sup> BD: A possible maid for Nannerl. Cf. Nos. 0808/20-21; 0809/4-5.

<sup>14</sup> BD: Messenger/carrier travelling from Salzburg to Graz and passing through St. Gilgen. He arrived in Salzburg every Thursday, left on Saturday. Cf. No. 0803/16, 17.

<sup>15</sup> Domestic staff could change employers at Michaelmas.

<sup>16</sup> mp = "manu propria" = "in his own hand".

I kiss the children: – and Nannerl<sup>17</sup> should do a nice job of being a solid High Steward's wife<sup>18</sup> when they are alone. [30]

I have just come back from the theatre. Both pieces<sup>19</sup> were good, – and also well played.

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<sup>17</sup> BD: Nannerl's step daughter, Anna Margarete (also known as Marianne), at this time 13 years old. Received keyboard teaching from Nannerl and was later godmother to Nannerl's daughters Johanna and Marie Babette, who both died young. Cf. No. 0804/27.

<sup>18</sup> "Hofmeisterin".

<sup>19</sup> BD: Cf. lines 7-8.