

1067. MOZART TO HIS BROTHER-IN-LAW, ST. GILGEN

*À / Monsieur / Monsieur Berchtold de Sonnenburg. / à / Salzbourg /
to be delivered / to St. Gilgen*

Dearest, esteemed brother! –

[Vienna, 29th September 1787]

In the greatest haste; – I am very glad about our gracious settlement;¹ – [5] if you send me an order for the exchange transaction, [5] please address it to Herr Michael Puchberg.² In the house of Count Walsegg³ on the Hoher Markt, for he has instructions to receive the money, as I am leaving for Prague very early on Monday.⁴ – I wish you well; kiss our dear sister 1000 times on our behalf, and rest assured, sir, that I shall always be your

[10] Vienna, 29th Sept., 1787.

most sincere brother

W: A: Mozart mp⁵

¹ BD: Concerning the estate of Leopold Mozart. The “settlement” was outlined by Berchtold in the lost letter No. 1066. Mozart was promised 1000 florins in secure investments as requested in No. 1061/9.

² BD: The first of many mentions in the letters of Johann Michael Puchberg (1741-1822), 1768-1777 in charge of a factory and wholesale business for finished and semi-finished silk layers, velvet, ribbons, cloth and gloves. He resumed this activity in 1785 in association with his brother. The landlord of the premises on the Hoher Markt in Vienna was Franz, Count [Graf] Walsegg-Stuppach, who commissioned the *Requiem* from Mozart in 1791. Member of various Masonic lodges from 1773 onwards. It was probably in Masonic circles that he met Mozart. He was also in contact with Joseph Haydn, who wrote to him in January, 1792, in connection with Mozart’s death. He represented Constanze for a time regarding Mozart’s estate. Mozart dedicated to him the string trio divertimento in E^b KV 563 (cf. No. 1094/23; No.1121/11) and perhaps also the piano trio in E KV 542 (cf. notes on No. 1077/50 and No. 1083/18). In the course of three years, Puchberg lent Mozart a total of at least 1415 florins (cf. note on No.1076). Constanze paid the debt some years later when her financial position improved. Puchberg died in poverty in 1822.

³ “Graf”.

⁴ BD: Mozart left Vienna with Constanze on 1st October, 1787, for his second visit to Prague, arriving on the 4th. The three-year-old Carl was probably left in the care of his mother-in-law, Cäcilia Weber. The première of *Don Giovanni* was planned for the 14th. The author of the libretto, Lorenzo da Ponte, was present in Prague only until the 14th, thus missing the actual première on the 29th. Probably present was Giacomo Casanova, in whose hand we have a fragmentary arrangement of the sextet No. 19. While in Prague, Mozart is said to have written the Contradances KV 269b while visiting the castle of Count [Graf] Johann Rudolph Czernin in Neuhaus (Jindřichuv Hradec).

⁵ mp = manu propria = in his own hand.