

0390. MARIA ANNA MOZART TO HER HUSBAND AND DAUGHTER,¹ SALZBURG; POSTSCRIPT
BY MOZART

*Monsieur / Monsieur Leopold Mozart / maitre de la Chapelle de
S:A:R: / L'archeveque de salzbourg / à / Salzbourg*²

My dear husband and Nannerl,

Manheim, 14th December, 1777

Now we have finally moved out of the inn,³ praise God, [5] and have a clean room with 2 fine beds and an alcove in the house of the Court Chamber Adviser,⁴ whose name I do not know. He has a splendid wife and a *Mamselle* daughter of 15 who has already been playing the clavier for 8 years and whom Wolfgang has to instruct. In return, we have the apartment free, as well as wood and light. Wolfgang eats at *Monsieur Wendling's*,⁵ [10] and I go to young Herr Danner's⁶ to eat, and in return he learns composition from my son. That is how it is arranged. Wolfgang has an astonishing amount to do, he does not know whether he is coming or going. Today he dined with the rich Dutchman⁷ who is giving him 200 florins for compositions. He has not yet come home after that, [15] so I cannot send this letter off. It is almost 4 o'clock. I was not able to write earlier because I did not eat at home. I have not yet received the bill from the landlord.⁸ You cannot imagine how greatly appreciated Wolfgang is here, both in music and in other things. They all say he is without equal, they absolutely worship his compositions. [20] Often I do not see him the whole day. I am alone at home most of the time, for because of the cold and terrible weather, I cannot go out much, for I do not have any umbrella when it snows or rains. Herr Danner,⁹ both the old and the young one, send their compliments, and I and Wolfgang commend ourselves to the whole of Salzburg. [25] Often I would wish to be with you for even one day to be able to converse with you in person, for it is not possible to describe everything so clearly in writing. Now it is time to finish, for Wolfgang will not be able to write much today, for the post is leaving right away. *Adio*, and I kiss you and Nannerl many 1000 times and remain your faithful wife,

Marianna Mozart

MOZART'S POSTSCRIPT:

[30] I can do nothing more than write a few words. I only came back home at 4 o'clock, then I quickly gave a lesson to the Mad:^{sell} of the house.¹⁰ Now it is already close to half

¹ BD: Mozart's sister, Maria Anna Walburga Ignatia ("Nannerl"), (1751-1829).

² Address in Mozart's hand: Monsieur Leopold Mozart, music director to His Royal Highness the Archbishop of Salzburg in Salzburg.

³ BD: An inn, the 'Pfälzischer Hof'.

⁴ "Hofkammer Rath". BD: Cf. No. 0388/53. Serrarius. His step-daughter, Therese Pierron, became Mozart's pupil, see lines 7-8. He wrote for her the sonata for clavier and violin KV 296 (dated 11th March, 1778). This was in turn published, along with the sonatas KV 376 (374d), 377 (374e), 378 (317d), 379 (373c) and 380 (374f), as Op. II by Artaria & Co., Vienna, in 1781. This edition was dedicated to Josepha Auernhammer.

⁵ BD: Johann Baptist Wendling, flautist to the Elector [Kurfürst] in Mannheim and then Munich.

Wendling Franz Anton Wendling, younger brother of J. H. Wendling, violinist. Cf. No. 0056/27.

⁶ BD: The "young Herr Danner" is Christian Franz, son of Johann Georg Danner (1722-1803), court musician (violinist) in Mannheim. Mentioned in No. 0360/23-24.

⁷ BD: The Dutchman mentioned in No. 0398/11, 46, 48-50. De Jean? Dechamps? Dittersdorf dedicated a work to a "Willem van Britten Dejong, amateur de musique". Mozart did in fact write two concertos and three quartets for him, cf. No. 0423/47; No. 0494/60-61 mentions only three quartets and a flute concerto.

Possibilities are the quartets KV 285 (cf. No. 0393/88-90); KV 285a; Anh. 171 (285b); the concertos KV 313 (285c) and KV 314 (285d).

⁸ BD: From the inn the 'Pfälzischer Hof', see line 4.

⁹ BD: Johann Georg Danner (1722-1803), court musician (violinist) in Mannheim. See line 10.

¹⁰ BD: See line 12.

past 5, and therefore time to finish the letter. I will tell my Mama that she should always write in advance over several days to avoid everything coming at once, for I can no longer easily do this now. [35] I have to use the little time in which I can write for composition, for I am facing a lot of work. Regarding the journey to Paris, I would patiently ask you to give me an answer soon. I let Herr Wendling hear my *Concertone*¹¹ on the clavier; he said: That is right for Paris. When I let Baron Bach hear it,¹² he was quite beside himself. *Addieu*.

[40] Beautiful handwriting and beautifully laid out, isn't it? – –

I kiss your hands 100 000 times and I embrace my sister with my whole heart and am, sir, your most obedient son,

Wolfgang Amadé Mozart

My compliments to all of Salzburg, [45] especially to Herr Bullinger.¹³

¹¹ BD: KV 190 (166b; KV⁶: 186E).

¹² “Baron Bach”. BD: Karl Ernst, Baron [Freiherr] von Bagge af Boo (1718 or 1722-1791), from 1750 on in Paris: on the one hand mocked as a laughable dilettante, but on the other hand in contact with Gossec, Gavaniès, Boccherini, Duport etc. Cf. No. 0074/34.

¹³ Abbé Franz Joseph Johann Nepomuk Bullinger (1744-1810), Jesuit, private tutor, friend of the Mozart family in Salzburg, where he seems to have arrived between 1774 and 1776. House tutor to Count [Graf] Leopold Ferdinand Arco, later to Count [Graf] Sigmund (“Sigerl”) Lodron. Mozart called him “his best of all friends” (cf. No. 0459/1).