

0145.<sup>1</sup> MOZART TO AN UNKNOWN GIRL (MARIA ANNA KATHARINA GILOWSKY?<sup>2</sup>)

Dear friend,

[Salzburg, 1769?]

I beg your pardon that I am taking the liberty of plaguing you with some lines, but since you said yesterday that you can understand everything, no matter what I choose to write to you in Latin, [5] forwardness prevailed over me to write to you here all kinds of Latin words, lines. Be so kind, when you have gathered up these words, as to send the answer to me by one of the Hagenauers' maids, for our little Nandl<sup>3</sup> cannot wait (but you must answer me with a letter too).

[10] Cuperem scire, de qua causa, a quam plurimis adolescentibus otium<sup>4</sup> adeo aestimatur, ut ipsi se nec verbis, nec verberibus, ab hoc sinant

1769.<sup>5</sup>

abduci<sup>6</sup>

Wolfgang  
Mozart

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<sup>1</sup> BD VII: Original privately owned. Shown to the ISM in 1974.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Katharina Gilowsky (1750-1802), daughter of court surgeon Wenzel Andreas Gilowsky, member of the airgun club, frequenter of the Mozart family home. Later governess to the children of Leopold Andreas, Count [Graf] Plaz.

<sup>3</sup> BD: Housemaid with the Mozart family, but probably not the Nandl often mentioned after 1785.

<sup>4</sup> Correctly: "otium".

<sup>5</sup> BD: date added by copyist.

<sup>6</sup> = "I would like to know for what reason the idleness is prized so highly by most boys that they allow themselves to be dissuaded from it by neither words nor blows."