

0325.<sup>1</sup> PADRE GIOVANNI BATTISTA MARTINI<sup>2</sup> TO MOZART, SALZBURG

Bologna, 18<sup>th</sup> December, 1776

Together with your most courteous letter, which reached me via Trent, I received the motet ... With pleasure I have considered it from the beginning to the end, and I say to you in all sincerity that it pleases me singularly, [5] finding in it all that which Modern Music demands: good harmony, mature modulation, moderate movement in the violins, natural modulation and good leading of the parts. I feel joy over it, and am glad that, since the time I had the pleasure of hearing you in Bologna on the harpsichord, you are now much advanced in composition. May you continue to exercise yourself in ever greater measure, because music is of such a nature that it demands exercise and great study as long as [10] you live<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> BD: Draft reply, written out (entirely in Italian) on the original of No. 0323.

<sup>2</sup> BD: Giovanni Battista Martini (1706 1784), specialist in the theory and history of music. Taught Mozart during his stay in Bologna as preparation for admission to the Accademia filarmonica.

<sup>3</sup> BD: It seems possible that, in the final version of the letter, Martini expressed the wish to have portraits of Leopold and Wolfgang. At any rate (cf. No. 0395/12-13), at least Wolfgang's portrait as Knight of the Golden Spur was sent to Bologna. Leopold acknowledged receipt of the final version of the present letter in No.0369/3-4.