

0988. MOZART TO SEBASTIAN WINTER,¹ DONAUESCHINGEN

*À Monsieur / Monsieur Sebastien Winter² / Valet de Chambre de
S: A: S: / le Prince de Fürstenberg etc: etc: / à / Donaueschingen³*

dearest friend! –

[Vienna, 30th September, 1786]

The *musique* requested⁴ will leave here tomorrow by post-coach, – [5] you will find the amount payable for the *copies* at the end of the letter. – It is quite natural for some of my pieces to be sent to foreign countries – but these are pieces which I intentionally allow to reach the world – and I only sent you the themes of them because it was possible, after all, that they had not reached you. but the pieces which I reserve for myself, [10] or for a small circle of music lovers and connoisseurs |: with the promise that they will not let them out of their hands :| cannot possibly be known outside this country because they are not even known here; – this is so with the 3 *concertos* which I have the honour of sending to His Illustriousness;⁵ in this case I saw myself obliged to set a small *honorarium*, besides the costs of the *copies*, of 6 *ducats*⁶ for each *concerto*, [15] while I must at the same time beg His I. not to let the *concertos* in question out of his hands. – the *Concerto in A*⁷ includes 2 *clarinetti*. – Should you not have these instruments at your court, a skilful *copyist* should transpose them into the required key, in which case the first should be played on a *violin* and the second on a *viola*. – [20] As far as the proposal⁸ which I took the liberty of sending to your worthy prince is concerned, the first thing I require to know is the genre of composition which H. I. can best use and most requires, and how much of each genre you desire to have from me; I would wish to know this exactly so as to be able to make my *calculation*. – [25] I ask you to caste me at the feet of H. I. and to make my wish known to His Most Elevated Person.⁹ – and now, dearest friend! – companion of my youth! – Since I have of course often been in Ricken¹⁰ during these many years, and yet never had the pleasure of meeting you there, my greatest wish would in fact be that you could visit me in Vienna, or that I visit you in *Donaueschingen*. [30] – I would almost prefer, forgive me, the latter! – since, besides the pleasure of embracing you, I would also be so favoured as to offer my services to your most gracious Prince¹¹ and to remind myself even more vividly of the many favours which I enjoyed at your court in my earlier years,¹² favours which I shall never forget as long as I live.

¹ BD: Cf. Nos. 0082/35-38; 0728/2. Sebastian Winter (1744-1815), who accompanied the Mozart family on the great journey starting 1762 and left them in Paris (1764) to enter service with the Prince [Fürst] von Fürstenberg. He was later instrumental in ordering music from Mozart for the Prince.

² BD: Winter made the following remarks on the original:

“Received the 11th of October 1786. And on the following 14th the music specified.

Answered the 8th of September inst. and sent the same day with the stated amount of 119 fl. 39 kr. in Kaiser’s money – with 143½ fl. Imperial money sent post-free.

These 143½ fl. have been drawn from the Royal payment office according to most gracious command and instruction. As the note delivered to the esteemed Royal Paymaster indicates the remaining details. S. Winter.”

³ = “To Monsieur Sebastien Winter, Personal Valet to His Serene Highness the Prince of Fürstenberg etc. etc. in *Donaueschingen*”.

⁴ BD: Cf. note on No. 0974/37 ff.

⁵ “S: D:” [“Seine Durchlaucht”]. BD: Joseph Maria Benedikt, Prince [Fürst] von Fürstenberg.

⁶ BD: Mozart calculates with a ducat exchange rate of 4 florins 30 kreuzers, cf. line 46. The sum is 27 fl.

⁷ BD: KV 488.

⁸ BD: Cf. No. 0974/15 ff.

⁹ “höchstderoselben”.

¹⁰ BD: Perhaps this refers to the “Kingdom of Rücken” which Mozart thought up during the grand journey to Paris and London. Sebastian Winter, who accompanied the Mozart family at this point, “had to make a chart of it”. Cf. Nannerl’s memoirs in the *Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung* of 22nd January, 1800.

¹¹ “Fürst”.

¹² BD: The Mozart family spent 10 days in *Donaueschingen* in 1766 while returning from the grand journey.

– [35] in eager expectation of a prompt reply, and in fond hope of perhaps seeing you once again in this World, I am Eternally

your most devoted friend and servant
Wolfgang Amadè Mozart mp¹³

Vienna the 30th *Sept.*, 1786.

[40]

Nota.¹⁴

	<u>the 3 concertos</u> , without <i>clavier</i> part.	florins	kreuzers
	109 sheets. at 8 kreuzers:	14	32
	<u>die 3 clavier parts</u> .		
	33 and ½ sheets. at 10 kr.: _____	5	35
[45]	<u>honorarium</u> for the 3 concertos.		
	18 <u>ducats</u> . at 4 fl. 30 kr. _____	81	–
	<u>the 3 symphonies</u> ¹⁵		
	116 and ½ sheets at 8 kr. _____	15	32
	<u>Customs duty and post</u> _____	3	–
[50]	<u>Summa:</u>	<u>119 fl.</u>	<u>39 kr.</u>

¹³ mp = *manu propria* = in his own hand.

¹⁴ = “Invoice”.

¹⁵ BD: KV 425, 319, 338. Cf. note on No. 0974/37 ff.