

0021. ANONYMOUS TO LEOPOLD MOZART,¹ SALZBURG

Monsieur / Monsieur / Mozard Musicien très renommé / à / Salzbourg
*Monsieur et très chere Ami!*²

[No date]

May the gentleman be pleased to write no more such buffoonish pieces as the Chinese and Turkish Music, the Sleigh Ride, yes, even the Peasants' Wedding,³ for it brings more disrepute and contempt on your person than honour, which I, as a knowledgeable person, regret, hereby warning you, sir, and remaining steadfastly

Your
Bosom friend

datum in domo
*verae amicitiae*⁴

¹ BD: Leopold Mozart (1719-1787), born in Augsburg as son of a bookbinder. Started studies in law and philosophy in Salzburg, but neglected these and became a professional musician. Married Maria Anna Pertl in 1747. Only two of their seven children survived infancy. From 1763 until his death, he was *Vizekapellmeister* [deputy director of music] at the Prince-Archbishop's court in Salzburg.

² BD: Leopold's *Die musikalische Schlittenfahrt* [The Musical Sleigh Ride] and *Bauren-Hochzeit* [Peasants' Wedding] by the Augsburg *Collegium Musicum* in January, 1756. The Chinese and Turkish pieces have not been identified.

³ = "Monsieur Mozart, most renowned musician in Salzburg. Monsieur and very dear friend!"

⁴ = "given in the house of true friendship."