

1800¹

1273. CONSTANZE MOZART² TO JOHANN ANTON ANDRÉ,³ OFFENBACH

To / Herr Johann André / Music publisher / in / Offenbach am Mayn

[Vienna, 8th January, 1800]

I am writing to you as agreed to inform you that our contract stands.⁴ As soon, then, as Herr von Wranitzky⁵ gives me your promissory note and his receipt for the music, I shall part with it at once.

Besides the number of packets you noted yourself,⁶ you will receive a further packet with my husband's thematic catalogue⁷ and notes, 6 arias⁸ which belong to my husband's major works, [10] 3 other *arias*,⁹ 1 *canon*, 1 *fugue*,¹⁰ and two texts for *Bettulia liberate*,¹¹ as well as the proof, such as I have it, regarding *Bettulia liberata* itself, complete with my cession.¹² *Baron Jacobi* is in London as Prussian ambassador.

I have received the payment order for 300 florins, dated 18th *Dec.* of this year, [15] and before this letter is posted I will be able to inform you whether it has been paid. Then I will have no more outstanding demands. But you will be doing me a favour if you in future send the payment order as payable on presentation. This time I had to wait 3 long weeks.

[IN THE MARGIN:

The payment order has just been paid.]

[20] I am sorry that the printed *concertos*¹³ had not yet arrived; I had definitely given orders according to your instructions. I then repeated them on 28th *December*. If, contrary to expectations, the delay goes on even longer, I can give you an authorisation with which you can enforce your rights yourself.

[25] Wherever and whenever I can, I shall certainly procure for you all of the other works which do not cost me anything; you will already find some of these in Packet No. 16 as proof of this intention. And I shall very soon give you at least guidance concerning more, which in

¹ BD: Cf. No. 1207 (cession, dated 1st January, 1800, of the contract of sale of 4th March, 1792).

² BD: Nissen's handwriting, Constanze's signature. Nissen: cf. note No. 1224.

³ BD: Johann Anton André (1775-1842), publisher. He was the third son of Johann André (1741-1799), composer, music director (from 1766), founded the music publishing business in Offenbach in 1784. It was thus in Johann Anton's first year as a publisher that the contract was concluded with Constanze (8th November, 1799) regarding the music in Mozart's estate. His full title in 1826 was "Music Director to the Grand Prince of Hessen and Court Councillor at the Princely Court in Isenburg" ["grossfürstlich hessischer Kapellmeister und fürstlich Isenburgischer Hofrath"].

⁴ BD: This is the letter of confirmation required by clause 5 in the contract of 8th November, 1799 (No. 1262).

⁵ BD: Paul Wranitzky (1756-1808), composer, music director, musician, Freemason. A friend of Haydn and Beethoven, and almost certainly of Mozart. Witness to Constanze's contract with André.

⁶ BD: André had counted and sealed 15 packets (cf. No. 1262/6, 109).

⁷ BD: The "Verzeichnüss".

⁸ BD: Listed in No. 1256/5-11.

⁹ BD: Certainly including No. 23 in KV 51 (46a) and probably KV 143 (73a).

¹⁰ BD: Canon and fugue not identified.

¹¹ BD: Either two complete text books or, less probably, the two numbers (supposedly) composed later for *Betulia liberata* KV 118 (74c), "Qual fiero caso!" and "Te solo adoro". (Cf. note on No. 1207).

¹² BD: Proof of Constanze's right to publish the opera, issued by the Prussian diplomat Jacobi on 4th March, 1792. Constanze ceded this right to André on 1st January, 1800.

¹³ BD: KV 503; cf. Nos. 1262/104-105; 1263/63-70; 1272/2-9.

some cases have been refused me and in some cases lie beyond the range of my efforts. With your connections, you will perhaps and hopefully be better placed. [30]

I have the honour to be, with the utmost respect,

Vienna, 8th Jan., 1800.

your most obedient servant

Constance Mozart

If you would be so gracious as to give me a suitable payment, that is to say, [35] in due proportion to the price of the 211 copies,¹⁴ you will find enclosed an authorisation with which you can obtain for yourselves a further small number¹⁵ of these same concertos, I believe 30. If not, I would ask you to return the authorisation when opportunity arises.

The fragment of a sonata for four hands,¹⁶ which I believe constitutes the last number in your catalogue, [40] is worthless: the sonata has been published.

¹⁴ BD: As in line 20.

¹⁵ BD: In fact only 28, which seem to have been in Berlin (cf. Nos. 1285/3-4; 1292/49).

¹⁶ BD: KV 357 (497a); cf. note on No. 1258/95-96; No. 1285/139-142; No. 1299/174-176.