
WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART

SYMPHONY No. 31

D Major/D-Dur/Ré majeur

K297

"Paris"

PREVIEW
Low Resolution



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The present edition is based on the critical apparatus of the second edition (pp. 1–104) of the *Handbuch der Geschichte der klassischen Philologie* prepared in 1930. Redlich's edition (third edition, 1931; fourth edition, 1933; fifth edition, 1936; only printed editions) has been re-checked and corrected. The apparatus of the first edition (1920) has been published in the *MWA*.

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Ernst Eulenburg Ltd
48 Great Marlborough Street
London W1F 7BB

PREFACE

On 23 March 1778 Mozart arrived in Paris, the final stop on a tour that had taken him also to Munich, Augsburg and Mannheim in the hope of securing a post that would free him from dependence on Salzburg and an unsympathetic employer, the Prince-Archbishop Colloredo, for a living. It was his third trip to Paris, the first two having been respectively 15 and 12 years earlier during a grand tour lasting three-and-a-half years which the whole family had taken to show off the remarkable talents of Wolfgang and his sister Maria Anna (Nannerl), four-and-a-half years his senior.

This time Mozart was accompanied only by his mother, his father, Leopold, having been refused permission to go. Roughly impatient, Archduke Leopold had given the other leave of absence he had granted to the Mozarts away from Salzburg for the last time again. Angered, Leopold and Colloredo demanded that Wolfgang return immediately, and when he did so, more reluctantly, he was sent to Paris on 21 September 1777. He had been posted to Paris by the Emperor Joseph II of Austria, who had been impressed by the young man's musical talents. The Emperor had invited him to play at his court, and the young Mozart had responded by writing a symphony for him. The Emperor had been so pleased with the performance that he had offered him a post as Kapellmeister to the Vienna Court Opera. But the Emperor had died before the young man could accept, so he had to wait another year for another invitation. Finally, in 1778, he was invited to play at the court of King Louis XVI of France. He accepted, and began his journey to Paris. On the way, he stopped in Mannheim, where he met his old friend, the violinist Leopold Aloysius Mozart, and his son, Leopold Aloysius Mozart, who was studying at the University of Mannheim. They were staying at the home of Leopold Aloysius Mozart's father, Leopold Aloysius Mozart, who was a professor of music at the university. The young Mozart was welcomed warmly by the family, and they invited him to stay with them for a few days. While he was there, he wrote several pieces of music, including a symphony for orchestra, a concerto for piano and strings, and a piece for solo violin and piano. He also composed some songs and a few short pieces for the piano. He was very happy to be back in Paris, and he soon found work as a composer and conductor for the Paris Opera. He remained in Paris until 1781, when he returned to Salzburg to take up a post as Kapellmeister to the Archbishop of Salzburg. He never returned to Paris, but he did make several trips to France over the next few years, including one to Paris in 1785, where he conducted a performance of his own symphony.

a-half months spent there were to prove of great importance to him on both a musical and a personal level. The atmosphere in Paris, then the most fashionable city in Europe, greatly impressed him, and he gave brilliant executions of his compositions, especially of dynamic control and the expressiveness of the music. His compositions included a symphony, a concerto for piano and strings, and a piece for solo violin and piano. He was particularly fond of the violin, and became a virtuoso player. He also became a composer for the Paris Opera, and was appointed as a member of the Parisian Academy of Music. He was not only a composer, but also a conductor, and performed with great success in various orchestras.

Mozart's stay in Paris was introduced by Leopold, who provided helpful contacts and financial support. Then the conductor of the Parisian Orchestra – 'the greatest orchestra I have ever seen' – to the young Mozart, Weber, who had a number of opportunities to perform in the operas and oratorios of the Parisian Opera. Weber's wife, Aloisia, was also a soprano, and she was at the age of 16 an accomplished singer. Mozart not only wrote the aria 'Non ti dirò più' (K294) for her but promptly fell in love with her, so much so that he wanted to cancel the trip to Paris, a proposition that the horrified Leopold objected to in no uncertain terms. And so the obedient Wolfgang and his mother left Mannheim on 14 March 1778 for the French capital where they arrived nine days later.

It was not a propitious time for Mozart, exhausted from the journey and depressed at having to leave Aloisia, to make a grand

¹ Georges de Saint-Foix, *The Symphonies of Mozart*, translat. Ledley Orrey (London, 1947), p59

² Emily Anderson, *The Letters of Mozart and his Family* (1938; 3rd edn, London, 1985), Letter 313, to Leopold dated 9 July 1778, p562.

entry into Paris's musical life. Divided as it then was between the followers of the revolutionary Gluck and the conservative Piccini, the public could hardly bother to turn its attention to the now mature composer, no longer the *wunderkind* who had astonished and delighted them a dozen years earlier, indeed if they even remembered him.

A commission, however, soon came his way from Joseph (Jean) Le Gros, director of the *Concert spirituel*, for a *Sinfonia Concertante* to feature four of the fine wind players — Johann Baptist Wendling (flute), Friedrich Ramm (oboe), Johann Wenzel Stich, who now went under the name of Giovanni Punto (horn), and Georg Wenzel Ritter (bassoon) — all members of the Mannheim Orchestra who had come to Paris for the occasion. The projected performance, however, due to some unspecified intrigue, never took place. Mozart, "[...] that Giacomo maestro here, is at the moment not in Paris",⁷ a stupide [sic] man, and a *Sinfonia Concertante* by Giuseppe Sarti, which he had written in the same form, was instead performed.

To the *Sinfonia Concertante* in E major, the present Symphony No. 31, Mozart added two additional known movements. It received its first performance on Corpus Christi Day (18 June) 1778 and was well received despite an extraordinary rainfall the previous day. Le Gros was pleased with it but thought

that the *Andante* "has too many modulations and that it is too long",⁸ with which opinion Mozart did not agree. However, he did write an alternative *Andante* and in the same letter Mozart says "such is good in my own way — for each has a different character. But the last pleased me more". The symphony was played again with the *Andante* on 13 August. The *Andante* still persists as to whether it was the first, the second or the third movement. Andante is the first movement in the score, but the *Adagio* is the first movement in the parts. Part of the reason for this confusion may be that the *Adagio* is a much more substantial part. One must also consider the fact that which he had written for the *Concert spirituel* includes the 3/4 version of the *Adagio*. Neal Tyson, however, believes that the *Adagio* is the first movement on the paper, types of the *Andante* are the types of the *Adagio*.⁹ The autograph of the *Adagio* in the *Sinfonia Concertante*, presumably left in Paris, is now lost, but it had appeared in print in an edition of the parts published by André in 1781. And it is this version that is generally used nowadays. The first time that the 3/4 version appeared in score was with the Einhornberg edition of 1956 edited by Hans Heidrich, which shows both versions as we do here.

With respect to Le Gros's criticism that the original *Andante* had "too many modulations", Neal Zaslaw points out that Mozart and his father probably did not use the verb *modulieren* to refer to harmonic motion to new keys [...] Rather, for them, *modulieren* meant "to change ideas".

⁷ Anderson, *Letters*, *op.cit.*, Letter M3, to Leopold dated 1 May 1778, p533.

⁸ Saint-Foix, *Symphonies*, *op.cit.*, p61(n).

⁹ Anderson, *Letters*, *op.cit.*, Letter M3, to Leopold dated July 1778, p565.
see Alan Tyson, *Mozart: Studies of the Autograph Scores* (Cambridge, MA/London, 1987), ch. 9, "The Two Slow Movements of Mozart's 'Paris' Symphony", K297, pp106-13.

If this is what Le Gros complained about, then he was only one of the earliest of a number of Mozart's contemporaries who [...] found his music too rich in ideas.⁷ In support of the argument that the 6/8 movement was the original *Andante*, Alan Tyson (to balance his own opinion that it came second) draws attention to a score mostly in a copyist's but partly in Mozart's hand (presently located in the Mozarteum, Salzburg) that – although incomplete – includes the first six bars of the 6/8 movement and that this score is written on the same paper as an autograph MS of the first movement.⁸

Mozart took a great deal of trouble with this symphony, which (in conformity with the then-current French fashion) has no minuet, and he originally planned it on a scale as grand as the ensemble that would play it (it was the first of his symphonies to include clarinets), but in the end he cancelled many passages (such as the thought would-be minuet) because the Viennese audience's musical taste was poor.⁹ On 12 June he wrote to his father, asking whether it was better to play the symphony in truth. I am afraid that the public will not be satisfied with it, and I am not at all satisfied with it myself.

as for the stupid ones, I shall not consider it a great misfortune if they are not pleased. I still hope, however, that even asses will find something in it to admire – and moreover I have been careful not to neglect the *espadrille d'archet* – and that will be enough. What a fuss the other has made over this trick! The devil takes me to hell, there is no difference. They do not know what they do in order to make themselves popular, and that is much of a trick!

On 5 July he was back in Vienna, where that afternoon he had a meeting with the bassoonist Joseph Haydn and the violinist Leopold Kozeluch. He had been away for nearly three months, and on his return on 9 July he was still in time to hear from his father that the Empress was willing to receive him at her court in Vienna. This was the first time that he had been to the French capital and he was soon to meet the famous Beethoven and Mozart in Munich to attend the Emperor's birthday. He was to remain in the court (including the winter months) until the Emperor moved. Here he found himself in a new social circle, a member of the opera but also a friend to the Emperor, and so he continued his homeward journey arriving in Salzburg on 21 January 1779, a sad but wiser and wiser young man just approaching his 23rd birthday.

Harry Newstone

⁷ Bill Baker, *Mozart's Symphonies* (London, Cambridge University Press, 1989), p.224. See also him (on pp.210 and 223) for the present locations of the various MS sources of the symphony, which are partly in Mozart's hand and partly in those of various copyists.

⁸ Tyson, *Studies*, op.cit., pp.108, 109.

⁹ Anderson, *Letters*, op.cit., Letter 309a, pp.551–3. In a footnote to this letter, Anderson defines *la pouvreté espagnole d'archet* as 'The opening of a symphony with a powerful tutti passage, generally in unison'.

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VORWORT

Am 23. März 1778 kam Mozart in Paris an, der Endstation einer Reise über München, Augsburg und Mannheim, die er in der Hoffnung unternommen hatte, eine Anstellung zu finden, die ihn von der finanziellen Abhängigkeit von Salzburg und seinem wenig einfühlenden Arbeitgeber Fürsterzbischof Colloredo befreien würde. Es war Mozarts dritter Aufenthalt in Paris; die ganze Familie hatte dort schon vor 12 und vor 15 Jahren Station gemacht, als sie dreieinhalb Jahre lang durch halb Europa gereist waren, um die bemerkenswerte Begegnung von Wolfgang und seiner vierzehn Jahre älteren Schwester Maria Anna (Nannerl) vorzuführen.

Dieses Mal reiste Mozart nur mit dem Bruder Wolfgang und dem Sohn Karl Thomas. Seine Mutter Leopold, seine Schwester Nannerl und sein Bruder Johann hadde

Salzburger Hof facteur und durch Leopold bestimmt, dass er nach Paris gehen sollte. Leopold schickte ihm einen Vorschlag, dass er sich dort aufzuhalten und weiter zu studieren.

Die Reise nach Paris kann in der Literatur kaum angekommen, da es sich um eine fiktives Gesellschaft auf, die sich nicht auf eine fiktive Geschichte bezieht. Doch kann man kaum zwei Wochen reisen sie

und kann am 30. Oktober in Mannheim an. Im Hinblick auf den kommenden Winter beschlossen sie, bis zum Frühjahr dort zu bleiben, ehe sie den

besonders für Anna Maria Bachmeier.¹ Weg nach Paris auf sich nahmen. Mannheim hatte zwar in Mannheim Glück mit der Stellungnahme des Kurfürsten, aber die vierzehn Jahre dort verbracht auf musikalischer Ebene waren für die Familie Mannheim sehr erfolgreich. Durch die Unterstützung ihres Bruders Leopold und Nannerls, die ausdrücklich auf die Ausbildung ihres Sohnes aufmerksam machten, wurde auch Klavierspielen eine besondere Umstlung. Georgie de Saint-Foix,² während seiner Pariser Zeit, berichtet, dass Mozart während seiner Pariser Periode keine weitere Beauftragung erhielt, obwohl er in Paris das in Mannheim

erreichte, was er in Praxis umsetzte. In Mannheim wurde Mozart von dem berühmten und hilfsbereiten Komponisten Joseph Haydn (dem Konzertmeister des Mannheimer Orchesters – „welcher der beste Dirigent ist den ich je gesehen“³) mit der Familie von Fridolin Weber bekannt gemacht. Weber hatte eine Anzahl kleinerer Verpflichtungen an der Oper und Aloisia, eine seiner Töchter, war trotz ihrer erst 16 Jahre bereits eine künstlerische Sängerin. Mozart komponierte die Arie „Non so d'onde viene“ (KV 294) für sie, und verliebte sich umgehend so sehr in Aloisia, dass er die Weiterfahrt nach Paris absagen wollte. Diesem Vorschlag widersetzte sich

¹ Georgie de Saint-Foix, *The Symphonies of Mozart*, engl. Übers. von Lesley Orrey (London 1947), S. 59.

² Basler, Deutsch, Ebd., Mozart: Briefe und Dokumente, Gesamtausgabe (Bärenreiter: Karlsruhe 1962–75), Bd. II, Brief 464, 9. Juli 1778, an seinen Vater, S. 395.

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Leopold äußerst energisch. Der gehorsame Wolfgang und seine Mutter reisten daraufhin am 14. März 1778 aus Mannheim ab und kamen neun Tage später in der französischen Hauptstadt an.

Für Mozart, von der Reise erschöpft und durch die Trennung von Aloysia deprimiert, war dies kein günstiger Zeitpunkt, um im Pariser Musikleben ein eindrucksvolles Debüt zu geben. Das Publikum war in zwei Lager gespalten – in die Anhänger des Revolutionärs Gluck und in die des konservativen Piccini – und nahm sich kaum die Mühe, den nur erwachsenen Komponisten zur Kenntnis zu nehmen. Es war nicht mehr das Wunderkind, das vor zwölf Jahren alle erstaunt und entzückt hatte, wenn man sich überhaupt noch an ihn erinnern konnte.

Er bekam jedoch bald von Jean (Jean) Le Gros, dem Leiter des Orchestre spirituel, den Auftrag für eine Sinfonie concertante, die speziell für die beiden neuen Bläser des Konservatoriums Gluck gedacht war. Die einzige Quelle ist ein Brief Johann Baptist Weißes an seinen Sohn Joseph Ramm (Ob. 1778), in dem dieser berichtet, dass sich sein Vater mit dem Komponisten Giuseppe Cambini und dem Dirigenten Le Gros über die neue Sinfonie unterhalten habe.

Die Sinfonie wurde vermutlich während einer Konzertreihe statt Mozarts Werk im April 1778 aufgeführt. Zusammen mit dem Komponisten Giuseppe Cambini mit dem Titel "Sinfonia concertante con sonetti" aufgeführt wurde.³ Nach einer weiteren Aufführung schlug Le Gros vor, dass Mozart sie eine große Sinfonie schreibe, und dieser willigte ein, unter der Bedingung, dass sie Producirt wird – und

³ Bauer, obda., Brief 447, 1. Mai 1778, an seinen Vater, S. 346

⁴ Saint-Foix, *The Symphonies*, s.a.O., S. 61f(Aus.)

das es nicht so geht wie mit der Sinfonie concertante".⁴

Das Resultat dieser Abmachung war die vorliegende Sinfonie Nr. 31 in D (KV 297), die jetzt allgemein als "Pariser Sinfonie" bekannt ist. Die Uraufführung fand am 26. Juni 1778 statt. Sie kam beim Publikum bestens an. Nach einer Probe am 24. Juni 1778, die Mozart sehr zufrieden stellte, durfte er am 25. Juni 1778 die Sinfonie in einem Alterszweck des Konservatoriums Gluck vorführen. Er schrieb in seinem Brief an seinen Bruder: „... das ist eine Sinfonie, die ich sehr geschätzt habe – dann es kommt mir nicht in den Sinn, sie wieder zu benutzen – das ist eine Sinfonie, die ich sehr geschätzt habe.“ Die Sinfonie war jedoch nicht gut mit dem Publikum verbunden. Es gilt aber als sicher, dass sie einen wichtigeren Andante als die Sinfonie concertante der ursprünglich vorgesehene Satz im 6/8-Takt war. In der Autographausgabe hat Mozart die Andante, deponierte er Material für die Sinfonie bei Le Gros, und kurz danach veröffentlichte der Pariser Verleger über die Erstausgabe der Orchesterstücke zusammen. Der Siebersche Druck enthält den Satz im 3/4-Takt, und man muss davon ausgehen, dass dies die spätere Fassung ist, da Le Gros wohl kaum das von ihm abgelehnte Andante gedruckt hätte. Alan Tyson, dessen These sich auf eine Analyse der von Mozart benutzten Papiersorten stützt, ist allerdings der Meinung, dass der Satz im 3/4-Takt zuerst entstanden ist.⁵ Das Autograph dieses Andante blieb ver-

⁵ Bauer, u.a.O., Brief 462, 9. Juli 1778, an seinen Vater, S. 398

⁶ ebda.

⁷ siehe: Alan Tyson, *Mozart: Studies of the Autograph Scores* (Cambridge, MA/London 1987), Kap. 9, „The Two Slow Movements of Mozart's "Paris" Symphony, KV297“, S. 106–113

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