

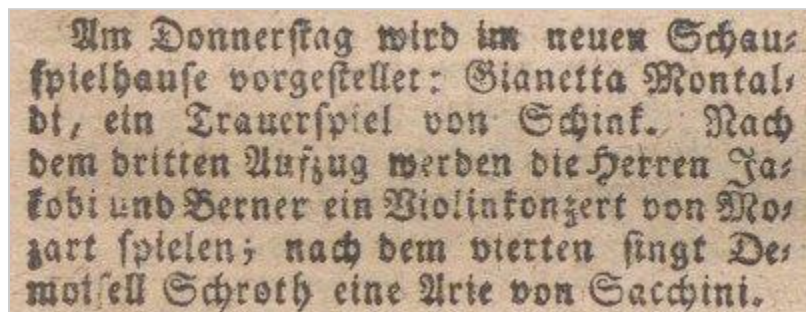
Arango Calle, Miguel. 2025. "A Mozart violin concerto as an entr'acte in Frankfurt (16 Sep 1784)." In: [Mozart: New Documents](#), edited by Dexter Edge and David Black. First published 19 Oct 2025; updated 15 Nov 2025. [\[direct link\]](#)

A Mozart violin concerto as an entr'acte in Frankfurt (16 Sep 1784)

Miguel Arango Calle

Frankfurter Staats-Ristretto, no. 146, Tue, 14 Sep 1784

Am Donnerstag wird im neuen Schau=
spielhause vorgestellt: Gianetta Montal=
di, ein Trauerspiel von Schink. Nach
dem dritten Aufzug werden die Herren Ja=
kobi und Berner ein Violinkonzert von Mo=
zart spielen; nach dem vierten singt De=
moisell Schroth eine Arie von Sacchini.



[translation:]

On Thursday, *Gianetta Montaldi*, a
tragedy by Schink, will be presented
in the new theater. After the third act, Mr.
Jakobi and Mr. Berner will play a violin
concerto by Mozart; after the fourth,

Mademoiselle Schroth will sing an aria by
Sacchini.

Commentary

Table of Contents

1. [Introduction](#)
2. [Großmann's advertisements for musical entr'actes](#)
3. [Jakobi and Berner](#)
4. [The identity of the violin concerto](#)
5. [Magdalena Viktoria Schroth](#)

[Notes](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Introduction (↑)

Few performances of Mozart's violin concertos are documented during his lifetime. The composer is known to have played a violin concerto at the consecration of the pilgrimage church of [Maria Plain](#) in Salzburg on 19 Aug 1774 (*Neue Folge*, 25); if the concerto was one of his own, it must have been K. 207 in B-flat, the only violin concerto he had composed by that point. He also performed a violin concerto for his sister's name day on 25 Jul 1777 (*Dokumente*, 144), and played his "strassbourger=Concert" (K. 216) at the [Holy Cross Monastery](#) in Augsburg on 19 Oct 1777 (*Briefe*, ii:82). Up to now, only two other violinists had been known ever to have performed a Mozart violin concerto during his lifetime: a Herr Kolb, whose identity is uncertain, and Antonio Brunetti, a violinist at the Salzburg court. In Salzburg, Leopold Mozart heard Kolb perform a violin concerto by Wolfgang on 26 Sep 1777 at the [Eisenbergerhof](#) (*Briefe*, ii:18), and on 9 Jul 1778, Kolb performed one in front of the house of Joachim Rupert Mayr von Mayrn (*Briefe*, ii:436). (Kolb also played a violin concerto at the Mozart residence on 15 Aug 1777, but it is unclear whether that concerto was by Mozart; see *Dokumente*, 145). Brunetti performed works by Mozart for violin and orchestra on at least two occasions. On 4 Oct 1777, Leopold heard Brunetti play K. 216 at the theater in Salzburg (*Briefe*, ii:36); and in a letter to his father, Mozart mentions that Brunetti performed his newly composed Rondeau, K. 373, in Vienna on 8 Apr 1781 (*Briefe*, iii:103; see also our entry for [23 Mar 1781](#)).

The advertisement transcribed above, for a performance in Frankfurt by the theatrical company of [Gustav Friedrich Wilhelm Großmann](#), adds two new names to the list of those known to have performed a Mozart violin concerto during his lifetime: Jakobi and Berner. The Frankfurt

advertisement is currently the only known reference to a performance of a Mozart violin concerto by someone outside the composer's circle during his lifetime.

Großmann's advertisements for musical entr'actes (↑)

Großmann's theatrical company began performing in Frankfurt am Main in 1780. The company had been in residence in Bonn since 1778, and in order to maintain performances in overlapping seasons in the two cities, Großmann split his company in Oct 1782, with Großmann himself directing the portion in Frankfurt and his wife Karoline the one in Bonn. The residency in Bonn was cut short in the spring of 1784 by Karoline's death and that of elector [Maximilian Friedrich](#) (on Großmann's Bonn residency, see our entry for [2 Aug 1783](#)). In the autumn of 1784, Großmann reassembled his company in Frankfurt to perform at the recently built [Komödienhaus](#) during the city's trade fair ("Herbstmesse"; on the Komödienhaus see our entry for [2 Aug 1783](#)). The company's season apparently began on 30 Aug (for a detailed discussion of the season's starting date, see the *Notes* below).

During September, the company performed Mozart's music on several occasions. On 8 Sep 1784, Großmann programmed *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, which the company had first performed in Frankfurt the previous year (see our entry for [2 Aug 1783](#)). In September, Aloisia Lange, Mozart's sister-in-law, and her husband Joseph Lange visited Frankfurt, and both made several guest appearances with Großmann's company. Aloisia appeared as Konstanze in *Entführung* on 29 Sep, and perhaps also on 8 Sep. (For a detailed schedule of the Langes' appearances in Frankfurt, see our entry for [29 Sep 1784](#).) Mozart's violin concerto was advertised as an entr'acte on 16 Sep during *Gianetta Montaldi*, a tragedy by [Johann Friedrich Schink](#) which premiered on [24 Nov 1775](#) in Hamburg.

Großmann regularly advertised his upcoming performances in the *Frankfurter Staats-Ristretto*, also noting the performance of musical entr'actes—vocal pieces or instrumental works performed between the acts of plays and singspiels. In total, Großmann advertised twelve musical entr'actes in 1783 and 1784.

Musical entr'actes advertised by Großmann in the *Frankfurter Staats-Ristretto* in the years 1783–1784

Day	Work	Genre	Entr'acte
28 Apr 1783	<i>Lanassa</i> (Plümicke)	Trauerspiel	"Zwischen den Aufzügen wird Herr Jakobi Konzert auf der Alt=Viole geben."
7 May 1783	<i>Die Vormünder</i> (Schletter)	Lustspiel	"Zwischen den Aufzügen werden Italienische Arien gesungen."
7 Aug 1783	<i>Der argwöhnische Liebhaber</i> (Bretzner)	Lustspiel	"Zwischen den Akten wird eine neue Sängerin einige Arien von den besten Komponisten singen."

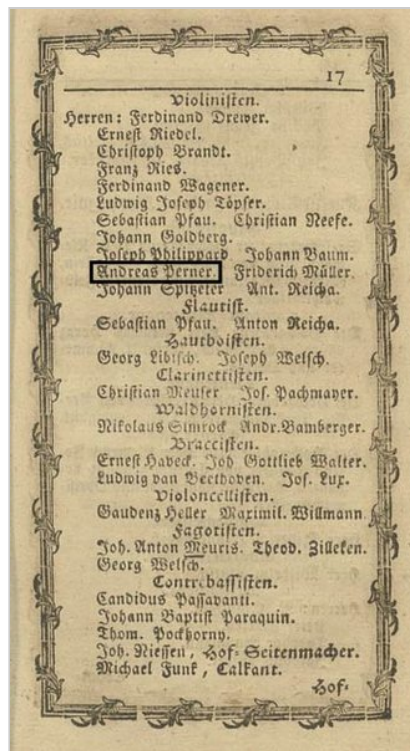
Day	Work	Genre	Entr'acte
19 Aug 1783	<i>Die beyden Billets</i> (Wall) <i>Unverhofft kommt oft</i> (André/Grétry)	Lustspiel Singspiel	"Zwischen den Akten wird Herr Jakobi Concert auf der Violine spielen." (The <i>entr'acte</i> was performed between the acts of Grétry's singspiel.)
15 Sep 1783	<i>Der verdächtige Freund</i> (Leonhardi)	Lustspiel	"Zwischen den Aufzügen werden einige Bravour=Arien von Demoiselle Schroth und Herrn Stengel gesungen werden."
26 Sep 1783	<i>Lanassa</i> (Plümicke)	Trauerspiel	"Zwischen den Aufzügen und nach dem Stück werden Madam Petenkam [Beckenkam] und Herr Pfeifer einige Arien und ein Duett von Sales und Sanhini [<i>recte</i> , Sacchini] singen."
8 May 1784	<i>Alter hilft vor Thorheit nicht, oder: der junkerirende Philister</i> (Mylius)	Fastnachtsposse	"Eine Fastnachtsposse in fünf Aufzügen nach Moliere von Mylius, mit musikalischen Zwischenspiel."
11 Jun 1784	<i>Das Testament</i> (Schröder)	Lustspiel	"Zwischen den zweyten und dritten Aufzug wird Herr Jakobi ein Concert auf der Violin spielen."
21 Jun 1784	<i>Die eingebildeten Philosophen</i> (Stephanie/Paisiello)	Singspiel	"Zwischen den Akten wird Herr Kronenburg, ein Virtuose von Maynz, ein Concert auf dem Violonschell spielen."
10 Sep 1784	<i>Die Glücksritter</i> (Schlosser?)	Lustspiel	"...und ein Violin=Konzert von Jakobi."
16 Sep 1784	<i>Gianetta Montaldi</i> (Schink)	Trauerspiel	"Nach dem dritten Aufzug werden die Herren Jakobi und Berner ein Violinkonzert von Mozart spielen; nach dem vierten singt Demoisell Schroth eine Arie von Sacchini."
14 Oct 1784	<i>Der Eheprokurator</i> (Bretzner)	Lustspiel	"Auch werden die Herren Jakobi und Berner ein neues Konzert auf der Violin spielen."

Großmann programmed most entr'actes between the acts of spoken plays, but at least twice he scheduled one between the acts of a singspiel. The entr'actes were mostly either a selection of arias or an instrumental concerto with one or two soloists. The offerings on 16 Sep 1784 were an exception, including both an instrumental work and an aria. Mozart, [Antonio Sacchini](#), and [Pietro Pompeo Sales](#) are the only composers specifically mentioned in Großmann's advertisements of entr'actes. Sacchini and Sales appeared as composers of arias; Mozart is the only instrumental composer named. Because the company had performed *Die Entführung aus dem Serail* just ten days earlier, and because the Langes were visiting Frankfurt, Großmann might have thought the concerto complemented the offerings of that month.

Jakobi and Berner (↑)

Jakobi and Berner performed "ein Violinkonzert von Mozart" ("a violin concerto by Mozart"), but because two performers are named, the identity of the work and their roles in the performance are unclear.

Jakobi and Berner were both proficient on the violin and keyboard, and both might occasionally have dabbled in composition (for sources on these two musicians and their first names, see the *Notes* below). Andreas (Andre) Berner (1766–1791) was born in Bohemia and played violin with Großmann's company during the mid-1780s. After Großmann left Frankfurt at the end of 1786, Berner remained in the city until 1788, when he moved to Bonn. He spent his last years working alongside [Christian Gottlob Neeff](#) and Beethoven, and he died in Bonn in 1791.



A page from the *Kurkölnischer Hofkalender auf das Jahr 1790*, showing "Andreas Perner" in the violin section of the court orchestra.

Beethoven appears twice in the list, as organist and violist.

Neeff appears as organist.

According to Gerber, Neeff held Berner in high esteem:

[...] [Berner] besaß nach Neeff's Urtheile, ein ungemeines Kunsttalent, war ein vorzüglicher Orchestergeiger, der einen langen und kräftigen Bogen führte, und im Solospiele=

len große Schwierigkeiten besiegte.
[Gerber 1812, 359]

[...] [Berner] possessed, in Neefe’s judgement,
an exceptional artistic talent; he was an
excellent orchestral violinist who wielded
a long and powerful bow, and overcame
great difficulties in his solo playing.

Gerber’s description of Berner’s playing and character is adapted from an obituary published in the *Musikalische Korrespondenz der deutschen Filarmonischen Gesellschaft für das Jahr 1791* (Wed, 31 Aug 1791, col. 279). Though the obituary is not signed, it may have been written by Neefe himself.

Jakobi (probably Conrad) was “Korrepetitor” (*répétiteur*, or vocal coach) and concertmaster for Großmann’s company between 1781 and 1785. When Großmann left Frankfurt for good in 1786, Jakobi remained in the area, serving at times as concertmaster, *répétiteur*, and violinist for the Nationaltheater in nearby Mainz until 1792, when the company disbanded as a result of the French occupation of the city. He served in the court orchestra in Mainz until 1794. That year, Jakobi visited Dessau and performed with the orchestra in the theater company of [Friedrich Wilhelm Bossann](#); the two had previously worked together in Großmann’s company in 1785 (*ThK* 1786, 252). On 18 Sep 1794, Jakobi organized a “great vocal and instrumental concert” in Dessau (“ein großes Vocal- und Instrumental-Concert”) in which he played a violin concerto by Mozart, perhaps the same one that he had performed ten years earlier in Frankfurt ([von Prosky](#) 1884, 16). It is uncertain whether Jakobi remained in Dessau or returned to Mainz after his stint with Bossann. In either case, by 1797, he was again in Dessau, serving as musical co-director, with Neefe, of Bossann’s company (*ThK* 1798, 197). Jakobi remained in Dessau until his death on 21 Jun 1811 (*AmZ* xii: 34, col. 579, 21 Aug 1811; Gerber gives his date of death as 11 Jun 1811).

Gerber heard Jakobi play in 1785 and was impressed by the young violinist: “[Jakobi] ist auf der Violin ein eben so empfindungsvoller und fertiger Solospieler, als er bey seinem Orchester feuriger und einsichtsvoller Anführer ist” (“[Jakobi] is just as expressive and skilled a soloist on the violin, as he is a fiery and insightful leader with his orchestra” [Gerber](#) 1790, 681). It appears, given Gerber’s positive comments on both performers as well as their positions in court and theater orchestras, that either violinist would have been a competent soloist in a Mozart violin concerto.

The identity of the violin concerto (↑)

Of Mozart’s five solo violin concertos, only three are plausible candidates to have been performed by Jakobi and Berner in Frankfurt in 1784: K. 207, K. 216, and K. 218. The other two—K. 211 and K. 219—do not appear to have circulated before the nineteenth century. An advertisement by music copyist Johann Traeg in the *Wiener Zeitung* on 16 May 1789 shows that K. 207 was in

circulation during Mozart's lifetime. Although the key of the concerto is not mentioned in the 1789 advertisement, Traeg's 1799 catalog contains only [one violin concerto by Mozart](#), in B-flat, which must have been K. 207 (Edge 2001, 798). A set of parts for that concerto in the hand of one of Johann Traeg's copyists survives in Frankfurt (D-F, Mus. Hs. 2356). However, the paper-type of that set suggests that it was produced in Vienna between 1795 and 1800 (Edge 2001, 966); if that is correct, then it cannot be the set used by Jakobi and Berner in 1784.

Eighteenth-century parts also survive for both K. 216 (US-CAh, f MS Mus 204) and K. 218 (D-F, Mus. Hs. 2357). The paper-types of these sets appear not to have been in use before the mid-1790s, and the parts appear to be of German origin; they were probably produced around the time of Jakobi's 1794 performance (Edge 2001, 1251 and 1255). The parts for K. 218 come from the estate of [Heinrich Henkel](#), who inherited them from [Johann Anton André](#), the music publisher who purchased Mozart's estate from his widow in 1800 (Edge 2001, 1082ff and Plath 1970, 334ff). However, the paper-types and handwriting suggest that André acquired the parts for K. 218 in the mid-to-late 1790s, before he acquired Mozart's estate (Edge 2001, 1255). The violin part for K. 216 is in the same hand as the parts for K. 218, and though its provenance is unclear, it likely also belonged to André, who probably acquired it around the same time he acquired the parts for K. 218.

We cannot confidently assert any connection between Jakobi, Berner, or Großmann and the surviving parts for any of these three concertos. However, given that K. 207, K. 216, and K. 218 are the only solo violin concertos by Mozart with demonstrable circulation outside of Salzburg and Vienna before the nineteenth century, they are probably the likeliest candidates for the 1784 entr'acte performance.

If Jakobi and Berner did in fact perform one of the concertos for solo violin, the advertisement is unclear about the performers' roles. It is possible that two violinists are listed because they alternated movements as soloists. Otherwise, they may have performed a reduction with one man at the keyboard and the other on violin. In addition to being skilled violinists, Jakobi and Berner were also proficient at the keyboard. Jakobi, in his role of *répétiteur*, would have had to accompany singers regularly, while Berner would have likely developed keyboard skills while learning to compose. On a night when Großmann did not require his full orchestra to perform an opera, these two performers would still have been able to tackle a substantial instrumental concerto in keyboard reduction. Another possibility is that one of the violinists served as soloist while the other directed the orchestra, if one was present that night.

It is also possible, though less likely given the phrasing of the advertisement, that Jakobi and Berner did not perform a solo violin concerto, but instead one of Mozart's concertos for two soloists. Gerber reports hearing Jakobi and Berner play a double concerto in 1785, only a year after their performance of the Mozart concerto:

Diese Gelegenheit war die nämliche [...] wo ich
auch diesen Berner mit dem ersten Feuer der
Jugend 2 Konzerte von seiner Kompo=

sition spielen hörte; das eine allein, und das andere
ein Doppelkonzert mit H. Jacobi,
damaligen Vorspieler bey dem Großmanni-
schen Orchester. Es war bewundernswür-
dig, wie sich diese beyden jungen Künstler
um die Wette beeiferten, alle nur möglichen
Schwierigkeiten mit Ehren zu besiegen.
[Gerber 1790, 681]

This opportunity was the one [...] during which
I also heard Berner play two concertos of
his own composition with the first fire of youth;
one of them alone, and the other a double-concerto
with Herr Jacobi, at the time concertmaster of
Großmann's orchestra. It was admirable how
these two young artists strove to overcome all
possible difficulties with honor.

One might be tempted to think that on 16 Sep 1784, Jakobi and Berner performed Mozart's only concerto for two violins: the Concertone for Two Violins and Orchestra, K. 190. Yet there is no evidence that the Concertone circulated during Mozart's lifetime; its autograph is the only known source from the eighteenth century.

The Sinfonia Concertante, K. 364 is the only other plausible candidate. It might have been performed with Berner on the violin and Jakobi on the viola, since the latter is known to have played that instrument, at least occasionally (see *Frankfurter Staats-Ristretto*, 26 Apr 1783 and *Theater-Journal für Deutschland* 1784, 72). The Sinfonia Concertante seems to have circulated during Mozart's lifetime, although perhaps not beyond Salzburg and Vienna. A set of parts now in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich is—with the exception of the violone—in the hands of Viennese copyists from Mozart's time, and to judge by the paper-types, the set was probably copied in the early 1780s (D-Mbs, Mus. Mss. 6843; the part for violone is in the hand of Joseph Estlinger, a Salzburg copyist for the Mozart family; for a detailed analysis, see Edge 2001, 875; see also Eisen 1991, 306).

Finally, it is conceivable that Jakobi and Berner did not perform a concerto at all, but one of the movements with concertato violin from Mozart's orchestral serenades. Parts for K. 203 survive in Graz (A-Gk, L 43), Modena (I-MOe, Ms. Mus. E. 158), and Brno (CZ-Bm, A 16.828); but none of these includes the movements with concertato violin (movements ii, iii, and iv). The Cassation K. 63 includes an adagio with concertato violin (movement v) with parts surviving in Lambach (A-LA, 40) and Kremsmünster (A-KR, H 21/87). Though these parts predate Jakobi and Berner's performance, the circulation of K. 63 seems to have been limited to Salzburg and its neighboring areas (for a more detailed discussion, see the *Notes* below).

Magdalena Viktoria Schroth (↑)

Großmann’s advertisement also states that an aria will be sung by “Mademoiselle Schroth”—Magdalena Viktoria Schroth. Schroth was born in Philippsburg am Rhein in 1763 and joined Großmann’s company sometime in the latter half of 1783 (Rüppel 2010, 294). She is first listed in the 1784 *Theater-Kalender* as “singing in the opera” (“singt in der Oper”) in Großmann’s company (*ThK* 1784, 320). She made her debut in Piccinni’s *Das gute Mädchen* (a German adaptation of *La buona figliuola*) as the Baroness (Marchesa Lucinda) probably on 26 Aug in Frankfurt (for a more detailed discussion of her debut date, see the *Notes* below). It is possible she was the “new singer” scheduled to perform “arias from the best composers” on 7 Aug 1783. After her debut, she sang some “Bravour-Arien” as an entr’acte on 9 Sep 1783.

Schroth moved to Bonn in the following weeks, joining Großmann’s company there and perhaps taking singing lessons with his wife, Karoline Großmann (in a letter to her husband from 4 Nov 1783, Karoline refers to Schroth as “unsere Schülerinn”). After Karoline’s death and the dissolution of the Bonn troupe in 1784, Schroth traveled with Großmann’s eldest daughter and a few members of the company to Frankfurt (*LTZ* 3:30, 31 Jul 1784, 79).

In her early days, Schroth must have shown much promise as a singer, since she was initially cast in virtuosic roles, such as the Baroness in *Das gute Mädchen*. To perform this role, Schroth must have been capable of managing the extensive coloratura passages of arias like “Furie di donna irata.” The arias chosen for her entr’acte in Sep 1784 could have been similarly demanding. Schroth’s other known role that season was Laura in Georg Benda’s *Romeo und Julie* on 22 Feb 1784. Although that role is simpler vocally—it has one modest aria, a more challenging recitative and aria, and a duet—she did not fare well in the premiere (Friedrich Wilhelm Dengel to Großmann, 23 Feb 1784, transcribed [here](#)).

We do not currently know any of Schroth’s other roles in 1783–84, so it is difficult to provide a detailed vocal profile. Her next known role was in 1785, as a young shepherdess in a German adaptation of Beaumarchais’s *Le Mariage de Figaro* (Rüppel 2010, 306–7). The 1785 *Theater-Kalender* lists her in Großmann’s company as playing “Liebhaberinnen, junge Mädchen im Singspiel” (*ThK* 1785, 209).

We can only speculate what aria by Sacchini Schroth might have sung on 16 Sep 1784. During the season 1783–84, Großmann’s company performed only two operas by Sacchini, both in Frankfurt: *L’Olimpiade*, in a German adaptation as *Die olympischen Spiele*, and *L’isola d’amore* as *Die Kolonie*. The company performed *Die olympischen Spiele* on 16 Mar, 6 May and 7 Oct 1783. If Schroth debuted on 26 Aug 1783, she could not have sung in the first two of these performances. It is possible, however, that she performed in Frankfurt on 7 Oct. She could also have performed in *Die Kolonie* on 18 Oct, but if so, she would have missed the beginning of the Bonn season on 12 Oct. We know from Karoline’s letter that Schroth was in Bonn, at the latest, by 4 Nov.

If Schroth prepared a role for *Die olympischen Spiele*, it might have been either the *prima donna* Aristeia or the *seconda donna* Argene. In *Die Kolonie*, she might have performed Belinde, the more serious role in the four-voice intermezzo. Though one would imagine that on the night of the Mozart concerto Schroth sang arias she had already prepared, it is certainly possible that she sang something else by Sacchini.

Schroth married Großmann sometime in the summer of 1785. Their marriage caused some controversy, as it was rumored that Schroth had had affairs with several men, among them Jakobi. Many of Großmann’s friends, including Neeffe, cautioned him against marriage. (The details of their marriage are discussed in Rüppel 2010, 313–21). Großmann and Schroth remained married until Großmann’s death in 1796.

Notes (↑)

There is disagreement in the literature over the date of the opening of Großmann’s 1784 season in Frankfurt. Rüppel claims that it began on 1 Sep with *Die eingebildeten Philosophen*, a German adaptation of Paisiello’s *Gli astrologi immaginari* (Rüppel 2010, 298). Elisabeth Mentzel does not mention a specific date, but states merely that the season started “in the beginning of September” with *Ino*, an opera by Johann Friedrich Reichardt (Mentzel 1893, 110). Wolter also names *Ino*, which he claims opened the season on 3 Sep, along with *Das Testament*—a comedy by Friedrich Ludwig Schröder (Wolter, Beilage 2, xxiii). Advertisements in the *Frankfurter Staats-Ristretto* appear to settle the matter. The first advertisement for Großmann’s season, published on 28 Aug, shows that on 30 Aug his company performed *Natur und Liebe im Streit*, a tragedy by Bernhard Christoph D’Arien.

The Berner who played a Mozart concerto in Frankfurt is almost certainly Andre (or Andreas). Gerber gives the first name “Andre” in his 1812 *Lexikon*, where he mentions having heard Berner play a double concerto with Jakobi in Kassel (Gerber 1812, 359). Both Gerber and a roster of the Bonn court published in the *Musikalische Korrespondenz* state that Berner was also a composer (Wed, 13 Jul 1791, col. 221). RISM has no record of any composition by him.

After playing for Großmann, Berner—alongside Jakobi—joined the Nationaltheater in Mainz in 1787–88 (*ThK* 1788, 182 and *ThK* 1789, 162). Berner subsequently moved to the Bonn court—perhaps on Neeffe’s recommendation—and remained there until his death in 1791 (*Kurkölnischer Hofkalender auf das Jahr 1790*, 17 and *Kurkölnischer Hofkalender auf das Jahr 1791*, 17). In the court calendar, his name appears as “Andreas Perner.” Thayer gives a short sketch of Berner’s life in his Beethoven biography (Thayer 1917, 244).

Although there is some uncertainty about Jakobi’s first name and identity, it is almost certain that his name was Conrad (or “Konrad”) and that he played with both Großmann and at the Mainz court during the 1780s. Gerber, in his 1790 *Lexikon*, does not give a first name for the Jakobi who played for Großmann (Gerber 1790, 681). Gerber’s 1812 *Neues Lexikon* has a “Conrad Jacobi” who was music director at Dessau, but Gerber does not clarify whether they are the same person (Gerber 1812, 758). The Maurers identify

Großmann's Jakobi as this Conrad Jacobi, but cite no source (Maurer & Maurer 1990, 266). Rüppel assumes that Jakobi's first name was Konrad. Though Rüppel does not clarify his source, he does quote a letter by Großmann's violinist signed "C. Jacobi" (Rüppel 2010, 316; [two letters](#) from C. Jacobi to Großmann survive in the Kestner Autographensammlung at the Universitätsbibliothek Leipzig). According to the Mainz court calendars, a violinist by the name of Konrad Jakobi worked in the Mainz court between 1784 and 1794 (*Kurmainzischer Hof- und Staats-Kalender auf das Jahr 1785*, 110). Karl Schweickert notes that Jakobi began there as a substitute in 1782, securing a more stable position in 1784 and, except for a small hiatus between 1786 and 1788, remaining there until 1797 (Schweickert 1937, 66). It seems likely, then, that Großmann's Jakobi was the Conrad who worked for the Mainz court and Nationaltheater.

Schweickert claims that prior to his employment by the Mainz court in 1784, Jakobi was music director of Großmann's company for five years. We have found no evidence to confirm the presence of Jakobi in Großmann's company before 1781. The earliest evidence of Jakobi's association with Großmann comes from a letter in the 1783 *Litteratur- und Theater-Zeitung* that recounts a 1781 performance of Großmann's company in Kassel, where Jakobi was concertmaster (*LTZ* 2:25, 31 Jun 1783, 398).

From 1786 to 1788 we have no record of Jakobi, neither with Großmann's company nor with the Mainz court. After 1788, Conrad Jakobi appears as *répétiteur* in the Mainz Nationaltheater, whose orchestra was composed of members of the Hofkapelle (*TbK* 1789, 182 and *TbK* 1790, 93). We have been unable to confirm whether Jakobi remained in Mainz beyond 1794.

Gerber states that Jakobi took over Neefe's duties as music director for Großmann's company, but Reichard's *Theater-Kalender* shows that it was [Carl David Stegmann](#) who took over in 1785 (*TbK* 1785, 209; on Stegmann, see also our entry for [1 May 1791](#)).

The adagio of the Cassation K. 63—an expansive, but technically unchallenging movement—requires a concertato violin, but it is unlikely to have been the work performed by Jakobi and Berner. The Benedictine monastery in Lambach (A-LA, 40) preserves a set of parts that the *NMA* dates from 1769 or shortly thereafter. The two copyists identified by Gerda Lang—one of them, Joseph Estlinger—are from Salzburg. (This source is not mentioned in Eisen 1991.) The other surviving parts for K. 63 are now in Kremsmünster (A-KR, H 21/87) and include the Adagio as a first movement. These do not bear the title of Cassatio, but rather Serenata.

The 1784 *Theater-Kalender* announced the debut of "Demoiselle Schroot" as the Baroness in *Das gute Mädchen* (*TbK* 1784, 322). Juliane Riepe believes that Schroth debuted on 1 Jun 1783 in Bonn (Riepe 2018, 70). However, the 1784 *Theater-Journal für Deutschland* announced the debut of Stengel but not of Schroth (*Theater-Journal für Deutschland* 1784, 75; for more on Großmann's season in Bonn, see our entry for [22 Jun 1783](#)). The *Theater-Journal für Deutschland* includes performances up to 23 Jul 1783 and does not mention Schroth's debut. It is likely, then, that her debut took place on a later date.

I am grateful to Dexter Edge for his thorough reading and thoughtful comments on drafts of this commentary, and to David Black for his comments. My thanks to John Wilson for his kind assistance and for promptly answering my queries about the Bonn court.

Bibliography (↑)

Edge, Dexter. 2001. "Mozart's Viennese Copyists." Ph.D. diss., University of Southern California. [[academia.edu](https://academic.oup.com/monist/article/116/1/1/1)]

Eisen, Cliff. 1991. "The Mozarts' Salzburg Copyists: Aspects of Attribution, Chronology, Text, Style, and Performance Practice." In *Mozart Studies*, ed. Cliff Eisen, 253–307. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

Maurer, Doris, and Arnold E. Maurer, eds. 1990. *Dokumente zur Bonner Theatergeschichte, 1778–1784. Hoftheater unter Gustav Friedrich Wilhelm Großmann und Karoline Großmann*. Veröffentlichungen des Stadtarchivs Bonn, 47. Bonn: Bouvier Verlag.

Mentzel, Elisabeth. 1893. "Schillers Jugenddramen zum ersten Male auf der Frankfurter Bühne. Die Verschwörung des Fiesco, Kabale und Liebe und Don Carlos." In *Archiv für Theatergeschichte und Kunst. Dritte Folge*, 64–160. Frankfurt am Main: K. Th. Völckers Verlag.

Plath, Wolfgang. 1970. "Mozartiana in Fulda und Frankfurt (Neues zu Heinrich Henkel und seinem Nachlaß)." *Mozart Jahrbuch 1768/70*, 333–86. Salzburg: Zentralinstitut für Mozartforschung.

Prosky, Moritz von. 1884. *Das herzogliche Hoftheater zu Dessau: In seinen Anfängen bis zur Gegenwart*. Dessau: Paul Baumann.

Riepe, Juliane. 2018. "The Establishment of a "Deutsche Schaubühne" under Elector Maximilian Friedrich, 1778–1784." In *The Operatic Library of Elector Maximilian Franz: Reconstruction, Catalogue, Contexts*, ed. Elisabeth Reisinger, Juliane Riepe, and John D. Wilson, in collaboration with Birgit Lodes, 47–104. Bonn: Beethoven-Haus

Rüppel, Michael. 2010. *Gustav Friedrich Wilhelm Großmann, 1743–1796. Eine Epoche deutscher Theater- und Kulturgeschichte*. [Hannover]: Wehrhahn Verlag.

Thayer, Alexander Wheelock. 1917. *Ludwig van Beethovens Leben. Nach dem Original=Manuskript deutsch bearbeitet von Hermann Deiters*. 1. Band, 3. Auflage. Revision der von H. Deiters bewirkten Neubearbeitung (1901) von Hugo Reimann. Leipzig: Breitkopf & Härtel.

Schweickert, Karl. 1937. *Die Musikpflege am Hofe der Kurfürsten von Mainz im 17. und 18. Jahrhundert*. Mainz: L. Wilckens.

Wolter, Joseph. 1901. *Gustav Friedrich Wilhelm Grossmann, ein Beitrag zur deutschen Litteratur- und Theatergeschichte des 18. Jahrhunderts*. Ph.D. diss., Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität, Bonn [Cologne: Wilhelm Hoster].

Credit: DE

Author: [Miguel Arango Calle](#)

Link(s): [Goethe Universität](#)

Search Term: mozart

Source Library: Goethe Universität

Categories: Reception

First Published: Sun, 19 Oct 2025

Updated: Sat, 15 Nov 2025

Citation:

Arango Calle, Miguel. 2025. "A Mozart violin concerto as an entr'acte in Frankfurt (16 Sep 1784)."
In: [Mozart: New Documents](#), edited by Dexter Edge and David Black. First published 19 Oct 2025;
updated 15 Nov 2025. [[direct link](#)]