

Lausch advertises *Le nozze di Figaro* for *Harmonie* (22 Aug 1789)

Dexter Edge

Wiener Zeitung, No. 67, Sat, 22 Aug 1789, 2150

Neue Musikalien.

In der Lauschischen Musikalienhandlung
in Wien in der Kärntnerstrasse Nr. 1085 den

3 weissen Rosen über sind zu haben:

Drey ganz neue Quartetten des Herrn *Wan-*
hal a 2 *Violini*, *Viola* e *Violoncello*, das
erste in *C*. das zweyte in *Eb*. und das
dritte in *G*., 3 fl. 30 kr.

Pleyel 6 *Variazioni per il Clavicembalo*,
20 kr.

Opern in Harmonien a 2 *Oboe*, 2 *Clari-*
netti, 2 *Corni* e 2 *Fagotti*, als: *Le Noz-*
ze di Figaro des Hrn. *Mozart*, 6 fl. 40 kr.

Axur Re d 'Ormus des Hrn. *Salieri*, 6 fl. 40 kr.

Il Talismano, detto 8 fl.

Die Uebersetzung ist durchaus vom Hrn. *Went*,
Hofkammer Musikus.



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Commentary

This previously unknown advertisement by Viennese music copyist and dealer Lorenz Lausch offers an arrangement for eight-part *Harmonie* of Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro*. The arrangement is attributed to [Johann Nepomuk Went](#) (Wendt), oboist in the orchestra of the Viennese court theater and a member of the *Harmonie* band of Emperor Joseph II. Lausch is already known to have advertised Went's arrangement of *Figaro* in the *Wiener Zeitung* on [27 Aug 1791](#) (*Dokumente*, 352). However, the advertisement transcribed above shows that Lausch was offering the arrangement two years earlier than had previously been realized. Lausch's advertisement of 22 Aug 1789 was first published in a modern edition by Edge (2001, 2081–2 and Appendix H, 2416).

Went's arrangement of *Figaro* survives. RISM lists two complete sets of parts explicitly attributed to Went: one in the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek ([Mus.Schott.As 3499](#)) and the other in Český Krumlov ([39a K I](#)). The latter set, from the collection of Prince Schwarzenberg, includes parts for two English horns, rather than for two clarinets (as in the emperor's *Harmonie*), reflecting the different instrumentation of Schwarzenberg's band. Bastiaan Blomhert (1987, 47) discusses an unattributed set of parts for what is apparently the same arrangement stemming from the Hofbibliothek in Donaueschingen (now in the Badische Landesbibliothek, [Don Mus.Ms. 1394](#); the parts for *Harmonie* are mixed together with an independent set of parts for *Figaro* arranged for string quartet). Went's *Harmonie* arrangement of *Figaro* has been published in two volumes by [Musica Rara](#), based on a source from the Pitti collection, now in the conservatory library in Florence (I-Fc, P. 329).

Lausch's advertisement of *Figaro* appears to have been timed to take advantage of the first revival of the opera by the court theater; the revival premiered on [29 Aug 1789](#), exactly one week after the advertisement. In this same advertisement, Lausch also offers Went's arrangement for *Harmonie* of Salieri's operas *Axur, re d'Ormus* and *Il Talismano*. The other works in the advertisement include three string quartets by [Johann Baptist Vanhal](#) and six variations for keyboard by [Ignaz Pleyel](#).

On Lausch, see Edge (2001, 2075–88) as well as our entry for [8 Jul 1784](#) regarding Lausch's advertisement in *Das Wienerblättchen* on that date. For other advertisements by Lausch on our site, see our entries for [30 Oct 1784](#) and [9 Oct 1790](#).

Notes ([↑](#))

Both sets of parts listed in RISM for the *Harmonie* arrangement of *Figaro* include the overture and numbers 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 27, and 28.

Parts for an arrangement of *Figaro* for string quartet, also attributed to Went, survive in Meiningen ([D-MEIr, Bi 47](#)). The parts derive from the collection of the Meiningen Hofkapelle.

Bibliography ([↑](#))

Blomhert, Bastiaan. 1987. *The Harmoniemusik of "Die Entführung aus dem Serail" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Study About Its Authenticity and Critical Edition*. The Hague: CIP-gegevens Koninklijke Bibliotheek.

Edge, Dexter. 2001. "Mozart's Viennese Copyists." Ph.D. diss., University of Southern California. [[academia.edu](#)]

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Source Library: ÖNB, Wienbibliothek

Categories: Advertisement

First Published: Sat, 27 Jan 2024

Citation:

Edge, Dexter. 2024. “Lausch advertises *Le nozze di Figaro* for *Harmonie* (22 Aug 1789).” In: *Mozart: New Documents*, edited by Dexter Edge and David Black. First published 27 Jan 2024. [[direct link](#)]