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Guide to the

Four manuscript letters of petition to Lord Byron from Venetian strangers

ca. 1817-1819

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Summary

Title: Four manuscript letters of petition to Lord Byron from Venetian strangers

Date: ca. 1817-1819

Size: 4 items

Abstract: During Lord Byron's time in Venice (ca. 1816-1819), many in Italy were experiencing economic troubles, and the poet's celebrity elicited several requests from needy strangers. After Byron's death, the Countess Guiccioli, his last Italian mistress, saved a handful of letters to him from such petitioners. For an account of these letters, see Doucet Devin Fischer's "Countesses and Cobblers' Wives: Byron's Venetian Mistresses" in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 191-193. · From an unidentified woman : 1 autograph letter signed "Serva" : ?Summer 1817 - Apr 1819 : (B'ANA 0282) : in Italian; requesting a loan of 12,000 francs. Published with translation as SC 282 in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 231-233.

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Creator History

During Lord Byron's time in Venice (ca. 1816-1819), many in Italy were experiencing economic troubles, and the poet's celebrity elicited several requests from needy strangers. After Byron's death, the Countess Guiccioli, his last Italian mistress, saved a handful of letters to him from such petitioners. For an account of these letters, see Doucet Devin Fischer's "Countesses and Cobblers' Wives: Byron's Venetian Mistresses" in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 191-193.

Scope and Content Note

- From an unidentified woman : 1 autograph letter signed "Serva" : ?Summer 1817 - Apr 1819 : (B'ANA 0282) : in Italian; requesting a loan of 12,000 francs. Published with translation as SC 282 in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 231-233.
- From Teresa Beltrame, at Armeni Casa Rizzardi No. 856 : 1 autograph letter signed : 3 Jan 1818 :

(B'ANA 0283) : in Italian; appealing to his generosity, providing her address for Byron to deliver aid in person. Published with translation as SC 603 in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 304-307.

· From Vincenza Zatta and Domenica Favro, proprietors of the cafés called the Costanza and the Speranza : 1 letter signed : 11 Apr 1818 : (B'ANA 0284) : in Italian; knowing Byron to be a patron of their cafés, requesting that he intervene in legal proceedings on their behalf. Published with translation as SC 606 in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 310-316.

· From Andrea de Bÿron, at San Apponale in Calle del Ponte Storto, no. 1559 : 1 autograph letter signed : 18 May 1819 : (B'ANA 0285) : in Italian; asking for help because his family has been evicted from their home for arrears of rent. Published with translation as SC 639 in *Shelley and his Circle*; vol. VII, p. 519-521.