

STORIES BEHIND THE STORIES

- DA VINCI PAINTING OF SMILING WOMAN DRAWS MOANS AT LEAST, SIR

Too many good paintings around already, claim detractors of Italian genius; "not very good", asserts critic; "does nothing for me", says Cardinal Buonocorso dell'Agnese; "what's with that smirk?" asks Vincente Pazzo, gondolier and pasta taster

%

- "REQUIEM? - HEY MOZART, GIVE IT A REST ALREADY!"

The head of the Salzburg musicians' union complains bitterly to the local press about yet another Mozart masterpiece . . . "how much of this stuff are me and the guys supposed to learn anyway?" . . . labor unrest threatened

%

- "I KIND OF LIKED IT WITH NOTHING UP THERE"

The never-before-told story of Pelopidas Mediocritos, only Athenian known to have gotten pissed off when they built the Parthenon

%

- "NOT ANOTHER GODDAM PYRAMID!"

A Second-Dynasty Theban middle-management construction engineer complains bitterly (and hieroglyphically) to his concubine

STORIES BEHIND THE STORIES

%

- "HEY COLEMAN, WE HAVE ENOUGH FIDDLERS - HOW ABOUT THE TROMBONE?"

The Irish Times' true tale of a young early-20th century Sligo musician and the travelling circus that almost changed his life

%

- "THEY'RE CUTE, NORMAN, BUT MY OFFICE WALL IS FULL"

A dentist friend suggests in an op-ed that Norman Rockwell give up painting for the delights of floss manufacture

%

- "124 TUNES IS ENOUGH FOR ANYBODY"

Article in the Salieri Journal of Mediocrity by the representative of the Limited Talent Partnership Limited explaining why their proposal to restrict the number of "real" Irish traditional tunes should be listened to without chuckles, guffaws, snickers, or similar expressions of disbelief

%

- "DON'T KILL YOURSELF - EIGHT SYMPHONIES IS PLENTY!"

Letter to Beethoven from Count Fliessfuss von Otterbelchen, ubermeister of the Gemeinschlossenbearbeitengotterdammerung (United Saxon/Bavarian Society Opposed to Uninhibited Creativity)

STORIES BEHIND THE STORIES

- ZOUKI COMPOSES YET ANOTHER REEL

Various media concerned with ITM report:

**Crisis In The Irish Tradition; Frantic Midnight Phone Calls
Between World Leaders Reported**

===

**Nervous Breakdowns Reported from Various Locations; Hospital
Psychiatric Wards Overwhelmed**

===

**"An Outrage!" Cries Spokesman for the Society for Worship of the
Familiar**

===

**Angry Bodhrán Players Converge on Zouki Mansion; Police
Intervene**

===

Fine Gael, Sinn Fein Lawmakers Demand Investigation

===

O'Carolan Fan Club president: "Enough is Enough!"

===

Parents of Little Children and Owners of Small Animals Warned

===

**Tik Tok Executives Condemn Competition for Right to Befuddle
Western Teenagers: "Chairman Xi Jinping Won't Be Happy With
This"**

===

- o o o -