

Philip of Hesse-Darmstadt

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Philip of Hesse-Darmstadt (July 20, 1671 in [Darmstadt](#) – August 11, 1736 in [Vienna](#)) was a Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt, Imperial [Field Marshal](#) and Governor of [Mantua](#).

Life

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Philip was a younger son of [Louis VI, Landgrave of Hesse-Darmstadt](#) (1630–1678) and his second wife Elisabeth Dorothea of Saxe-Coburg (1640–1709), daughter of [Ernest II, Duke of Saxe-Gotha](#).

Philip fought for the Habsburgs in the [Spanish War of Succession](#). In 1708 he became Field Marshal and Supreme Commander of the Imperial troops in newly conquered [Naples](#). After the war in 1714, under influence of Prince [Eugene of Savoy](#), he became governor of the former [Duchy of Mantua](#) until his death.

Philip was a great lover of music. When he was with his soldiers in Naples, he was [patron](#) of [Nicola Porpora](#). When he was governor of Mantua, he made [Antonio Vivaldi](#) *Maestro di Cappella* of his court.^[1] Vivaldi wrote the opera [Tito Manlio](#) to celebrate Philip's wedding to Princess Eleanora of Guastalla, however the wedding never took place.^[2]

Marriage and children

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On March 24, 1693, Philip married Marie Therese of [Croy](#) (1673–1714), daughter of Ferdinand François Joseph, Duke of Croy-Havré. He had to become a [Catholic](#) for the wedding, which made his mother very upset.

Philip and Marie had five children :

- Joseph (1699–1768), Bishop of Augsburg
- Wilhelm Ludwig (1704, died young)
- Theodora (February 6, 1706 – January 23, 1784), married in 1727 Duke [Antonio Ferrante Gonzaga](#) (1687–1729), no children.
- Leopold (1708–1764), Imperial Field marshal, married in 1740 [Enrichetta d'Este](#) from [Modena](#) (1702–1777)
- Charles (1710–1710)

Literature

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- Andreas Räss: *Die Convertiten seit der Reformation* S. 467 ff.^[3]
- Alfred Arneth: *Prinz Eugen von Savoyen*, Wien, 1864

References

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1. [↑] Talbot, Michael. "Vivaldi, Antonio." Grove Music Online. Oxford Music Online. Oxford University Press, accessed December 15, 2015, (subscription required), <http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/grove/music/40120>
2. [↑] Eric Cross. "Tito Manlio." The New Grove Dictionary of Opera. Grove Music Online. Oxford Music Online. Oxford University Press, (subscription required), accessed December 28, 2015, <http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/grove/music/O009614>.
3. [↑] [Google Books](#)

Other websites

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- www.geneall.net

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