**1 January 1756** The cantata *Alles, was ihr tut* TWV I: 69 by Georg Philipp Telemann (74) is performed for the first time, in Hamburg.

*Hail, Hail Auspicious Day*, an ode by William Boyce (44) to words of Cibber, is performed for the first time, in the Great Council Chamber of St. James’ Palace, London.

**7 January 1756** *Idomeneo*, an opera seria by Baldassare Galuppi (49), is performed for the first time, in Teatro Argentina, Rome.

**9 January 1756** *I fratelli nemici*, an opera by Karl Heinrich Graun (52) to words of Tagliazucchi after Racine, is performed for the first time, at the Berlin Opera.

**10 January 1756** A letter from Giovanni Sacchi in Milan to Padre Martini (49) in Bologna indicates that both men know Johann Christian Bach (20), the earliest documentation of Bach’s presence in Italy.

**12 January 1756** Georg Christoph Wagenseil (40) presents himself to request royal permission to publish his instrumental music in France. It will be granted for a period of ten years and made retroactive to this date.

**16 January 1756** The Convention of Westminster is signed, pledging Britain and Prussia to mutual protection and to repulse foreign troops in Germany. Prussia agrees to the neutrality of Hanover. It will lead to the alliance between France and Austria.

**17 January 1756** Adalbert II Freiherr von Walderdorf replaces Amandus von Buseck as Prince-Bishop of Fulda.

**18 January 1756** Franz Georg, Count Schönbrunn, Elector-Archbishop of Trier, dies.

Johann Friedrich Karl von Ostein replaces Franz Georg Count von Schönborn-Puckheim as Prince-Bishop of Worms.

**21 January 1756** William Boyce (44) provides music for animating the statue in *Florizel and Perdita, or The Winter’s Tale*, a comedy by Garrick after Shakespeare, in Drury Lane Theatre, London.

**27 January 1756** 20:00 Joannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart is born at Getreidegasse 9 in the Archbishopric of Salzburg, the seventh and last child of Johann Georg Leopold Mozart (36), violinist and composer to the Archbishop of Salzburg, and Maria Anna Pertl, daughter of the deputy prefect of St. Gilgen (now deceased). Only two of the children survive infancy.

**28 January 1756** Joannes Chrysostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart is baptized in St. Rupert’s Cathedral in Salzburg.

**9 February 1756** *Antigono*, a dramma per musica by Christoph Willibald Gluck (41) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, in Teatro Argentina, Rome. During his time in Rome, Gluck is named a Knight of the Golden Spur.

**10 February 1756** The Guaraní War ends when a combined Spanish/Portuguese force annihilates the last approximately 1,500 Guaraní fighters at Caibaté (in present Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil).

**12 February 1756** A notice appears in the *Amsterdamsche Courant* claiming that the *Dictionaire harmonique (Guide harmonique)* of Francesco Geminiani (68) has been printed and is available to subscribers. See 28 October 1755.

**16 February 1756** *L’Olimpiade*, an opera by Johann Adolf Hasse (56) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, in the Dresden Court Opera.

**18 February 1756** Johann Philip Count von Walderdorf becomes Elector-Archbishop of Trier.

**26 February 1756** Baldassare Galuppi’s (49) farsetta a4 *La cantarina*, to words of Goldoni, is performed for the first time, in Teatro Capranica, Rome.

**4 March 1756** *Il roveto di Mosè*, an oratorio by Georg Christoph Wagenseil (41) to words of Abbate Pizi, is performed for the first time, in Vienna.

**8 March 1756** *Injured Honour, or The Earl of Westmoreland*, a play with music by Thomas Augustine Arne (45) to words of Brooke, is performed for the first time, in Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin.

**18 March 1756** Publication of Giovanni Battista Sammartini’s (55) Concerto for two violins and two oboes JC.73 is announced in the *Public Advertiser*, London.

**20 March 1756** *The Pincushion*, a farce by Thomas Augustine Arne (46) to words attributed to Gay, is performed for the first time, in Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin.

**24 March 1756** King Frederick II of Prussia orders his peasants to grow potatoes for subsistence.

**25 March 1756** The cantata *Jauchzet ihr Himmel* TWV 1: 958 by Georg Philipp Telemann (75) is performed for the first time, in Hamburg.

**27 March 1756** *Merope*, an opera by Karl Heinrich Graun (52) to words of Tagliazucchi after Voltaire, is performed for the first time, at the Berlin Opera. Due to the impending war, this is the last opera produced in the Berlin Opera House until 17 December 1764.

**1 April 1756** An anniversary ode in honor of William Shakespeare, *Titles and ermine fall behind* by William Boyce, to words of Havard, is performed for the first time, at the Drury Lane Theatre, London.

**2 April 1756** *The Painter’s Breakfast*, a play with music by Thomas Augustine Arne (46), is performed for the first time, in Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin.

**3 April 1756** Major General Louis Joseph, Marquis de Montcalm departs Brest with a mere two battalions of troops making for Canada. He is named military commander in North America. Accompanying him is the 26-year-old Louis Antoine de Bougainville.

**12 April 1756** *Laudate Dominum quoniam bonus*, a grand motet with organ accompaniment by Jean-Joseph Cassanea de Mondonville (44), is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**15 April 1756** Jacques Cassini dies in Thury-sous-Clermont at the age of 79.

**17 April 1756** The *Whitehall Evening Post, or London Intelligencer* announces the publication “this day” of Francesco Geminiani’s (68) *Guido Armonica* in English.

**18 April 1756** A French invasion force lands on Minorca. The British troops on the island retire to Fort St. Philip.

**23 April 1756** Invading French forces lay siege to the British garrison of Ft. St. Philip, Minorca.

**29 April 1756** Benjamin Franklin is elected a fellow of the Royal Society in London without dissent.

**30 April 1756** Köse Bahir Mustafa Pasha replaces Mehmed Said Pasha as Grand Vizier of the Ottoman Empire.

**1 May 1756** The First Treaty of Versailles, an alliance between France and Austria, is signed. The Empire promises neutrality in any war between Britain and France. They promise mutual protection if either is attacked by Prussia. France will aid Austria if attacked by Turkey.

**6 May 1756** Luís da Cunha Manuel replaces Sebastião José de Carvalho e Mello, conde de Oeiras, marquês de Pombal as Secretary of State (prime minister) of Portugal.

**11 May 1756** The Marquis de Montcalm arrives in Canada to take up his position of military commander for New France, along with two battalions of troops.

**12 May 1756** The Organ Concerto in C H.XVIII: 1 and *Salve Regina* in E H.XXIIIb:1 by Franz Josef Haydn (24) are performed for the first time, in the Convent of the Poor Clares, bei Nikolaikirche, Vienna. They are performed in the ceremony wherein Therese Keller (apparently Haydn’s first love) takes the veil. She is a daughter of the family who took him in after leaving St. Stephen’s.

**18 May 1756** After two years of fighting, Great Britain declares war on France.

**20 May 1756** British and French fleets engage off Minorca. Although no ships are lost, the British are unable to raise the French siege of Fort St. Philip.

**30 May 1756** Friedrich the Pious replaces Christian Ludwig II as Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

**2 June 1756** Sometime after this date, Thomas Arne (46), who has been in Dublin since last October, leaves the city, and his wife, Cecilia.

**4 June 1756** Six leading Quakers resign from the Pennsylvania Assembly, ending Quaker supremacy in the colony.

**9 June 1756** France declares war on Great Britain.

Johann Ludwig replaces Karl Friedrich Wilhelm as Count of Sayn-Wittgenstein-Hohenstein.

**16 June 1756** Forces of Nawab Siraj-ud-daula of Bengal capture Calcutta.

**19 June 1756** The British governor, top staff, and their dependents board ship in Calcutta and move downstream.

**20 June 1756** The Nawab of Bengal throws 146 British prisoners into a room two meters square. Only 23 will survive the night. The incident is henceforth known as the Black Hole of Calcutta.

**22 June 1756** Giovanni Giacomo Grimaldi replaces Giovanni Giacomo Stefano Veneroso as Doge of Genoa.

**25 June 1756** The Marine Society is founded at a meeting in the King’s Arms Tavern in London, a charity to prepare young men for life at sea.

**28 June 1756** The British garrison of Minorca surrenders to a French fleet after a siege of 66 days. In honor of the capture of Port Mayon (Mahón), the French commander, Louis François Armand de Vignerot du Plessis, Duc de Richelieu, orders a celebration. His chef concocts a special sauce for the feast called mayonnaise. (At least, that is the most popular story)

**26 July 1756** Leopold Mozart (36) dates the preface to his *Versuch einer gründlichen Violinschule* published this year by Johann Jakob Lotter in Augsburg.

**30 July 1756** Nicolò Piccinni (28) marries 14-year-old singing student, Vincenza Sibilla in Naples. The ceremony takes place in church, despite the fact that the couple has eloped. Her father, a barber, furious at the engagement, at first put her in the Conservatorio del Rifugio. He will relent and invite them home to be married in her local parish. The bride’s mother and godmother attend this wedding.

**31 July 1756** Elector Friedrich August II of Saxony grants Urheberrecht (copyright protection) to Johann Adolf Hasse (57).

**4 August 1756** Luigi Boccherini (13) makes his debut, performing a cello concerto of his own composition in Lucca.

**10 August 1756** French and Indians begin a siege of Fort Oswego.

**14 August 1756** French and Indians capture Fort Oswego on Lake Ontario from the British. About 1,700 are captured as French militia and Indians loot the fort. It is then burned down.

**16 August 1756** Georg Christoph Wagenseil (41) receives a leave of absence from his duties at the Austrian court.

**19 August 1756** *Le diable à quatre*, a pastiche with some music by François-André Danican-Philidor (29) to words of Sedaine, is performed for the first time, in Théâtre de la Foire St. Laurent, Paris.

**26 August 1756** Two works by Georg Philipp Telemann (75) are performed for the first time, in Hamburg: the oratorio *Wohl dem Volk, das Jauchzen kann* and the serenata *Rast, Lärminde Trommeln*.

**28 August 1756** King Friedrich the Great leaves Potsdam at the head of his troops making for Saxony.

**29 August 1756** 62,000 Prussian troops invade Saxony beginning the continental phase of the Seven Years War.

*Le nozze d’Arianna*, a festa teatrale by Ignaz Holzbauer (44) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, at Schwetzingen.

**30 August 1756** The second version of *Artaserse*, an opera seria by Niccolò Jommelli (41) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, in the Ducal Theatre, Stuttgart.

**8 September 1756** Pennsylvania militia attack and destroy the Delaware (Indian) village of Kittanning (now Kittanning, Pennsylvania). The British estimate that they kill 30-40 Indians.

**9 September 1756** Prussian forces capture Dresden, capital of Saxony.

**21 September 1756** Georg Philipp Telemann’s (75) cantata *Opfere Gott dank* is performed for the first time, for the consecration of Johann Gerhard Sucksdorf as preacher in St. Maria Magdalena, Hamburg.

**23 September 1756** Louis Constantin, Prince de Rohan-Guémenée replaces Guillaume Gaston II, Prince de Rohan-Soubize as Prince-Bishop of Strasbourg.

Advertisements appear in the *Whitehall Evening-Post* and the *London Evening-Post* for *Proposals for Printing a Correct and Complete Body of Church Music* by William Boyce (45).

**29 September 1756** The cantata *Lobet den Herrn, ihr seine Engel* TWV 1: 1063 by Georg Philipp Telemann (75) is performed for the first time, in Hamburg.

**1 October 1756** Prussian forces defeat the Austrians and Saxons at Lobositz, Bohemia (Lovosice, Czech Republic), 50 km northwest of Prague, near the Saxon border. 9,000 people are killed or wounded.

**2 October 1756** The Prussian government decrees that officials in their western provinces may lose their positions if they continue to flee from enemy raids.

**3 October 1756** *Der Höchste erhöret das Flehen der Armen*, a cantata by Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (45), is performed for the first time, in Halle.

**4 October 1756** *Le nozze di Paride*, a spettacolo poetico e musicale by Baldassare Galuppi (49) to words of Chiari, is performed for the first time, in Teatro San Angelo, Venice.

**10 October 1756** Georg Philipp Telemann’s (75) *Donner-Ode*, to words of Cramer, is performed for the first time, in St. Catherine’s, Hamburg.

**15 October 1756** The Saxon army surrenders to the Prussians at Pirna, 15 km southeast of Dresden.

**16 October 1756** Pope Benedict XIV issues the encyclical *Ex Omnibus*, which allows those who opposed the bull *Unigenitus* to receive the sacraments. Only those who protested loudly and publicly will be denied.

**26 October 1756** Two works by Georg Philipp Telemann (75), to words of Richey, are performed for the first time, in Hamburg: the cantata *Der Herr hat Grosses an uns getan* and the serenata *Edle krone grauer Haare*.

**27 October 1756** The Elector Friedrich August II and the Saxon court arrive in Warsaw having fled Dresden. Elector August is also King August III of Poland.

**30 October 1756** An ode for the birthday of King George II by William Boyce (45), *When Ceasar’s Natal Day* to words of Cibber, is performed for the first time, in the Great Council Chamber of St. James’ Palace, London.

**31 October 1756** Giacomo Girolamo Casanova escapes from the infamous Leads Prison in Venice. He heads for France.

**13 November 1756** Leopold Mozart is appointed violin teacher at the Kapellhaus, Salzburg on the eve of his 37th birthday.

**16 November 1756** William Cavendish, Duke of Devonshire replaces Thomas Pelham-Holles, Duke of Newcastle as Prime Minister of Great Britain.

**6 December 1756** British forces capture Fulta, near Berhampur (Brahmapur), India on their way to Calcutta.

**7 December 1756** The Parlement of Paris outlaws the encyclical *Ex Omnibus* of Pope Benedict XIV. The Pope has largely agreed with them on the refusal of sacraments, but they dislike its implementation by the King without their ratification

**8 December 1756** William Stanhope dies in London, aged approximately 73 years.

Christoph Willibald Gluck’s (42) dramma per musica *Il rè pastore* to words of Metastasio is performed for the first time, in the Burgtheater, Vienna for the birthday of Emperor Franz. Also born today is the Emperor’s son, Archduke Maximilian Franz, who in 1784 will become the patron of the young Ludwig van Beethoven.

**13 December 1756** King Louis XV holds a lit de justice in the Parlement of Paris to enforce an “Edict of Discipline.” The *Ex Omnibus* encyclical is enacted, the powers of the Parlement are curbed and their numbers reduced. 140 magistrates respond by resigning.

**15 December 1756** Two songs by William Boyce (45), “Away with the fables philosophers hold” and “In vain would your jargon our senses bewitch”, appear in the first performance of *Amphitryon*, a comedy by Hawkesworth after Dryden, in Drury Lane Theatre, London.

**18 December 1756** *Zenobia*, an opera seria by Niccolò Piccinni (28) to words of Metastasio, is performed for the first time, in Teatro San Carlo, Naples.

**20 December 1756** Given the flight of the Saxon court from Dresden and its current residence in Warsaw, the Oberkapellmeister of the court, Johann Adolf Hasse (57) departs Dresden for Venice and later Naples. Friedrich the Great will order Franz Benda and Johann Joachim Quantz (59) to Dresden.

**25 December 1756** The cantata *Ehre sey Gott in der Höhe* TWV I: 411 by Georg Philipp Telemann (75) is performed for the first time, in Hamburg.

**27 December 1756** *Mercury Harlequin*, a pantomime by Thomas Augustine Arne (46) to words of Woodward, is performed for the first time, in Drury Lane Theatre, London.

**31 December 1756** Russia adheres to the alliance between France and Austria embodied in the Treaty of Versailles of 1 May.

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