**1 January 2003** Three Arab terrorists are killed by Israeli security forces as they try to infiltrate a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip.

Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of the Workers Party is inaugurated President of Brazil in Brasilia, succeeding Fernando Henrique Silva Cardoso. He is the first elected leftist President of Brazil.

**5 January 2003** Arab terrorists explode two bombs in Tel Aviv killing 22 people and the terrorists. Over 100 others are injured. Israel responds with helicopters firing on terrorist targets in the Gaza Strip.

Six Arab terrorists are arrested in London in raids by British authorities. Traces of ricin are found at the scene.

**6 January 2003** The Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Commission demands that North Korea allow the resumption of monitoring of their nuclear program.

**7 January 2003** The British government announces it is calling up 1,500 reservists in case there is a war with Iraq.

*Haaretz* reports that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon received a loan of $1,500,000 from a South African businessman to repay illegal campaign contributions in 1999. Sharon denies the charge.

A military court in the Democratic Republic of Congo sentences 26 people to death for the murder of President Laurent Kabila in 2001. 64 others receive prison sentences ranging from six months to life. 45 others are acquitted.

The 108th Congress of the United States convenes in Washington. The Republican Party holds a slight edge in the Senate and a somewhat larger majority in the House of Representatives.

**9 January 2003** Hans Blix, head of the UN Monitoring, Verification, and Inspection Commission, and Mohamed ElBaradei, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency tell the UN Security Council that there is no evidence that Iraq possesses or seeks to possess weapons of mass destruction. They say that the Iraqi government allowed them unfettered access to anything they wanted to see. ElBaradei says that Iraq was seeking aluminum tubing to construct 81 mm rockets, not to build centrifuges as was charged by the Bush Administration.

**10 January 2003** North Korea announces it will withdraw from the 1970 nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

The US government orders 62,000 troops to the Persian Gulf region.

**11 January 2003** The British government sends the aircraft carrier *HMS Ark Royal* to the Persian Gulf.

Over the last two days, Governor George Ryan of Illinois pardons or vacates the death sentences of 171 prisoners scheduled to be killed by his state.

*Passionen eines Lebens*, a film about Sofia Gubaidulina (71), is shown for the first time, over ZDF/ARTE television in Germany.

**14 January 2003** British authorities arrest three more Arab terrorists in a raid in Manchester. One policeman is killed and four injured.

**15 January 2003** Peace talks between the government of Côte d’Ivoire and three rebel groups open in Paris.

The US Supreme Court rules in the case of *Eldred v. Ashcroft* that Congress may extend existing copyrights by 20 years, as is the practice in Europe.

**17 January 2003** *Light*, an opera by Toshi Ichiyanagi (69), to words of Takahashi after Hino, is performed for the first time, in the New Tokyo National Theatre.

Popular music entertainer Bobby Brown is found guilty of driving while intoxicated in Decatur, Georgia.

**18 January 2003** Over 100,000 people in Washington and 150,000 in San Francisco march in protest against invading Iraq. Protests also take place in other US cities and other countries.

**19 January 2003** Officials in India announce that recent cold weather has claimed 1,300 lives across the subcontinent.

Duo for cello and piano by Richard Wernick (69) is performed for the first time, in Washington.

**20 January 2003** The British government announces it will send 26,000 troops to the Persian Gulf.

Milan Milutinovic, former President of Serbia, surrenders to the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague. He has been indicted for war crimes and crimes against humanity in the Serbian crackdown on Albanians in Kosovo in 1999.

**22 January 2003** The governments of France and Germany jointly announce in Paris their opposition to military action against Iraq.

In parliamentary elections in the Netherlands, the Christian Democratic Appeal wins a narrow plurality but the Labor Party gains 19 seats. The Pim Fortuyn List drops 18. CDA Prime Minister Jan Pieter Balkenende will form a new government.

*Pioneer 10* sends its last signal to Earth. It is now 12,200,000,000 km away.

**24 January 2003** The government of Côte d’Ivoire and its internal opponents reach a power sharing agreement at Marcoussis, France. The agreement was negotiated by France.

**25 January 2003** *Carnet de Venise* for tape by Pierre Henry (75) is performed for the first time, in Nantes.

**26 January 2003** Pro-government mobs take to the streets in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire protesting the peace agreement reached two days ago. They attack the French embassy and other French interests with projectiles and gasoline bombs.

*Piano Trio: Voyage to a Fair Isle* by Peter Maxwell Davies (68) is performed for the first time, in the Kongsberg Kirke, Kongsberg, Norway.

**27 January 2003** *Triptych* for violin and piano by George Perle (87) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**27 January 2003** UN arms inspector Hans Blix reports to the Security Council that Iraq has not proven that it has no weapons of mass destruction. Mohammed ElBaradei of the IAEA reports that Iraq is not rebuilding its nuclear weapons program.

**28 January 2003** 52,000 British firefighters stage a two-day walkout to back their demands for a pay increase.

The Likud Party of Prime Minister Ariel Sharon doubles its seats in elections to the Israeli Knesset. Likud goes from 19 to 38 seats while Labor drops six to 19. Sharon will form a new coalition.

US President George Bush gives his annual State of the Union address to Congress. It contains the sentence, “The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa.” The statement is false.

**30 January 2003** Authorities in Italy arrest 28 Pakistanis in Naples on terrorism charges.

Three associates of Slobodan Milosevic are sentenced to prison terms for their parts in the attempted murder of Serbian opposition leader Vuk Draskovic in 1999. Former head of state security Radomir Markovic gets seven years for complicity, while two security agents get 15 years for the killing of four of Draskovic’s associates during the attempt.

The Belgian Parliament approves a law permitting same-sex marriage.

Richard Reid, who failed to detonate a bomb in his shoe during a transatlantic commercial flight, is sentenced to life in prison by a US federal court in Boston.

*Threnos* for one, two, four, or eight bass clarinets and real (live) and virtual computer/ADAT with octophonic computer music by Larry Austin (72) is performed for the first time, at Merkin Concert Hall, New York.

**1 February 2003** Over 100,000 people rally in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire to protest the peace agreement.

As the space shuttle *Columbia* reenters the atmosphere its heat shield fails over Texas. The craft breaks apart, killing all seven people on board.

Two works by Henri Pousseur (73) are performed for the first time, in La-Chaux-de-Fonds: *Reflets d’Arc-en-Ciel* for violin and piano and *Aiguillages au Carrefour des Immortels* for 16 or 17 instrumental soloists.

**2 February 2003** Václav Havel leaves office after completing his second term as President of the Czech Republic. The Parliament has yet to elect a successor. Vladimír Spidla becomes acting President.

Lou Silver Harrison dies of heart failure in Lafayette, Indiana while traveling to attend a concert of his music in Columbus, Ohio aged 85 years, eight months, and 19 days.

Concerto for piano, percussion, and chamber ensemble by Unsuk Chin (41) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of Radio-France, from Salle Olivier Messiaen, Paris.

**3 February 2003** A UN court in Kosovo sentences Serb Andjelko Kolasinac to eight years in prison. He was mayor of Orahovac when he participated in the forced deportation of Albanians in 1998 and 1999.

**4 February 2003** The Parliament of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia votes to create a new charter of a looser federation called Serbia and Montenegro.

**5 February 2003** US Secretary of State Colin Powell addresses the UN Security Council offering “evidence” that Iraq possesses weapons of mass destruction and refuses to disarm.

After an initial 17 months of silence, the organ at St. Burchardi in Halberstadt, Germany plays the first sounds in a performance of *Organ2/ASLSP* by John Cage (†10) intended to take 639 years. See 5 September 2001.

**6 February 2003** Concerto for horn and orchestra by Samuel Adler (74) is performed for the first time, in Houston.

*De Toda La Eternidad* for soprano and piano or winds by Libby Larsen (52), to words of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, is performed for the first time, at Emory University, Atlanta.

**7 February 2003** A large car bomb explodes at an exclusive social club in Bogotá killing 32 people and injuring 160. Leftist guerrillas are suspected.

*Lamentate* for piano and orchestra by Arvo Pärt (67) is performed for the first time, in the Tate Gallery, London.

**10 February 2003** A US plan for NATO to aid Turkey in preparing for war against Iraq is vetoed by Belgium, France, and Germany.

Uganda agrees to remove all its troops from Congo by 20 March.

A federal appeals court in St. Louis rules that the State of Arkansas may force a convicted murderer to take antipsychotic medication to make him sufficiently sane to be executed.

**11 February 2003** Officials in Guangdong, China acknowledge 305 cases of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

**12 February 2003** Meeting in Vienna, the IAEA votes to censure North Korea for restarting its nuclear program.

*Peace Upon You, Jerusalem* for women’s chorus by Arvo Pärt (67) to words of the Psalms, is performed for the first time, in New York.

**14 February 2003** UN weapons inspectors report to the Security Council that Iraq is showing greater cooperation with their efforts.

Vojislav Seselj, leader of the Serbian Radical Party, surrenders to the war crimes tribunal in The Hague. He is charged with eight counts of crimes against humanity and six counts of war crimes. He was a leader of Serb paramilitaries during the in the early 1990s.

**15 February 2003** Demonstrations against an invasion of Iraq take place in over 350 cities around the world drawing millions of participants. 750,000 march in London, 600,000 in Rome. Hundreds of thousands also gather in Berlin and Paris.

Arab terrorists blow up an Israeli tank in the Gaza Strip killing four soldiers.

**16 February 2003** *Garden of Eros* for violin and piano by Louis Andriessen (63) is performed for the first time, in Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

**17 February 2003** Mikis Theodorakis (77) addresses a rally in Athens protesting the impending invasion of Iraq by the United States.

**18 February 2003** A fire in Jungangno Station of the Metropolitan Subway in Daegu, South Korea. Approximately 192 people are killed.

US President Bush and UK Prime Minister Blair say that the massive antiwar demonstrations will not affect their plans.

**19 February 2003** An Iranian military Ilyushin II-76 goes down in bad weather near Kerman. All275 people on board are killed.

A court in Hamburg convicts Moroccan Mounir el-Motassadeq as an accomplice in the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001.

**20 February 2003** The US Justice Department indicts eight people of being members of, and providing material support to Islamic Jihad, a terrorist organization.

*The Map* for cello and orchestra by Tan Dun (45) is performed for the first time, in Boston.

A fire in The Station nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island kills 100 people.

**21 February 2003** UN weapons inspector Hans Blix orders Iraq to destroy all it al-Samoud 2 missiles because they exceed the UN range limit.

**22 February 2003** Canzona and Toccata for trumpet and organ by Robin Holloway (59) is performed for the first time, in Kelvin Grove Art Gallery, Glasgow.

**23 February 2003** Rolandas Paksas of the right-wing Party of Lithuanian Liberal Democrats is inaugurated at President of Lithuania.

*Fanfare: Sizzle* for orchestraby Libby Larsen (52) is performed for the first time, in Buffalo.

**24 February 2003** An earthquake centered near Jiashi in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region of China kills 261 people.

A Moslem cleric is convicted in London of soliciting murder and inciting racial hatred. He urged his followers to kill Hindus, Jews, Americans, and other non-Moslems. He will be sentenced to nine years in prison.

The third largest grocery retailer in the world, Ahold NV, discloses that its US unit overstated its earnings by at least $500,000,000 in 2001 and 2002.

**25 February 2003** Roh Moo Hyun replaces Kim Young Sam as President of the Republic of Korea.

**26 February 2003** The Bush administration says that North Korea has restarted its nuclear reactor at Yongbyon.

Rolandas Paksas replaces Valdas Adamkus as President of Lithuania.

**27 February 2003** Biljana Plavsic, former President of the Bosnian Serb Republic, is sentenced to eleven years in prison for persecuting non-Serbs during the Bosnian war.

**28 February 2003** *On the Edge of Abyss* for seven cellos and two waterphones by Sofia Gubaidulina (71) is performed for the first time, in Moscow.

*Elizabeth Full of Grace* for chorus, Tibetan temple bowl, organ, and strings by John Tavener (59) to words of Mother Thekla is performed for the first time, in St. George’s Chapel, Windsor.

**1 March 2003** Khalid Sheikh Mohammed is arrested in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. He is the alleged mastermind of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001.

The Turkish Parliament defeats a motion to allow the United States to station 62,000 troops in Turkey and use it as a staging area for an invasion of Iraq.

Iraq begins destroying its stockpile of 100 al-Samoud 2 missiles as required by UN weapons inspectors.

*3 Vorspiele zu einer Insel* for flute, violin, and percussion by Wolfgang Rihm (50) is performed for the first time, at the Morat-Institut, Freiburg im Breisgau.

*Adagio (Selbstbildnis)* for orchestra by Alexander Goehr (71) is performed for the first time, in the Rosengarten, Mannheim.

**2 March 2003** Parliamentary elections in Estonia result in a draw between the Centre Party and Res Publica, both with 28 seats out of 101. The conservative Res Publica leader Juhan Parts will form a new government.

Israeli forces attack Arab refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, killing eleven and arresting suspected terrorists.

**4 March 2003** A bomb explodes at the airport in Davao, the Philippines killing 21 people. Moslem separatists are blamed.

**5 March 2003** Foreign ministers of France, Russia, and Germany say they will vote against a US-UK-Spain Security Council resolution which declares that Iraq has had its last chance to disarm.

An Arab terrorist detonates a bomb on a bus in Haifa, killing 15 people, including several children, and himself.

The first reported case of SARS in North America ends with the patient’s death in Toronto.

*Medusa*, a monodrama by William Bolcom (64), is performed for the first time, in a concert setting in Stuttgart. See 26 June 2003.

**6 March 2003** An Air Algérie 737 crashes on takeoff from the Airport at Tamanrasset in southern Algeria. 102 people on board are killed. One survives.

*Requiem* for four vocal soloists, chorus, and orchestra by John Harbison (64) is performed for the first time, in Boston.

**7 March 2003** Václav Klaus replaces Vladimír Spidla as the President of the Czech Republic.

Svetozar Marovic replaces Vojislav Kostunica as President of Serbia and Montenegro.

The US, UK, and Spain amend a proposed Security Council resolution to include a deadline of 17 March to determine if Iraq is in compliance with UN demands. France, Russia, China, and Germany iterate their opposition to the resolution.

A strike by musicians closes 18 Broadway musicals for four days.

*May-Day* for chorus by William Bolcom (64) is performed for the first time, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

**8 March 2003** Israeli helicopters fire at least four missiles into a car carrying Ibrahim Maqadmeh in Gaza. Maqadmeh, a leader of the terrorist group Hamas, is killed along with four bodyguards.

**9 March 2003** *Sonata 1955* for violin and piano by Alfred Schnittke (†4) is performed for the first time, in London 48 years after it was composed.

**10 March 2003** A court in Frankfurt convicts four Algerians of plotting to blow up a market in Strasbourg in 2000. They are all sentenced to ten to twelve years in prison.

As part of a power sharing agreement reached in January, Seydou Diarra is sworn in as Prime Minister of Côte d’Ivoire.

Juhan Parts replaces Siim Kallas as Prime Minister of Estonia.

Pharmaceutical giant Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. announces that it overstated its sales for 1999-2001 by $2,500,000,000 because of “errors and inappropriate accounting.”

**11 March 2003** 18 members of the International Criminal Court are sworn in at The Hague. It is the first permanent court to try those accused of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

String Quartet no.4 by Jonathan Harvey (63) is performed for the first time, in Brussels.

**12 March 2003** A court in Jakarta sentences Brigadier General Noer Muis to five years in prison for failing to stop the murder of at least 42 people in East Timor in 1999.

Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic of Serbia is shot and killed on a Belgrade street by members of an organized crime group formerly allied with him.

Vier Studien zu einem Klarinettenquintett by Wolfgang Rihm is performed for the first time, in Hotel Römerbad, Badenweiler, on the eve of the composer’s 51st birthday.

**13 March 2003** A bomb explodes on a commuter train in Bombay killing ten people.

Three cases of SARS are reported in Singapore.

*Dance Patterns* for two xylophones, two vibraphones, and two pianos by Steve Reich (66) is performed for the first time, in the Palais des Beaux Arts, Brussels. Also premiered is *Moving Trees* for 18 players by Jonathan Harvey (63) and *Counter Phrases*, a ballet by Magnus Lindberg (44), to a choreography by Keersmaeker.

**14 March 2003** Recep Tayyip Erdogan replaces Abdullah Gül as Prime Minister of Turkey.

**15 March 2003** Hu Jintao replaces Jiang Zemin as President of the Peoples Republic of China.

The World Health Organization issues a global health alert about SARS.

**16 March 2003** Wen Jibao replaces Zhu Rongji as Prime Minister of the Peoples Republic of China.

Meeting on the Azores, US President George W. Bush, UK Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Spain’s Prime Minister José María Aznar declare the end of diplomatic efforts to disarm Iraq tomorrow.

Parliamentary elections in Finland result in a plurality of two seats for the Center Party over the Social Democratic Party of Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen.

**17 March 2003** Having failed to gain support for their Security Council resolution declaring that Iraq has missed its last chance to disarm, the US, UK, and Spain withdraw the proposal. US President Bush declares that Saddam Hussein and his sons must leave Iraq within 48 hours or he will invade the country.

British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook resigns that post over differences with his Prime Minister Tony Blair about the invasion of Iraq.

The Supreme Court of Spain votes to ban the Basque separatist party Batasuna for its ties to the terrorist group ETA.

The trial of 37 people charged with accepting millions of dollars in kickbacks from the former state-owned oil company Elf Aquitaine SA begins in France.

**18 March 2003** The Bush administration reveals the names of 30 of the 45 countries it says backs the invasion of Iraq. Besides the US and UK, only Australia commits troops to the war.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein rejects the Bush ultimatum of yesterday.

An Erie County, New York court finds Pro-Life advocate James Kopp guilty of the murder of Dr. Barnett Slepian in Buffalo in 2002.

*Missa Parvula* for treble chorus and organ by Peter Maxwell Davies (68) is performed for the first time, in Westminster Cathedral.

**20 March 2003** Military forces of the US, UK, and Australia begin a bombardment of Iraq with cruise missiles and bombing runs by warplanes. The Turkish Parliament votes to allow the US to use its airspace and for Turkish troops to enter northern Iraq.

20:00 US forces enter Iraq from Kuwait.

Several nations express regret or condemn the war including France, Russia, China, Germany, the Vatican, Malaysia, Iran, and Indonesia. Those issuing statements of support include Japan, South Korea, Italy, Poland, and Spain.

Many antiwar demonstrations take place around the world.

**21 March 2003** US troops secure southern oil fields in Iraq. British forces surround Basra in the face of Iraqi resistance.

**22 March 2003** About 200,000 people rally in London against the invasion of Iraq. An equal number gather in New York. Protests of 100,000 occur in Madrid and Barcelona. Similar demonstrations take place in Australia, New Zealand, southeast Asia, Pakistan, and across Europe, the Middle East, and the United States.

*Celestial Excursions*, an opera by Robert Ashley (72) to his own words, is performed for the first time, in the Hebbel Theatre, Berlin.

*Vespers* for six voices, seven players, and electronics by John C. Eaton (67) is performed for the first time, in New York.

*A Few Words About Chekhov,* a cycle for two solo voices and orchestra by Dominick Argento (75) to words of Chekhov and Knipper, is performed for the first time, in Ordway Music Theatre, St. Paul, Minnesota. See 12 October 1996.

**23 March 2003** US troops land in northern Iraq.

US forces take control of two bridges over the Euphrates at Nasiriyah.

US President Bush speaks publicly against Turkish intervention in Iraq.

Voters in Slovenia support the induction of their country in the European Union and NATO.

Former Kashmiri militant leader Abdul Majid Dar is killed in Sopore by Islamic terrorists, for talking with the Indian government.

Voters in Chechnya approve a constitution which acknowledges that it is part of the Russian Federation.

Islamic militants kill 24 Hindus in Nadi Marg, Jammu and Kashmir.

*Burning* for string quartet by Chen Yi (49) is performed for the first time, in Merkin Concert Hall, New York.

**24 March 2003** US forces reach Karbala.

A Croatian court finds former Major General Mirko Norac and two others guilty of overseeing the killing of 50 Serb civilians in Gospic, Croatia during the war with Serbia. They are sentenced to prison terms of between ten to 15 years.

**25 March 2003** British forces secure Umm Qasr, south of Basra.

*Come Before Winter* for baritone, chorus, and piano or orchestra by Libby Larsen (52), to words of Mampel and various sacred texts, is performed for the first time, at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois.

**26 March 2003** Turkish troops enter northern Iraq.

**27 March 2003** *Lavant-Gesänge*, a cycle for alto and piano by Wolfgang Rihm (51) to words of Lavant, is performed for the first time, in Frankfurt-am-Main.

**28 March 2003** An explosion in a Baghdad market kills about 50 people.

Kurdish fighters backed by US air support take control of several villages on the Iranian border.

Serbian authorities announce that they have found the body of former President Ivan Stambolic in northern Serbia. He was a rival to Slobodan Milosevic who is suspected of ordering his murder in 2000.

The United Nations appeals for $2,200,000,000 in humanitarian aid for Iraq.

French Polynesia, St. Pierre and Miquelon, Wallis and Futuna Islands, and Mayotte are reorganized as French Overseas Collectivities. French Guiana, Réunion, Martinique, and Guadeloupe are reorganized as French Overseas Regions.

*Day of Kindness*, an opera by Bohuslav Martinu (†43) to words of Ribemont-Dessaignes after Ehrenburg, is performed for the first time, in Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic 72 years after it was composed.

A second version of *Gejagte Form* for orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (51) is performed for the first time, in Graz. See 13 April 1996.

Cello Concerto by Ned Rorem (79) is performed for the first time, in Kansas City.

*United States* for string quartet by Ned Rorem (79) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Space, New York.

A suite from the film *The Hours* by Philip Glass (66), in the form of a piano concerto, is performed for the first time, in Uihlein Hall, Milwaukee.

**29 March 2003** 100,000 people create a human chain of 50 km between Münster and Osnabrück in opposition to the invasion of Iraq.

*Labyrinthe!* for tape by Pierre Henry (75) is performed for the first time, at Radio France, Paris.

**30 March 2003** *Five Kurpian Songs* op.75 for chorus by Henryk Górecki (69) is performed for the first time, in Warsaw. At the performance, Górecki receives the Polish Radio Music Award.

*Faits divers* for tape by Pierre Henry (75) is performed for the first time, at Radio France, Paris. Also premiered is Henry’s Duo for piano and tape, performed by the composer.

**31 March 2003** 100,000 people demonstrate against the invasion of Iraq at the US embassy in Jakarta.

40,000 people demonstrate in Seoul against the Korean government’s decision to send noncombat troops to Iraq.

British troops capture Zubayr and continue their siege of Basra.

US Military officials force a Fox News reporter to leave Iraq because he revealed sensitive military information.

An independent commission set up by the US Congress to investigate the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks holds its first public meeting, in New York.

**1 April 2003** US forces enter Najaf.

**2 April 2003** Turkey agrees to allow nonlethal supplies to be shipped through its territory to the war zone.

Dragan Covic replaces Mirko Sarovic as acting Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina. Recently it was revealed that Sarovic knew about military shipments to Iraq while he was president of the Bosnian Serb Republic.

The World Health Organization warns travelers to avoid Hong Kong and Guangdong Province, China due to the growing SARS epidemic.

The government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo signs an agreement with the official opposition and rebel leaders in Sun City, South Africa in an attempt to end the civil war.

**3 April 2003** US forces cross the Tigris River and reach to within 40 km of Baghdad.

The World Health Organization announces 2,270 known cases of SARS worldwide, including 79 deaths.

Hundreds of Hema people are killed by Lendu militia, supported by Uganda, in eastern Congo. The killers use guns and machetes.

An all-party government goes into effect in Côte d’Ivoire as part of an attempt to end the civil war.

*Boston Concerto* for orchestra by Elliott Carter (94) is performed for the first time, in Boston.

**4 April 2003** US forces reach the suburbs of Baghdad.

**5 April 2003** US forces enter Karbala.

**6 April 2003** British forces enter Basra.

The US Justice Department announces that for the first time, the population of US prisons exceeds 2,000,000 people.

**7 April 2003** US forces reach the center of Baghdad.

British forces complete the conquest of Basra. Widespread looting by residents ensues.

John Adams (56) is awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Music for his *On the Transmigration of Souls*. See 19 September 2002.

*Jubilees* for chamber ensemble by Magnus Lindberg (44), is performed for the first time, in Cité de la musique, Paris.

**8 April 2003** Terrorist leader Said Al-din al-Arabid and five other people are killed in an attack by Israeli helicopters in Gaza.

**9 April 2003** North Korea becomes the first nation to withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

US forces take control of much of Baghdad. Widespread looting by residents ensues.

Four former Miami police officers are found guilty in federal court of planting a gun on an unarmed suspect.

**10 April 2003** Kurdish paramilitaries take control of Kirkuk.

Borislav Paravac replaces Dragan Covic as Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

*Spring Music* op.96 for two or more instruments by Robin Holloway (59) is performed for the first time, in Wigmore Hall, London.

*Inventing Flight* for orchestra by William Bolcom (64) is performed for the first time, in North Carolina.

**11 April 2003** US forces and Kurdish paramilitaries enter Mosul.

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld calls the widespread looting and lawlessness in postwar Iraq “untidy.”

Piano Sonata no.3 op.82 by Lowell Liebermann (42) is performed for the first time, in Indianapolis.

**12 April 2003** US forces enter Kut, the last major town in southern Iraq to be taken.

A referendum in Hungary favors entry into the European Union.

*Eight Memories in Watercolor* for piano by Tan Dun (45) is performed for the first time, at the Kennedy Center, Washington.

*Footnotes* for two bass clarinets by John C. Eaton (68) is performed for the first time, in New York.

Concerto no.2 for double bass and orchestra by Edgar Meyer (42) is performed for the first time, in Germantown Performing Arts Center, Germantown, Tennessee.

**13 April 2003** US General Tommy Franks says that 2,000-3,000 sites have been identified as possibly containing weapons of mass destruction.

Piano Sonata no.2 by John Harbison (64) is performed for the first time, in Boston.

*DNA* for percussion quintet by Joan Tower (64) is performed for the first time, in Jordan Hall, Boston.

**14 April 2003** After heavy fighting, US forces enter Tikrit, the home of Saddam Hussein.

Chairman Martin Sullivan, Gary Vikan and Richard Lanier resign from the US President’s Advisory Committee on Cultural Property in protest over the failure of the military to protect the cultural treasures of Iraq.

**15 April 2003** US forces in Iraq capture Mohammed Abul Abbas who planned the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* in 1985. He was convicted in absentia by an Italian court.

An Amsterdam court sentences Volkert van der Graaf to 18 years in prison for killing Pim Fortuyn in 2002.

**16 April 2003** UNESCO estimates that 150,000 priceless artifacts have been looted from cultural sites in Iraq.

The World Health Organization claims that China is underreporting the SARS epidemic. It also identifies a coronavirus as the cause of the disease.

Representatives of ten nations sign an accession treaty to the European Union at the foot of the Acropolis. The populations of Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia will vote on the treaty in referenda.

*Maya Atma* for soprano, violin, and percussion by John Tavener (59) is performed for the first time, at Poole’s Center for the Arts.

**17 April 2003** Sergey Yushenkov, leader of the Liberal Russia party, is shot to death at his apartment building in Moscow. He is a leading opponent of President Vladimir Putin.

Anneli Tuulikki Jäätteenmäki replaces Paavo Tapio Lipponen as Prime Minister of Finland at the head of a three-party coalition which includes her own liberal Center Party and the leftist Social Democrats. She is the first woman to hold that position.

*The Light of the End* for orchestra by Sofia Gubaidulina (71) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Boston.

**20 April 2003** Chinese Minister of Health Zhang Wenkang and Mayor Meng Xuenong of Beijing are sacked for their mishandling of the SARS epidemic. They are widely seen as scapegoats for a Chinese government policy of underreporting.

Iraqi opposition forces capture former Prime Minister Mohammed Hamza al-Zubaydi and turn him over to US authorities. He oversaw the repression of the Shia uprising in southern Iraq in 1991.

**21 April 2003** A military court in Surabaya convicts seven soldiers of torture and murder of Theys Eluay, an independence leader in Papua. They are given sentences of between two and three-and-a-half years in prison.

US Lieutenant General Jay Garner arrives in Baghdad to rule Iraq until an Iraqi government is constituted.

**22 April 2003** The largest oil producer in Russia, OAO Yukos, announces that it will buy OAO Sibneft. The combined company is believed to have the largest oil reserves in the world.

Amidst accusations of widespread fraud, from both international and domestic sources, President Olusegun Obasanjo is declared the winner of the Nigerian presidential election.

A state of emergency in Serbia, declared after the murder of Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic last month, is lifted. 3,700 people have been charged with crimes, mostly followers of Slobodan Milosevic and organized crime figures.

**23 April 2003** In meetings in Beijing, North Korean officials inform the US that they possess nuclear weapons. US negotiators leak it to the press.

Turkish authorities open the border between occupied Cyprus and the rest of the island for the first time since 1974.

**24 April 2003** The Beijing city government orders an immediate and mandatory quarantine of all suspected SARS cases.

Former Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz surrenders to US authorities in Baghdad.

A European Convention, chaired by Valery Giscard d’Estaing, presents proposals for a new constitution for the European Union. Changes include a permanent presidency, a reduction in the size of the European Commission, an EU foreign minister, and greater military cooperation between members.

Serbian police charge former President Slobodan Milosevic and eight others with the kidnapping and murder of former Serbian President Ivan Stambolic.

*Ruttmann* for flute, three saxophones, horn, three trumpets, three trombones, piano, and double bass by Louis Andriessen (63) is performed for the first time, in Amsterdam.

**25 April 2003** An Arab terrorist hijacks a bus in Bremen and demands the release of four al-Qaeda members. After a chase of seven hours, police attack the bus and rescue the driver and four hostages.

A federal judge in Los Angeles rules that software manufacturers that provide access to file-sharing networks are not responsible for any copyright infringement occurring on those networks.

A suite of music from Leonard Bernstein’s (†12) musical *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue* arranged by Sid Ramin and Charlie Harmon is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York.

**26 April 2003** At least twelve civilians are killed when an ammunition dump guarded by US troops blows up near Baghdad.

*Incandescent* for string quartet by Joan Tower (64) is performed for the first time, in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York.

*Slip Knot*, an opera by TJ Anderson (74) to words of Komunyakaa, is performed for the first time, at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

**27 April 2003** An Arab terrorist hijacks a bus in Berlin but surrenders after holding nine hostages for 45 minutes.

*Orpheus* for chorus of treble voices by Dominick Argento (75) to words of O. Sitwell is performed for the first time, at the 92nd Street Y, New York.

**28 April 2003** US troops kill at least 13 Iraqis and injure 75 others when they fire into an anti-US crowd in Fallujah. US military authorities claim they were fired on from the crowd.

The World Health Organization announces that Vietnam has contained its outbreak of SARS.

*The Mathematics of Resonant Bodies* for solo percussionist and electronics by John Luther Adams (50) is performed for the first time, in the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

**29 April 2003** Leaders of Belgium, France, Germany, and Luxembourg, all opponents of the invasion of Iraq, meet in Brussels to discuss an increase in military cooperation between EU members outside the influence of the United States.

45 people are indicted in Belgrade of trying to overthrow the Serbian government. Police also charge Former President Slobodan Milosevic and seven others with conspiring to murder opposition leader Vuk Draskovic in 2000.

*New Messages* for orchestra by György Kurtág (77) is performed for the first time, in the Barbican Centre, London.

**30 April 2003** An Arab terrorist detonates a bomb outside a nightclub next to the US embassy in Tel Aviv. Three people and the bomber are killed, 30 injured.

*In Wartime* for band by David Del Tredici (66) is performed for the first time, at the University of Texas, Austin.

*My Father Knew Charles Ives* for orchestra by John Adams (56) is performed for the first time, in Davies Hall, San Francisco.

**1 May 2003** An earthquake centered near Bingöl, Turkey kills 176 people.

US Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announces in Kabul that major military operations in Afghanistan are over.

In front of a large banner reading “Mission Accomplished” US President George W. Bush gives a nationally televised address from the aircraft carrier *USS Abraham Lincoln* off the coast of California. He announces the end of combat operations in Iraq. He ties the regime of Saddam Hussein to the al-Qaeda terror network, a totally spurious claim.

The Recording Industry Association of America settles lawsuits with four students it accused of operating internet-accessed computer programs that allowed fellow students to share copyrighted recordings over their schools’ network. The students will pay $12,000-$17,000 over four years and their services are terminated.

*Concertino: Baroque Meditations* for orchestra by Lukas Foss (80) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**2 May 2003** Prime Minister Vajpayee of India announces the resumption of diplomatic relations and transportation links with Pakistan.

The US announces that Bulgaria, Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, and Ukraine have offered troops to restore order in Iraq.

*At the Kansas City Chinese New Year Concert* for string quartet by Chen Yi (50) is performed for the first time, at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, New York.

**3 May 2003** US President Bush says he is confident that weapons of mass destruction, the cause for his invasion of Iraq, will eventually be found.

*Fire and Blood* for violin and orchestra by Michael Daugherty (49) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Detroit.

**4 May 2003** *The Rhodora* for chorus by William Bolcom (64) is performed for the first time, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of Ralph Waldo Emerson.

**5 May 2003** Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi testifies at his trial in Milan on charges of bribing judges.

The United States Senate makes public secret testimony of almost 500 individuals before Senator Joseph McCarthy’s Governmental Affairs Committee in the 1950s, among them Aaron Copland (†12).

*Nocturne* for orchestra op.84 by Lowell Liebermann (42) is performed for the first time, in London.

**6 May 2003** Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali of Pakistan responds to his Indian counterpart’s speech of four days ago by confirming the resumption of diplomatic relations and transportation links with India.

US President Bush places civilian L. Paul Bremer in charge of rebuilding Iraq.

*...brain ablaze...she howled aloud* for one, two, or three piccolos and electronic sound generators by Roger Reynolds (68) is performed completely for the first time, in Munich.

**7 May 2003** Popular music entertainer Pete Townshend is given a formal caution and placed on a register of sex offenders for visiting a child pornography website.

**9 May 2003** A court in Buffalo, New York sentences Pro-Life advocate James Kopp to the maximum sentence of 25 years to life in prison for the murder of Dr. Bernard Sleppian in 1998.

**10 May 2003** Voting for the Althing in Iceland result in a victory for the two-party center-right coalition of Prime Minister David Oddsson but his own conservative Independence Party has its worst result since 1987.

A court in Jibla, Yemen sentences Abed Abdul Razak Kamel to death for killing three Christian missionaries last December. Kamel said he acted out of religious duty against those converting Moslems.

**11 May 2003** Australian Governor-General Peter Hollingworth temporarily resigns while charges that he raped a woman in the 1960s are investigated.

Voters in Lithuania overwhelmingly approve their entry into the European Union.

*Butterfly Dreams* for chorus by John Tavener (59) to words of various authors is performed for the first time, in Brighton.

**12 May 2003** Chechen terrorists explode a truck bomb at a government compound in Znamenskoye, Chechnya. 59 people are killed. Three government buildings and six apartment buildings are destroyed.

**13 May 2003** Four bombs go off almost simultaneously in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, killing 25 people and nine bombers. The targets are three residential areas housing foreign workers, and the Saudi Maintenance Company. Authorities blame al-Qaeda.

Public sector workers in France strike against planned changes in their pensions by the government. Serious disruptions occur in plane, rail, and bus service. Most classes at schools and universities are cancelled. Mail delivery is also cancelled.

Algerian troops rescue 17 of 32 Europeans held by Islamic militants.

*Mobile* for tape by Pierre Henry (75) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

*Letter from Cathy* for vocal soloist, violin, harp, percussion, piano, and double bass by Louis Andriessen (63) to words of Cathy Berberian, is performed for the first time, in Teatro Ariosto, Reggio Emilia, Italy.

**14 May 2003** A Chechen terrorist explodes a bomb in a crowd in eastern Chechnya killing at least 16 people. The apparent target, Akhmed Kadyrov, administrator of the province, is unhurt.

**15 May 2003** The World Health Organization reports 7,699 cases of SARS worldwide, most of them in China.

Five Arabs are killed in an Israeli raid in northern Gaza.

Former Rwandan cabinet minister Eliezer Niyitegeka is convicted in Arusha, Tanzania for his part in the genocide of 1994. He is sentenced to life in prison.

**16 May 2003** Terrorists explode five bombs in Casablanca, killing 29 people and injuring over 100 others. Twelve of the 14 terrorists are killed. All the targets have foreign or Jewish connections, although 23 of those killed are Moroccans.

**17 May 2003** Ethnic violence between Arabs and Kurds kills nine people in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Arab terrorists explode a bomb near a Jewish settlement in Hebron, killing two people and the bomber.

Voters in Slovakia overwhelmingly approve their entry into the European Union.

Helen Frost-Jones Carter, wife of Elliott Carter (94), dies at the age of 95.

*Insula felix* for two vocal soloists, chorus, and chamber orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (51) is performed for the first time, in the Liederhalle, Stuttgart.

**18 May 2003** Arab terrorists explode two bombs in Jerusalem. Seven people and two bombers are killed.

Elections for the Parliament of Belgium take place with new rules requiring a five percent threshold. The ruling coalition of liberals and leftists led by Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt wins reelection.

**19 May 2003** Arab terrorists explode two bombs. One in Gaza kills only the bomber. Another in Afula kills three people and the bomber.

**20 May 2003** Jeffrey John is named the first openly gay suffragen (assistant bishop) in the Church of England. John is celebate.

**21 May 2003** An earthquake centered in Thénia, 60 km east of Algiers kills at least 2,200 people.

192 member nations of the World Health Organization approve the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. It is the first international treaty on human health.

Errol Morris’ film *The Fog of War* with music by Philip Glass (66) is shown for the first time, at Cannes.

**22 May 2003** The UN Security Council votes to end sanctions against Iraq and grant the US and UK authority to administer Iraq as occupiers.

£2,130,000 is paid by an anonymous buyer for the working manuscript of the Symphony no.9 by Ludwig van Beethoven (†176) at a Sotheby’s auction in London.

*In principio* for chorus and orchestra by Arvo Pärt (67) to words from the Bible, is performed for the first time, in Herz Jesu Kirche, Graz.

Wolfgang Rihm (51) receives the Ernst von Siemers Music Award in the Cuvilliestheater, Munich where his *Stilles Stück 2* for baritone, horn, and strings to words of Fleming is performed for the first time.

*Marching to Carcassonne* for piano and twelve instruments by Alexander Goehr (70) is performed for the first time, in Queen Elizabeth Hall, London. Also premiered in Goehr’s *2 notes only for Ollie* for eleven players.

*Passing Strangers* for chorus by Norman Dello Joio (90) is performed for the first time, in Mystic Beach, New York.

**23 May 2003** US administrator Paul Bremer orders the dissolution of the military of Iraq.

The World Health Organization lifts its advisory about travel to Hong Kong and Guangdong Province, China because of improvement in the SARS epidemic.

*Les Icare africains* for vocal soloists, chorus, and orchestra by Henri Pousseur (73) is performed for the first time, in the Milan Cathedral.

**24 May 2003** *The Sound of a Voice*, an opera by Philip Glass (66) to words of Hwang, is performed for the first time, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**25 May 2003** Peter Hollingworth, Governor General of Australia, resigns after a suit is brought accusing him of rape in the 1960s. The family of the victim, who died last month, withdrew the suit and it was dismissed.

Supporters of President Robert Kocharyan gain a majority of seats in parliamentary elections in Armenia.

In continuing job actions against proposed pension changes, 300,000 people march in Paris in support of public sector unions. Air traffic is again disrupted.

Néstor Carlos Kirchner Ostoic replaces Eduardo Alberto Duhalde Maldonado as President of Argentina.

**27 May 2003** After four months since the general election, a new government is sworn in by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands. It is a three-party center-right coalition under Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende.

Luciano Berio dies in Rome, aged 77 years, seven months, and three days. His mortal remains will be laid to rest in Radicondoli Cemetery, Toscana.

**28 May 2003** A same sex union is blessed with the approval of the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster (Vancouver). It is the first such blessing in the Anglican Communion.

**29 May 2003** In an interview with Polish television, US President George Bush claims that weapons of mass destruction have been found in Iraq. He cites two trailers which have no evidence of weapons of mass destruction. “We’ll find more weapons as time goes on.”

*Of Rewaking* for voice and orchestra by Elliott Carter (94) to words of Williams is performed for the first time, in Orchestra Hall, Chicago.

**30 May 2003** Authorities in Myanmar arrest opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and 17 supporters in Dipeyin. Offices of her party around the country are closed.

The US opens a consulate in Beirut, 20 years after it was closed by a bombing.

**31 May 2003** Pro-Life advocate Eric Rudolph is arrested for the bombing at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and three other bombings.

**2 June 2003** In Rome, US Secretary of State Colin Powell claims that there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. “It wasn’t a figment of anyone’s imagination.”

Amid strong public opposition, the Republican-controlled US Federal Communications Commission changes media ownership rules to favor giant conglomerates.

The Inspector General of the US Justice Department files a report finding “significant problems” with 762 detained illegal immigrants in the wake of the 11 September 2001 attacks. None of the 762 has been charged with a terrorism related offense.

*Remember O Lord* for chorus by Jonathan Harvey (64) is performed for the first time, in Westminster Abbey.

**3 June 2003** The House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs begins an investigation into the intelligence which led to the US-UK invasion of Iraq.

**4 June 2003** A joint UN-Sierra Leone tribunal indicts President Charles Taylor of Liberia for supporting rebels and essentially causing Sierra Leone’s civil war. Thousands of people begin fleeing Monrovia in expectation of further rebel attacks against Taylor’s forces.

**5 June 2003** The UN Security Council votes to send a peacekeeping force led by France to Ituri Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

A Chechen terrorist explodes a bomb in Mozdok, North Ossetia, killing 17 people and herself.

The World Health Organization reports that cases of SARS are going down worldwide.

Six current and former executives of Xerox Corp. agree to pay $22,000,000 in fines in settlement of civil fraud charges brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

*Ricercare una melodia* for viola and electronics by Jonathan Harvey (64) is performed for the first time, in Brussels.

**6 June 2003** Bosnia and Hercegovina agrees to a treaty which prevents it from handing over any US citizen to the International Criminal Court, or anyone working for the US military. The agreement comes after the Bush administration threatened to withhold $73,000,000 in aid from Bosnia.

Police in Zimbabwe arrest opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai and charge him with treason.

Representatives of Chile and the United States sign a free trade agreement in Miami.

Jeffrey John withdraws from his appointment as suffragen bishop of Reading when conservative elements in the Anglican Communion threaten a schism. John is openly gay, although celebate.

*Mother and Child* for chorus by John Tavener (59) to words of Keeble is performed for the first time, in Salisbury.

*Two Songs on Poems of Anthony Hecht* op.86 for voice and piano by Lowell Liebermann (42) is performed for the first time, in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

**7 June 2003** The Episcopal diocese of New Hampshire elects Gene Robinson as the first openly gay (and sexually active) bishop in the Anglican Communion.

**8 June 2003** Four Arab terrorists attack Israeli soldiers at the Erez border crossing between Israel and Gaza. Four soldiers are killed, four injured before the terrorists are killed by Israeli troops.

US Secretary of State Colin Powell blames the media for creating the criticism of his government over the lack of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq.

US National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice admits that President Bush’s claim that Iraq sought uranium in Niger was false.

Voters in Poland agree to entry into the European Union.

**9 June 2003** Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown announces that Britain is not yet ready to adopt the Euro.

US troops enter Thuluya, Iraq, kill four people and detain 400.

US President George Bush declares that he is “absolutely convinced” that weapons of mass destruction will be uncovered in Iraq.

Two high ranking al-Qaeda members, now in US custody, deny any links between their organization and Saddam Hussein.

**10 June 2003** Israeli helicopters attack a car carrying a top Arab terrorist leader in Gaza. The leader is wounded and two others are killed.

The Ontario Court of Appeal rules that a provincial prohibition against same-sex marriage is unconstitutional.

**11 June 2003** An Arab terrorist explodes a bomb on a Jerusalem bus killing 16 people and himself. Around 100 people are injured.

Nine people are killed in two separate attacks by Israeli helicopters against Arab terrorists in Gaza.

Samuel Waksal, former chairman and CEO of ImClone Systems, Inc. is sentenced to seven years and three months in prison by a federal court in New York for securities fraud, obstruction of justice, and perjury.

**12 June 2003** US forces attack a training camp north of Baghdad. They kill at least 68 people and confiscate several surface-to-air missiles.

Israeli helicopters kill seven people in an attack on an Arab terrorist leader in Gaza.

**13 June 2003** A court in Seoul finds ten executives of SK Group guilty of accounting fraud and insider trading. They are sentenced to prison terms.

Israeli helicopter strikes kill one terrorist and destroy a terrorist arms cache.

The European Convention completes a new draft constitution for the European Union.

Violin Concerto by Shulamit Ran (53) is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York.

**14 June 2003** Three quarters of voters in the Czech Republic approve of entry into the European Union.

**15 June 2003** In an effort to stop daily attacks, US forces raid Fallujah. Dozens are arrested and many weapons seized.

**16 June 2003** US forces launch several raids north of Baghdad. 400 people are arrested.

US President George Bush calls those who criticize the decision to invade Iraq as “revisionist historians.”

**17 June 2003** Robin Cook, former leader of the House of Commons, testifies before an Iraq War investigating committee that the cabinet had “used intelligence as the basis on which to justify a policy on which we had already settled.” He says a lot of the intelligence turned out to be incorrect. Clare Short, former cabinet minister, testifies that Prime Minister Blair misled the people with a “series of half-truths, exaggerations, reassurances that weren’t the case.” Other ministers testifying refute their testimony.

**18 June 2003** The Australian Senate announces plans to investigate the intelligence used by the government to justify the invasion of Iraq.

US forces raid farmhouses near Tikrit and arrest some of Saddam Hussein’s security personnel. They take $9,500,000 in cash and jewels.

Prime Minister Anneli Jäätteenmäki of the Finnish Center Party resigns when it is revealed that she used secret government documents to secure her win over the Social Democratic Party last March.

A court in Paris exonerates Jean-Claude Trichet, governor of the Bank of France, for any malfeasance in the collapse of Credit Lyonnais SA in 1993.

US military officials announce that 20,000 more troops will soon be arriving in Iraq.

**19 June 2003** The Turkish Parliament passes a series of human rights reforms aimed at increasing their chances of admission to the European Union. Many restrictions on the Kurdish minority are removed.

An explosion at a vandalized oil pipeline, 55 km north of Umuahia, Nigeria, kills over 100 people.

**20 June 2003** A truck bomb explodes in Grozny, Chechnya killing eight people, including two who appear to be the bombers. Authorities believe the bomb exploded prematurely.

*Dreamhouse* for baritone voice, vocal quartet, four electric guitars, and orchestra by Steven Mackey (47), to words of Eckert and the composer, is performed for the first time, in Amsterdam.

**21 June 2003** An oil pipeline is blown up 150 km northwest of Baghdad causing an enormous fire.

Popular music promoter Marion (Suge) Knight is arrested for punching a valet-parking attendant in the face at a Los Angeles nightclub. He will be sentenced to ten months in prison for parole violation.

**22 June 2003** *Seven Skies of Winter* for flute/alto flute, oboe, horn, violin, viola, bassoon, and double bass by Peter Maxwell Davies (68) is performed for the first time, in St. Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, Orkney.

**23 June 2003** Cambridge University confers a doctorate on John Adams (56).

*In Praise of Bach* for organ by Samuel Adler (75) is performed for the first time, in Cleveland.

**24 June 2003** Iraqi insurgents kill six British soldiers at Majar al Kabir north of Basra.

Matti Taneli Vanhanen replaces Anneli Tuulikki Jäätteenmäki as Prime Minister of Finland.

*Salomes Flea Circus* for clarinet and piano by John C. Eaton (68) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Space, New York.

**25 June 2003** The Parliament of New Zealand votes to legalize prostitution.

After an ultimatum from UN peacekeepers, local militia withdraw from Bunia in northeastern Congo.

**26 June 2003** In the case of *Lawrence v. Texas*, the US Supreme Court rules that state laws barring homosexual relations between consenting adults are unconstitutional.

*Medusa*, a monodrama by William Bolcom (65), is staged for the first time, in Cincinnati. See 5 March 2003.

**27 June 2003** The Israeli government and Arab leaders agree on an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

The British government admits that its information cited by President Bush in January about the Iraq uranium claim came from an unidentified foreign intelligence service.

Dragan Covic replaces Borisalv Paravac as Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

*The Veil of the Temple* for soprano, chorus, and chamber ensemble by John Tavener (59) to words of various authors is performed for the first time, in Temple Church, London.

**28 June 2003** Mexico extradites Ricardo Miguel Cavallo to Spain. Cavallo is wanted for taking part in the Argentine dirty war of the 1970s, torturing and murdering hundreds of people.

*A Seattle Overture* by William Bolcom (65) is performed for the first time, to open Marian Oliver McCaw Hall in Seattle.

**29 June 2003** Three Arab terrorist groups agree to temporarily stop attacks on Israel.

Katharine Hepburn dies at Old Saybrook, Connecticut at the age of 96.

**30 June 2003** Israel begins to withdraw its troops from Gaza.

President Laurent Kabila of Congo names a widely diverse, all-party transitional government.

**1 July 2003** Most of the sluice gates are closed on the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River. The water begins rising behind it.

The Parliament of Slovakia approves entry into the European Union.

The Bush administration cuts off military aid to 35 countries which have not exempted US citizens from the International Criminal Court.

*Interlude II* for piano by Leon Kirchner (84) is performed for the first time, in London.

**2 July 2003** One day after assuming the EU presidency, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi causes controversy by comparing Martin Schulz, a German delegate to the European Parliament, to a Nazi concentration camp guard.

*Eight Bohemian Sketches* for flute, clarinet, and piano by Karel Husa (81) is performed for the first time, at Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York.

**3 July 2003** Iraqi insurgents fire mortars into a US base near Balad. 17 soldiers are injured.

Piano Trio by Kevin Volans (53) is performed for the first time, in Bantry House, County Cork, Ireland.

**4 July 2003** Islamic militants attack a mosque in Quetta, Pakistan opening fire on worshippers. At least 49 people and the four militants are killed.

About 50 Iraqi insurgents ambush a US patrol near Balad. Eleven of them are killed.

*La Padania*, the journal of the Italian Northern League, publishes statements by Italian Tourism Minister Stefan Stefani. He calls Germans “stereotyped hypernationalistic blondes.” He says that Martin Schulz, insulted by the Prime Minister on 2 July, “probably grew up taking part in noisy burping contests after drinking gigantic amounts of beer and gorging himself on fried potatoes.”

*26 Orpheus Elegies (first part)* for oboe, harp, and voice by Harrison Birtwistle (68) is performed for the first time, in the Town Hall, Cheltenham.

**5 July 2003** A bomb explodes in Ramadi, Iraq killing seven Iraqis graduating from a police training program. 74 others are injured.

Two Chechen terrorists explode bombs at an outdoor popular music performance near Moscow. At least 14 people and the bombers are killed.

**6 July 2003** Former US diplomat Joseph Wilson writes in the *New York Times* that the Bush administration sent him to Niger in 2002 to investigate claims of Iraq seeking uranium there. He reported that the claims were untrue. He concludes that intelligence “was twisted to increase the Iraqi threat.”

**7 July 2003** An Arab terrorist explodes a bomb in Kfar Yavetz, Israel, killing one person and the bomber.

A House of Commons committee exonerates Prime Minister Tony Blair and his government of charges he manipulated intelligence to lead the country into war in Iraq. However, it also says “the jury is still out on the accuracy.”

The Bush administration admits that the President’s January statement that Iraq sought uranium in Niger was untrue.

**8 July 2003** The ferry *Nazreen-1* sinks in the Meghna River, Bangladesh killing 530 people. 220 are saved.

A Sudan Airways 737 crashes while attempting an emergency landing at Port Sudan. All 117 people on board are killed.

The British Columbia Court of Appeal lifts its hold on its decision to allow same sex marriage. Shortly following the ruling, two men are married in Vancouver.

**9 July 2003** The office of German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder announces that he will not be taking a planned vacation in Pesaro.

Two US soldiers are killed in Iraq.

**10 July 2003** Syarhey Syarheyevich Sidorski replaces Henadz Vasilyevich Navitski as Prime Minister of Belarus.

**11 July 2003** Canadian news photographer Zahra Kazemi dies from a brain hemorrhage in a Tehran hospital after being arrested and beaten by Iranian authorities. She was taking pictures of protesters. Iran will not take responsibility for her death until 30 July.

CIA director George Tenet accepts responsibility for President Bush’s false claim that Iraq sought uranium in Africa. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice continued to call the claim technically correct.

*Naxos Quartet no.2* for string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (68) is performed for the first time, in the Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham.

**14 July 2003** A bomb explodes in the basement of the Parliament building in Jakarta. No one is injured. Islamic militants are suspected.

One US soldier is killed, six wounded in Iraq.

Citing two Bush administration sources, columnist Robert Novak names Valerie Plame, wife of former ambassador Joseph Wilson, as a covert CIA agent. Wilson has publicly accused the administration of exaggerating the Iraqi threat.

A same-sex civil union law goes into effect in Buenos Aires.

**16 July 2003** A UN war crimes court convicts four former officers in the Kosovo Liberation Army. They are sentenced to prison terms of from five to 17 years.

**17 July 2003** A new power sharing government for the Democratic Republic of the Congo is sworn in at Kinshasa.

Rosalyn Tureck dies at her New York home, aged 88.

**18 July 2003** A senior advisor to the British Ministry of Defense, David Kelly, is found dead near his home in Southmoor, Oxfordshire, the victim of a suicide. Kelly was identified as the source of a BBC report which said that the Blair government exerted pressure over intelligence dossiers to make the Iraqi threat seem greater than it was.

*Nocturne no.8* op.85 for piano by Lowell Liebermann (42) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**19 July 2003** Liberian rebels fight their way into Monrovia. Gun battles are ongoing.

**22 July 2003** US forces attack a house in Mosul, Iraq killing two sons of Saddam Hussein.

**24 July 2003** A regional intervention force, led by Australia, arrives in Honiara to quell recent violence in the Solomon Islands.

The French Parliament passes a pension bill that caused weeks of strikes in May and June.

Three US soldiers are killed in Iraq.

Bosnian Serb Darko Mrdja pleads guilty at The Hague to murder and attempted murder in the killing of 228 mostly Moslem prisoners on Mount Vlasic in 1992.

A joint committee of the US Congress issues an 800-page report on intelligence failures before the attacks of 11 September 2001. The CIA, FBI, NSA, and Saudi Arabia are particularly faulted.

*Lament for Jerusalem* for soprano, countertenor, chorus, and orchestra by John Tavener (59) to words of Rumi and the Bible is performed for the first time, in the Sydney Opera House.

**25 July 2003** Prsident Nestor Kirchner of Argentina repeals a ban on extraditions for those accused of crimes during the “dirty war” of the 1970s and 1980s. Spain has requested the extradition of 46 people.

**26 July 2003** The Japanese Diet approves a plan to deploy Japanese troops to assist in the reconstruction of Iraq.

*Games, Set I* for piano by Bohuslav Martinu (†43) is performed for the first time, in Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic 72 years after it was composed.

*Madame Mao*, an opera by Bright Sheng (47) to words of Graham, is performed for the first time, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**29 July 2003** The Turkish Parliament approves an amnesty for the Kurdistan Workers Party.

Two works by Libby Larsen (52) are performed for the first time, in Royal Albert Hall, London: *Flee We to Our Lord* to various sacred texts, and *I It Am: The Shewings of Julian of Norwich* for vocal soloists, chorus, and chamber orchestra to words of various sacred texts.

**30 July 2003** US President Bush takes “personal responsibility” for falsely claiming that Iraq was trying to buy uranium in Africa.

**31 July 2003** The UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia sentences Serb Milomir Stakic to life in prison for the detention, expulsion, and murder of non-Serbs during the Bosnia war. It is the tribunal’s first life sentence.

**1 August 2003** A truck loaded with explosives is driven into a military hospital in Mozdok, North Ossetia, Russia and detonated. The hospital is destroyed and at least 50 people are killed.

**3 August 2003** String Quartet no.4 by John Harbison (63) is performed for the first time, in La Jolla, California.

**4 August 2003** Leading elements of a West African peacekeeping force arrive in Monrovia, Liberia.

**5 August 2003** Islamic terrorists explode a bomb outside a hotel in Jakarta. Ten people are killed, about 150 are injured.

The Episcopal Church of the United States confirms Gene Robinson as its first openly gay bishop.

**6 August 2003** Michael McKevitt, leader of an IRA splinter group, is convicted in a Dublin court of terrorism and belonging to an illegal organization. He is sentenced to 20 years in prison.

*Prelude to “Tristan”* for piano by Hans Werner Henze (77) is performed for the first time, in Salzburg.

*The Unquestioned Answer* for flute, two violins, cello, and piano by Ned Rorem (79) is performed for the first time, in the Presbyterian Church of Binghamton, New York.

**7 August 2003** An Indonesian court convicts Islamic terrorist Amrozi bin Nurhasyim for his part in the Bali bombing last October. He is sentenced to death.

A car bomb explodes at the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad killing 19 people and injuring at least 65.

Israel releases over 330 Arab prisoners.

**9 August 2003** Two days of rioting begin in Basra against fuel and power shortages.

*Les Froissements des Ailes de Gabrielle* for guitar and chamber ensemble by Brian Ferneyhough (60) is performed for the first time, in Brisbane.

**10 August 2003** The highest temperature ever recorded in Britain, 38.1°, is registered at Gravesend.

*Ainadamar*, an opera by Osvaldo Golijov (42) to words of Hwang, is performed for the first time, at Tanglewood, Lenox, Massachusetts.

**11 August 2003** Under pressure from the international community, President Charles Taylor of Liberia resigns and leaves the country. He is succeeded by Vice President Moses Zeh Blah.

The highest temperature ever recorded in Switzerland, 41.5°, is registered in Grisons canton.

*Levant-Gesänge*, a cycle for voice and piano by Wolfgang Rihm (51) to words of Levant, is performed for the first time, in the Kleines Festspielhaus, Salzburg.

**12 August 2003** Nurjaman Riduan Isamuddin, head of the Islamic terrorist organization Jemaah Islamiah, is captured by Thai authorities in Ayutthaya and handed over to the CIA.

Over 50 people are killed in various acts of violence in Afghanistan.

Arab terrorists detonate bombs eleven km east of Tel Aviv, and in the West Bank, 30 km east of Tel Aviv. Two people and the two bombers are killed. At least 17 are injured.

*L’Upupa und der Triumph der Sohnesliebe*, an opera by Hans Werner Henze (77) to his own words, is performed for the first time, in Salzburg.

**13 August 2003** Libya reaches a settlement with the families of the victims of Pan Am flight 103 which was blown up by Libyan agents over Scotland in 1988. Libya will pay up to $2,700,000,000 to the families if sanctions on Libya are removed.

**14 August 2003** West African peacekeepers take control of the port of Monrovia. This begins the flow of humanitarian aid into Liberia.

A massive power failure hits eight states and Ontario affecting 50,000,000 people. Most power will be restored tomorrow, with some having to wait until 16 August.

**15 August 2003** A major oil pipeline is destroyed near Baiji, Iraq. The explosion causes a massive fire.

Five days of sectarian violence begin in Warri, Delta State, Nigeria. Over 100 people are killed, 1,000 injured.

*Fento Songs II*, a cycle for voice, violin, cello, and two guitars by Charles Wuorinen (65), is performed for the first time, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Also premiered is Morton Subotnick’s (70) *Release* for clarinet, violin, cello, piano, and computer generated sounds.

**16 August 2003** A wildfire in Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park, British Columbia, consumes 250 sq km.

*Englische Balladen und Sonette* for piano and cello by Hans Werner Henze (77) is performed for the first time, in the Wiener Saal, Salzburg.

**17 August 2003** A water main is blown up in Baghdad, cutting off water to 300,000 people.

**18 August 2003** A peace agreement is signed in Accra, Ghana between the Liberian government, two armed rebel groups, and the unarmed opposition. It creates an interim government to take over in October.

After ten days of over 40° temperatures, the French government announces that over 5,000 deaths are attributed to the heat.

After holding them for five months, Islamic militants release 14 European tourists kidnapped in Algeria. They are let go in northern Mali.

*Cello Counterpoint* for solo cello by Steve Reich (66) is performed for the first time, in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.

**19 August 2003** A truck is driven into UN headquarters in Iraq where the explosives it is carrying are detonated. At least 23 people are killed, including the head of the UN mission, Sergio Vieira de Mello. Over 100 people are injured.

An Arab terrorist detonates a bomb on a Jerusalem bus killing 20 people, including six children, and himself. In response, Israel cuts off talks to return Jericho and Qalqilya to Arab control.

A court in Casablanca sentences four men to death for a series of terrorist bombings that killed 45.

**20 August 2003** A mass grave is found containing the bodies of up to 700 people in Crni Vrh, 80 km northeast of Sarajevo. The dead are Moslem civilians from Zvornik killed by Serbs in 1992.

*Firebrand* for flute/piccolo, violin, cello, and piano by Libby Larsen (52) is performed for the first time, in Angel Fire, New Mexico.

**21 August 2003** An Arab terrorist leader and two of his bodyguards are killed in Gaza by an Israeli airstrike.

Serbian prosecutors indict 44 people in the murder of Zoran Djindjic.

French President Jacques Chirac announces that up to 10,000 people have died as a result of the summer heat wave.

The Congress of Argentina votes to repeal two laws giving amnesty to military officers involved in the “dirty war” of the 1970s and 1980s.

**22 August 2003** With the increase in violence, Israeli tanks enter Jenin, Tulkarm, and Nablus.

**24 August 2003** An Israeli airstrike kills four Arab terrorists in Gaza.

**25 August 2003** Islamic terrorists explode two bombs in Mumbai killing at least 50 people and injuring 150.

**26 August 2003** *Cucaraccia and Fugue* for four violas by John Harbison (64) is performed for the first time, in Madison, Wisconsin. The composer plays one part. Also premiered is Harbison’s *The Violist’s Notebook, Book II* for solo viola.

**27 August 2003** At The Hague, retired Yugoslav Vice Admiral Miodrag Jokic pleads guilty to six charges of war crimes. In 1991 he ordered the bombardment of Dubrovnik, a UNESCO world heritage site.

Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon testifies in the inquiry into the suicide of David Kelly.

*Unbenannt IV* for organ and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (51) is performed for the first time, in Lucerne.

**28 August 2003** Prime Minister Tony Blair testifies in the inquiry into the suicide of David Kelly.

A power failure hits London for 30 minutes during rush hour.

**29 August 2003** A car bomb explodes outside the Imam Ali Mosque in Najaf, Iraq killing 80 people. Among the dead are a leading Shia cleric, Ayatollah Mohammed Bakir al-Hakim.

The French Ministry of Health reports that 11,435 people died during the recent heat wave.

**31 August 2003** Anthony Braxton’s (58) compact disc *Willisau Solo* is recorded at the Jazzfestival in Willisau, Switzerland. Included are *Comp.328C, Comp.344B, Comp.328A, Comp.119M, Comp.106P, Comp.328D,* and *Comp.191J.*

**2 September 2003** A court in Jakarta sentences Moslem cleric Abu Bakar Bashir to four years in prison for aiding and abetting treason. He is acquitted of more serious charges of ordering terrorist attacks.

**4 September 2003** Dragan Nikolic pleads guilty at The Hague to murdering nine people and a number of other atrocities. Nikolic committed the crimes while running a Serb detention camp during the Bosnian War.

*Europa nach dem letzten Regen*, a cycle for three solo voices and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (51), is performed for the first time, in the Semperoper, Dresden.

**5 September 2003** Gordon Ware Binkerd dies at his home in Urbana, Illinois aged 87 years, three months, and 14 days.

**6 September 2003** Mahmoud Abbas, Prime Minister of the Palestinian Authority, resigns. He blames Israel, Yasir Arafat, and George Bush.

Israel drops a bomb on the Gaza house where terrorist leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin is meeting with his confederates. 14 people are injured, including Yassin.

European Union foreign ministers meeting in Italy declare all elements of Hamas to be part of a terrorist organization. They are henceforth banned.

**7 September 2003** US President George Bush calls Iraq the “central front” in the “war on terror” and asks for $87,000,000,000.

**8 September 2003** John Bunting and Robert Wagner are found guilty in a court in Adelaide, South Australia, of murdering eleven people between 1995 and 1999. They are both sentenced to life in prison.

Leni Riefenstahl dies in Poecking near Munich, at the age of 101.

The Recording Industry Association of America sues 261 people for illegally sharing copyrighted music computer files.

**9 September 2003** An Arab terrorist explodes a bomb at a bus stop south of Tel Aviv killing seven people and himself. Shortly thereafter, another Arab terrorist explodes a bomb in a Jerusalem café killing six people and himself.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston announces a settlement with 552 alleged victims of priest sexual abuse amounting to $85,000,000.

Argentina fails to pay $2,900,000,000 it owes to the IMF. It is the largest default in IMF history. A debt restructuring plan will be worked out.

Edward Teller dies in Stanford, California at the age of 95.

**10 September 2003** Imam Samudra is sentenced to death in Denpasar for organizing the terrorist bombings on Bali in 2002.

While shopping in a Stockholm department store, Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh is stabbed repeatedly by Mijailo Mijailovic, a Swedish citizen of Serb descent. She will die tomorrow. Mijailovic, who blames politicians for his disadvantageous life situation, escapes.

**11 September 2003** AIG agrees to pay $10,000,000 to settle charges of fraud by the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (58) audio DVD *Nine Compositions (DVD) 2003* is recorded in San Francisco. Today, *Comp.292(+23C, 29E, 33, 40C, 53, 75, 120D)* and *Comp.327(+33, 65, 85, 120D, 142)* are recorded. The last is dedicated to Florence Price (†50).

**12 September 2003** The UN Security Council votes 13-0-2 to lift sanctions against Libya.

Zankel Hall opens as a new underground venue of Carnegie Hall in New York.

The government of Zimbabwe closes the independent newspaper *Daily News*.

*Interior Design* for violin by Steven Mackey (47) is performed for the first time, in Teatro alle Tese, Venice.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (58) audio DVD *Nine Compositions (DVD) 2003* is recorded in San Francisco. Today and tomorrow, *Comp.328(+23C, 29E, 33, 40C, 53, 75, 120D), Comp.72H, Comp.74E, Comp.23E, Comp.190(+5, 6K, 18, 23A, 23P, 33, 53, 74A, 96, 100, 136, 287, 304, 327), Comp.75*, and *Comp.322* are recorded.

**13 September 2003** The City of Frankfurt presents the Theodor W. Adorno prize to Györgi Ligeti (80).

*Wind Quintet* by Wolfgang Rihm (51) is performed for the first time, in the Schweizerhof, Lucerne.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (58) audio DVD *Nine Compositions (DVD) 2003* is recorded in San Francisco.

**14 September 2003** Voters in Sweden reject the adoption of the Euro.

Voters in Estonia approve entry into the European Union.

**16 September 2003** *Ariel, Sing* for flute by Alexander Goehr (71) is performed for the first time, in London.

**18 September 2003** Three US soldiers are killed in an ambush near Tikrit, Iraq.

*…concertante…* for violin, viola, and orchestra by György Kurtág (77) is performed for the first time, in Copenhagen.

**19 September 2003** A court in Uttar Pradesh exonerates Deputy Prime Minister Lal Krishna Advani of inciting the 1992 destruction of the mosque at Ayodhya.

The UN Security Council agrees to form a peacekeeping force for Liberia.

*Theseus Game* for orchestra by Harrison Birtwistle (69) is performed for the first time, in Duisburg-Nord.

Concerto for violin and orchestra (*The Red Violin*) by John Corigliano (65) is performed for the first time, in Baltimore.

**20 September 2003** Voters in Latvia approve entry into the European Union.

**21 September 2003** The NASA space probe *Galileo* ends its 14-year mission by falling into the atmosphere of Jupiter.

**22 September 2003** Canadian and US scientists report that the Ward Hunt Ice Shelf, the largest in the Northern Hemisphere, has broken up over the last two years.

**23 September 2003** Eastern Denmark and southern Sweden are hit by a large power failure.

Rebels leave the power-sharing government of Côte d’Ivoire.

**24 September 2003** Mijailo Mijailovic is arrested by Swedish authorities in connection with the murder of Foreign Minister Anna Lindh.

*Supernatural Songs* for solo voice, percussion, and strings by John Tavener (59) to words of Yeats is performed for the first time, in Canterbury Cathedral.

**25 September 2003** Akila al-Hashemi, a member of the Iraqi ruling council, is shot and killed near her home in Baghdad.

**26 September 2003** *Gesangsstück* for clarinet, violin, and piano by Wolfgang Rihm (51) is performed for the first time, in Warsaw.

**27 September 2003** *Fanfarria Real* for orchestra by Krzysztof Penderecki (69) is performed for the first time, in Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

**28 September 2003** A massive power failure strikes almost all of Italy. Some areas are not returned to normal until tomorrow.

Elia Kazan dies at his New York home at the age of 94.

Two psalms by Samuel Adler (75) are performed for the first time, in Iowa City, Iowa: *Psalm 124* for chorus and organ, and *Psalm 24* for chorus, brass, and organ.

**30 September 2003** The US Justice Department announces that it is launching a criminal investigation of the Bush administration to determine who leaked the name of Valerie Plame as a covert CIA operative.

Concerto for Orchestra by Magnus Lindberg (45) is performed for the first time, in the Barbican Centre, London.

**2 October 2003** Sunni extremists in Karachi fire into a bus carrying 20 Shia employees of Pakistan’s Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission, killing six and wounding six others.

In an interim report to Congress, the chief US weapons inspector in Iraq, David Kay, says that his 1,400 person team has not found any chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons. He says that Iraq had no ongoing nuclear weapons program.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago agrees to pay $8,000,000 to 15 people who say they were abused as children by eleven priests.

*Pontalba*, an opera by Thea Musgrave (75) to her own words, is performed for the first time, in New Orleans. It was commissioned by the New Orleans Opera to celebrate the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase.

**4 October 2003** An Arab terrorist explodes a bomb in a Haifa restaurant killing at least 19 people and herself.

Iraqis riot in Baghdad and Basra when rumors spread that a payment promised by the US to former Iraqi soldiers will not be forthcoming.

It is reported that 629 bodies of Moslems have so far been recovered from Crni Vrh, the largest mass grave yet discovered in Bosnia.

Adagio for cello and orchestra by Krzysztof Penderecki (69) is performed for the first time, in the Musikverein, Vienna.

**5 October 2003** Israeli warplanes bomb an Arab terrorist training camp outside of Damascus.

Osvaldo Golijov (42) is named a winner of a MacArthur Fellowship. The prize brings him $500,000 over the next five years.

**6 October 2003** A Sunni extremist MP, Azam Tariq, is shot to death along with his driver and three bodyguards near Islamabad, Pakistan. Shia terrorists take responsibility.

65 civilians are killed in ethnic violence in Katshelli, 60 km northeast of Bunia, Ituri Province, Congo.

*Chakra* for percussion trio by Kevin Volans (54) is performed for the first time, in Oslo.

**7 October 2003** Arthur Berger dies in Boston, aged 91 years, four months, and 22 days.

**9 October 2003** A car bomb goes off in a Baghdad police station killing eight people.

**10 October 2003** *Under the Sign of Scorpio* for bayan and orchestra by Sofia Gubaidulina (71) is performed for the first time, in Stockholm.

*Desert Steps* for viola, cello, and two guitars by Kevin Volans (54) is performed for the first time, in Purcell Room, London.

**11 October 2003** Passacaglia for violin and piano by Arvo Pärt (68) is performed for the first time, in Hannover.

*The Ring Dance of the Nazarene* for tenor, chorus, two flutes/piccolos, oboe/english horn, clarinet/E flat clarinet, bass clarinet, bassoon, and African drum by Harrison Birtwistle (69) to words of Harsent, is performed for the first time, in the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam.

**12 October 2003** Seven people are killed when a car bomb explodes outside a Baghdad hotel that serves governing council members and US contractors.

*passi leggieri* for Hardanger fiddle by Kevin Volans (54) is performed for the first time, in Oslo.

**14 October 2003** The New Zealand Parliament passes a bill which abolishes the right of appeal to the British Privy Council and establishes a New Zealand Supreme Court.

Charles Gyude Bryant becomes head of the National Transitional Government of Liberia.

**15 October 2003** Yang Liwei lifts off from the Jiuquan Space Center in Gansu Province. Over the next 21 hours he orbits the Earth 14 times, landing in Inner Mongolia. This makes China the third nation to send a human being into space.

Arab terrorists set off a bomb under a US diplomatic convoy in the Gaza Strip. Three people are killed, a fourth wounded.

*Gogo no Eiko, Das verratene Meer*, a Musikdrama by Hans Werner Henze (77) to words of Treichel after Mishima, is performed for the first time, in Suntory Hall, Tokyo.

*Inanna* for vocal soloist, chorus, four saxophones, violin, and double bass by Louis Andriessen (64) to words of Hartley and Krispijn, is performed for the first time, in Amsterdam.

*Naxos Quartet no.3* for string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (69) is performed for the first time, in Wigmore Hall, London.

*Most Holy Mother of God* for four solo voices by Arvo Pärt (68) is performed for the first time, at Durham University.

**16 October 2003** 37 Anglican primates meeting in London release a statement saying that the consecration of V. Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire would “tear the fabric of our communion at its deepest level.” Robinson is openly gay.

The UN Security Council votes 15-0-0 creating guidelines for the rebuilding of Iraq.

Two right-wing parties in Canada, the Progressive Conservatives and the Canadian Alliance, agree to merge into one party.

The Roman Catholic diocese of Bridgeport, Connecticut agrees to pay $21,000,000 to 40 people who say they were abused as children by 16 priests.

*Raise the Roof* for timpani and orchestra by Michael Daugherty (49) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Detroit.

*Paper Concerto* for paper percussion and orchestra by Tan Dun (46) is performed for the first time, in Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles.

**17 October 2003** A pinnacle is placed by workers on top of Taipei 101 making it the tallest building in the world at 508 meters.

Tens of thousands of Hindu nationalists are dispersed by police in Ayodhya as they assemble to demand that a Hindu temple be built on the site of the destroyed mosque. Tear gas and rubber bullets are used.

Shooting breaks out in Karbala between US and Iraqi soldiers, and local militia of Shia cleric Mahmoud al-Hassani. At least 15 people are killed.

After a month of protests in which 74 people were killed, President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada Bustamente of Bolivia resigns. Vice President Carlos Mesa Gisbert succeeds him.

**18 October 2003** *Cello Counterpoint* for cello and tape or eight cellos by Steve Reich (67) is performed for the first time, in Urbana, Illinois.

**19 October 2003** In parliamentary elections in Switzerland the anti-immigrant Swiss Peoples Party gains eleven seats to be the largest party in the house. They will get a second seat on the Federal Council

*The Long Boat* for mezzo-soprano and english horn by Charles Wuorinen (65) to words of Kunitz is performed for the first time, in the Guggenheim Museum, New York.

**21 October 2003** Iran agrees to stop enriching uranium and accept stricter UN inspections.

US soldiers arrest 32 followers of Shia cleric Moqtada al-Sadr in Karbala.

Human Rights Watch reports that at least 94 Iraqi civilians have been killed by US troops since 1 May under “questionable circumstances.” Only five are being investigated by the military. They also report that of the 2,100,000 people in US prisons, one in six is mentally ill. That contrasts with 80,000 people in US psychiatric hospitals.

*Ricercare una melodia* for clarinet or saxophone and electronics by Jonathan Harvey (64) is performed for the first time, at City University, London

**23 October 2003** Walt Disney Concert Hall, designed by Frank Gehry, opens with a gala concert. It is the new home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra.

*Mr. Tambourine Man: Seven Poems of Bob Dylan* for soprano and orchestra by John Corigliano (65) is performed for the first time, in Minneapolis. See 15 March 2000.

**24 October 2003** The last commercial flight of the Concorde lands at Heathrow Airport near London, ending 27 years of service.

*The Dharma at Big Sur* for orchestra by John Adams (56) is performed for the first time, at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles.

*The Womanly Song of God* for treble chorus by Libby Larsen (52), to words of Catherine de Vinck, is performed for the first time, at Calvary Presbyterian Church, San Francisco.

**25 October 2003** Mikhail Khodorkovsky, CEO of oil conglomerate OAO Yukos, is arrested off his private jet in Novosibirsk by masked agents of the Russian Federal Security Service. Khodorkovsky is a supporter of parties opposed to the government.

*The Hague Hacking Scrap* for two pianos by Louis Andriessen (64) is performed for the first time, in Leuven, Belgium.

*Encounters* for six optional voices and jazz ensemble by Gunther Schuller (77) is performed for the first time, in Jordan Hall, Boston.

*December 1* for mezzo-soprano and chamber ensemble by John Harbison (64) to words of Milosz is performed for the first time, in Tallahassee, Florida.

The Eleventh String Quartet of William Bolcom (65) is performed for the first time, in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

**27 October 2003** 35 people are killed and over 200 injured when five bombs go off within 45 minutes in Baghdad. One target is the headquarters of the ICRC.

RJ Reynolds Tobacco Holdings Inc. announces it will buy Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp. The new company will be worth $6,200,000,000 and control one-third of the US cigarette market.

Bank of America Corp. says it will buy FleetBoston Financial Corp. The new company is valued at $43,000,000,000. It will be the largest bank in the US in terms of consumer deposits.

Anthem Inc. agrees to buy WellPoint Health Networks Inc. to produce the largest health insurance company in the US.

*Sphäre um Sphäre* for chamber orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (51) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**29 October 2003** *Four Colors* for clarinet and piano by Ned Rorem (80) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**2 November 2003** Iraqi insurgents shoot down a US helicopter near Fallujah. 16 US soldiers are killed, 20 injured.

Rev. V. Gene Robinson is consecrated as Episcopal Bishop of New Hampshire. He is openly gay. The act has cause great division within the worldwide Anglican Community.

*We do not live to ourselves* for chorus by John Harbison (64) to words of the Bible is performed for the first time, in Boston.

Piano Sonata no.2 by Leon Kirchner (84) is performed for the first time, in the Gardner Museum, Boston.

*This Unbearable Stillness: Songs from the Balcony* for soprano and string quartet by Libby Larsen (52), to words of Hilal and Shaben, is performed for the first time, in Hendricks Chapel of Syracuse University, New York. See 13 October 2008.

**5 November 2003** US President Bush signs a bill which outlaws late-term abortions.

Gary Leon Ridgway pleads guilty to killing 48 women since 1982 in the Seattle area. He is the most lethal serial killer in the history of the United States. In return for guilty pleas, Ridgway is sentenced to life in prison.

**7 November 2003** A US helicopter is shot down in Tikrit, Iraq. All six people aboard are killed.

*Jubilus* for viola and eight players by Jonathan Harvey (64) is performed for the first time, over the airwaves of Radio France, originating in Olivier Messiaen Salle, Paris.

**8 November 2003** A bomb goes off in a residential neighborhood of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, killing 17 people. Most of the dead are Arab Moslems.

**9 November 2003** Elections to the Japanese Diet see losses for the ruling three-party coalition of Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi but they retain power. The center-left Democratic Party gains 40 seats over the last Diet.

**10 November 2003** *The Challenge of the Muse* for soprano, tenor, and orchestra by Samuel Adler (75) is performed for the first time, in Avery Fisher Hall, New York.

**11 November 2003** *Male über Male* for clarinet, two violas, cello, and two double basses by Wolfgang Rihm (52) is performed for the first time, in Karlsruhe.

**12 November 2003** A bomb explodes outside the headquarters of Italian military police in Nasariyah, Iraq, killing at least 31 people and injuring over 100 others.

**15 November 2003** Two bombs explode at two synagogues in Istanbul. At least 25 people are killed, 300 injured.

*A Journey Beyond Time* for soprano, piano, and percussion by George Crumb (74) to words of African-American spirituals, is performed for the first time, in Trinity Center, Philadelphia.

*Once Upon a Castle*, symphonie concertante for organ and orchestra by Michael Daugherty (49) is performed for the first time, in Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**17 November 2003** John Allen Mohammed is found guilty in a Virginia Beach court of one of the sniper shootings around Washington in October 2002.

**18 November 2003** The Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts rules that the state’s constitution protects the right of homosexual couples to marry.

*Snapshot: Circa 1909* for string quartet by John Corigliano (65) is performed for the first time, in Merkin Concert Hall, New York.

**19 November 2003** *Taoist Sacred Dance* for piano and flute by Philip Glass (66) is performed for the first time, at Interfaith Center of New York.

**20 November 2003** Bombs explode at the British consulate and the offices of the British bank HSBC Holdings PLC in Istanbul. 27 people are killed, over 450 injured.

A bomb explodes outside the offices of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in Kirkuk. Five people and the bomber are killed.

London Police estimate that 110,000 people participate in a protest against the visit of US President George W. Bush.

**22 November 2003** Nonviolent protesters swarm into the Parliament building in Tbilisi as the new house is being sworn in by President Shevardnadze. The 2 November elections are widely seen as fraudulent. The president is whisked out the back and goes on to declare a state of emergency. By evening there are 100,000 protesters in the city.

Bombs go off at two Iraqi police stations in Baqubah and Bani Sad killing 16 people.

**23 November 2003** Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov presides over negotiations between Georgian President Shevardnadze and opposition leaders. The President resigns and is replaced by Nino Anzoris asuli Burdzhanadze.

Parliamentary elections in Croatia result in strong gains for the conservative Croatian Democratic Union at the expense of the ruling center-left coalition. CDU leader Ivo Sanader will form a new government.

*Seven Desires* for guitar by Tan Dun (46) is performed for the first time, in the 92nd Street Y, New York.

**24 November 2003** *Time Machine* for three conductors and orchestra by Michael Daugherty (49) is performed for the first time, in Heinz Hall, Pittsburgh.

**3 December 2003** Ned Rorem (80) is awarded the ASCAP Lifetime Achievement Award in the Walter Reade Theatre in Lincoln Center, New York. He is handed the award by John Corigliano (65).

**26 November 2003** Hard line parties make gains over moderates in voting for the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The IAEA censures Iran for covering up its nuclear program for 18 years.

**27 November 2003** Zurab Besarionis dze Zhvania replaces Avtandil Khristoforovich Jorbenadze as Minister of State of Georgia.

**28 November 2003** OAO Sibneft suspends its merger with OAO Yukos announced earlier this year. Russian authorities are bringing fraud and tax evasion charges against high Yukos officials.

The US Office of Drug Control Policy reports that since the US invasion, Afghanistan has become the world’s largest producer of opium.

**29 November 2003** Seven Spanish intelligence officers are killed in an ambush by Iraqis near Latifiya south of Baghdad.

Two Japanese diplomats are killed by Iraqis near Tikrit.

**30 November 2003** Iraqis make coordinated attacks on two US military convoys in Samarra, about 100 km north of Baghdad. At least 54 of the attackers are killed. Seven US soldiers are wounded.

Two South Korean electricians are killed and two wounded by Iraqis near Samarra.

**2 December 2003** Momir Nikolic, a Bosnian Serb former intelligence officer, is sentenced at The Hague to 27 years in prison for his part in the 1995 Srebrenica massacre.

**3 December 2003** The UN tribunal in Arusha, Tanzania convicts two Rwandan radio broadcasters and one newspaper editor of genocide and crimes against humanity. They used their positions to incite Hutus to kill about 800,000 people.

A court in Rwanda convicts 18 people for killing 20,000 Rwandans in a two-day period in 1994. They are given prison sentences of from seven to 25 years in prison.

**4 December 2003** A declassified transcript of a 1976 meeting between US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Argentine Admiral Cesar Augusto Guzzetti shows Kissinger’s approval of the Argentine military’s dirty war against its own people. The repression and murders increased in late 1976.

*Schreiben* for orchestra by Helmut Lachenmann (68) is performed for the first time, in Suntory Hall, Tokyo.

*Otherworldly Resonances* for two pianos by George Crumb (74) is performed for the first time, in Weill Recital Hall, New York.

A Flute Concerto by Ned Rorem (80) is performed for the first time, in Verizon Hall, Philadelphia.

**5 December 2003** US airstrikes today and tomorrow kill 15 Afghan children.

45 people are killed by a suicide bomber on a commuter train in Stavropol, Russia. About 150 are injured. Chechen militants are blamed.

Bosnian Serb General Stanislav Galic is sentenced at The Hague to 20 years in prison for war crimes and crimes against humanity during the siege of Sarajevo in the Bosnia war.

**6 December 2003** *Lumières* for tape by Pierre Henry (75) is performed for the first time, in Dijon.

*Boogie Woogie Concertante*for piano, winds, and percussion by TJ Anderson (75) is performed for the first time, at Harvard University.

**7 December 2003** Voting in Russia for the Duma provides a victory for United Russia, a party affiliated with President Putin.

A six-nation special committee upholds the suspension of Zimbabwe from the Commonwealth in Abuja, Nigeria. Zimbabwe thereupon withdraws from the Commonwealth.

**8 December 2003** A court in Athens convicts 15 members of the November 17 terrorist group on charges connected with over 100 bombings and other crimes over the last 25 years.

The Conservative Party of Canada officially comes into being as a merger of the Canadian Alliance with the Progressive Conservative Party.

**9 December 2003** Two bombs go off at US military bases in Iraq, killing the two bombers and injuring about 60 US soldiers.

The US Defense Department makes public a directive that all Iraq reconstruction contracts be limited to countries which supported the war.

A bomber kills five people and herself outside the National Hotel, 240 meters from the Kremlin wall. 13 people are injured. Chechen militants are blamed.

**10 December 2003** 40 mainly Afghan asylum seekers begin a hunger strike in a detention center in Nauru. The detention center is part of an Australian policy in which asylum seekers heading for Australia are stopped at sea and diverted to other Pacific countries.

Dragan Obrenovic, a Bosnian Serb former brigade commander, is sentenced at The Hague to 17 years in prison for his part in the 1995 Srebrenica massacre.

**11 December 2003** The French government reaches a settlement with US prosecutors over the illegal takeover of the Executive Life Insurance Co. by Credit Lyonnais SA. Credit Lyonnais was state-owned at the time of the takeover. The French will pay $475,000,000.

**12 December 2003** Park Jie Won, chief of staff to former President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea, is convicted of receiving $12,500,000 in bribes from Hyundai and sending $500,000,000 to North Korea before the 2000 summit. He is sentenced to twelve years in prison and fined $12,300,000.

Paul Martin replaces Joseph Jacques Jean Chrétien as Prime Minister of Canada.

**13 December 2003** A bomb explodes on a bridge in Rawalpindi seconds after a motorcade carrying President Pervez Musharraf crosses. Musharraf is unhurt.

Former President Saddam Hussein of Iraq is captured by US troops in Ad Dawr, 14 km southeast of Tikrit.

Meetings in Brussels to finalize details of a constitution for the European Union collapse in disarray.

**14 December 2003** About 500 delegates gather in Kabul to write a new constitution for Afghanistan.

Teatro La Fenice, Venice reopens eight years after its destruction by fire.

**15 December 2003** Bombs explode at two police stations in Baghdad killing at least eight people and injuring 20 others.

Iraqis ambush US troops in Samarra. At least eleven of them are killed.

**16 December 2003** The World Meteorological Organization reports that 2003 will be the third hottest year on record.

Piano Etude no.5 by Unsuk Chin (42) is performed for the first time, in Tokyo Opera City Recital Hall.

**18 December 2003** A Bosnian Serb former detention camp commander, Dragan Nikolic, is sentenced at The Hague to 23 years in prison for abuses to Moslem women and girls at his camp during the Bosnia war.

A federal appeals court in New York rules that the Bush administration has no right to hold a US citizen captured on US soil indefinitely as an “enemy combatant.”

The US Justice Department releases a report describing severe physical abuse of 84 people held on immigration violations in Brooklyn after the terrorist attacks of September 2001. At least 20 prison guards took part in the abuse. The evidence is on 300 videotapes.

Lee Boyd Malvo is convicted of two murders by a court in Chesapeake, Virginia. He is one of two men convicted of the string of DC-area sniper killings in 2002.

**19 December 2003** After nine months of secret negotiations, Great Britain and Libya announce separately that Libya has agreed to cease programs to attain banned weapons of mass destruction.

A federal appeals court in Washington rules that internet service providers do not have to release the names of customers suspected of illegally trading music online by the record industry.

*Appassionatamente plus* for orchestra by Hans Werner Henze (77) is performed for the first time, in the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam.

**22 December 2003** As Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher visits the al-Aksa Mosque in Jerusalem he is physically attacked by an Arab mob who call him a traitor for meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. Maher escapes largely unhurt.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston pays $85,000,000 to 542 plaintiffs in the sex abuse scandal.

**23 December 2003** An explosion in a natural gas field near Chongqing, China kills 243 people and injures over 400.

Israelis uncover a gun-running tunnel to Egypt in the Rafah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. In the ensuing gunfight, eight Arabs are killed.

Ivo Sanader replaces Ivica Racan as Prime Minister of Croatia.

The first case of Mad Cow Disease in the US is reported by the Agriculture Department.

**24 December 2003** The three largest markets for US beef, Japan, South Korea, and Mexico, announce bans on all beef imports from the US.

**25 December 2003** Two truck bombs are driven into the motorcade of President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan in Rawalpindi. Thirteen people are killed along with three assassins. About 45 people are injured. The President is unhurt.

Several rocket and bomb attacks in Iraq kill six US soldiers and at least six Iraqi civilians.

An Arab terrorist explodes a bomb at a bus stop near Tel Aviv killing four people and himself.

Israeli helicopters kill Makled Hamid, the military leader of Islamic Jihad.

An UTAGE 727, in attempting to takeoff from Cotonou Airport, Benin, flies off the runway, through several buildings and on to a street. 151 people on board are killed, but twelve survive. In addition, two people on the ground are injured.

*Mars Express*, a craft from the European Space Agency, enters orbit around Mars. However they are unable to establish contact with *Beagle 2*, a probe released by *Mars Express* to land on the planet.

**26 December 2003** An earthquake strikes near the city of Bam, Iran, 980 km southeast of Teheran. 26,271 people are killed and 90% of Bam’s residential area is destroyed.

Three US soldiers are killed in two attacks in Iraq.

**27 December 2003** Four coordinated car bombs explode in Karbala, Iraq killing 19 Iraqis, four Bulgarian soldiers and one Thai soldier. Over 100 people are injured.

A letter bomb explodes when opened by Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission in Bologna. He is unhurt. Italian anarchists are suspected.

**28 December 2003** A bomb explodes in Kabul killing five Afghan intelligence officials and the bomber.

**29 December 2003** The new Duma convenes in Moscow. 300 of the 450 members are supporters of President Putin.

**31 December 2003** Five people are killed by a bomb outside a restaurant in Baghdad. 30 people are injured. The bomber is also killed.

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