**2 January 2005** A car bomb kills 18 national guardsmen, five policemen, and six others north of Baghdad.

*Lullay, my child, and weep no more* for soprano, chorus, and organ or piano ad lib by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) to an anonymous 15th century text is performed for the first time, at the Chapel Royal, London.

**3 January 2005** At least six people are killed in bombings across Iraq.

**4 January 2005** Governor Ali al-Haidari of Baghdad Province is shot to death in the Iraqi capital.

The 109th Congress convenes in Washington. Republicans have increased majorities in both houses.

The Supreme Court of Chile upholds the indictment of former dictator General Augusto Pinochet for murder, kidnapping, and other crimes during his 17-year reign of terror.

*Wood, Metal, and Skin* for percussion and orchestra by Thea Musgrave (76) is performed for the first time, in Usher Hall, Edinburgh.

**5 January 2005** 20 people are killed by a bomb at a police academy graduation in Hilla, Iraq.

Mykola Yanovych Azarov replaces Viktor Fedorovych Yanukovych as acting Prime Minister of Ukraine.

**6 January 2005** Seven US soldiers are killed by a roadside bomb in Baghdad.

**9 January 2005** Voters elect Mahmoud Abbas as President of the Palestinian Authority.

An accidental explosion at an ammunition dump 80 km southeast of Baghdad kills eight Ukrainian soldiers and one Kazakh soldier.

Representatives of the government of Sudan and the Sudanese People’s Liberation Army sign an agreement in Nairobi to end 20 years of war.

**10 January 2005** The government of Ukraine announces that its troops will depart Iraq this year.

A ban on smoking in indoor public places goes into effect in Italy.

**12 January 2005** The Iraq Survey Group, charged with finding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, suspends its operations.

The European Parliament votes 500-137-40 to approve a new constitution for the European Union.

**13 January 2005** 13 creditor nations agree in Paris to suspend debt payments from nations hit by the tsunami of last month.

**14 January 2005** *Huygens*, a probe from the European Space Agency, lands on Titan, the largest moon of Saturn. It is the first man-made object to land on a moon of another planet.

A military court in Fort Hood, Texas finds Charles Graner guilty of torturing and humiliating detainees at Abu Ghraib Prison, west of Baghdad. He will be sentenced to ten years in jail, reduction in rank, and a dishonorable discharge.

**15 January 2005** Victoria de los Angeles dies in Barcelona at the age of 81.

**16 January 2005** President Stipe Mesic of Croatia wins a second term by a margin of 2-1 against the conservative Deputy Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor.

*Über-Schrift* for two pianos by Wolfgang Rihm (52) is performed for the first time, in the Konzerthaus, Neuer Saal, Vienna.

*La’i* for orchestra by Bright Sheng (49) is performed for the first time, in Dortmund.

**17 January 2005** Zhao Ziyang dies in Beijing at the age of 85.

Colonel Vidoje Blagojevic of the Bosnian Serb army is convicted in The Hague for his part in the massacre of Moslem men at Srebrenica in 1995. He is sentenced to 18 years in prison.

**19 January 2005** Five truck bombs explode in Baghdad, killing at least 26 people.

**20 January 2005** George Walker Bush is sworn in to a second term as President of the United States, in Washington.

*Über die Linie VI* for alto flute, violin, and cello by Wolfgang Rihm (52) is performed for the first time, in Cologne.

Symphony no.7 “A Toltec Symphony” for chorus and orchestra by Philip Glass (67) is performed for the first time, in the Kennedy Center, Washington.

**21 January 2005** A car bomb kills at least 14 people outside a Shia mosque in Baghdad.

**22 January 2005** *Concertino* for B flat clarinet and orchestra by Donald Martino (73) is performed for the first time, in Jordan Hall, Boston.

**23 January 2005** Viktor Andriyovich Yushchenko replaces Leonid Danylovych Kuchma as President of Ukraine.

Johnny Carson dies in Los Angeles at the age of 79.

**24 January 2005** Yulia Volodymyrivna Tymoshenko of the Fatherland Party replaces Mykola Yanovych Azarov as Prime Minister of Ukraine.

**25 January 2005** A stampede by worshippers at a Hindu festival in Wai, Maharashtra kills 258 people.

Architect Philip Johnson dies in New Canaan, Connecticut at the age of 98.

**26 January 2005** A US military helicopter crashes in western Iraq killing 31 people.

**27 January 2005** *Tekyah* for Klezmer clarinet, accordion with sound processing, three trumpets, three horns, two trombones (also doubling on shofars), and four additional shofars by Osvaldo Golijov (44) is performed for the first time, in a European Union television broadcast.

**28 January 2005** General Manuel Contreras Sepulveda and four co-conspirators are arrested by Chilean police and sent to prison. They were convicted of disappearances of leftists during the reign of the US-backed dictator Augusto Pinochet. Contreras, who has already served seven years on another charge, begins a twelve-year sentence.

**29 January 2005** The first direct, commercial passenger flight since 1949 takes place between mainland China and Taiwan.

**30 January 2005** Iraqis go to the polls for the first contested elections since 1954. About 260 terrorist attacks take place killing 45 people and wounding over 100. They elect a transitional national assembly.

**31 January 2005** The UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague convicts former Yugoslav General Pavle Strugar of allowing the bombardment of Dubrovnik in 1991. He is sentenced to eight years in prison.

MetLife Inc. agrees to buy Travelers Life & Annuity for $11,500,000,000.

**1 February 2005** String Quartet by David Del Tredici (67) is performed for the first time, in the Lyric Theatre of the College of Music, Denton, Texas.

**3 February 2005** Prime Minister Zurab Besarionis dze Zhvania of Georgia is found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning at the apartment of a friend in Tbilisi. President Mikheil Nikolozis dze Saakashvili takes on the prime minister’s duties until a replacement is named.

A Kam Air 737 goes down in bad weather 30 km east of Kabul, Afgahanistan. All 104 people on board are killed.

*Fünf Botschaften für die Königin von Saba* for orchestra by Hans Werner Henze (78) is performed for the first time, in the Théâtre des Champs-Elysées, Paris.

*Moving Speeds* for seven wind instruments and seven stringed instruments by Jonathan Harvey (65) is performed for the first time, in Rennes.

**4 February 2005** Ukraine’s Parliament confirms Yulia Tymoshenko as Prime Minister. She is a close ally of President Yushchenko.

The Constitutional Court of Guatemala dismisses prosecutions against 16 soldiers accused of murdering 226 civilians in 1982.

**5 February 2005** 20 people are killed in scattered attacks in Iraq.

**6 February 2005** 22 policemen are killed in an insurgent attack on a station south of Baghdad.

*Fragment for the Virgin* for violin and piano by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in Wigmore Hall, London.

**7 February 2005** 15 people are killed and 17 injured by a car bomb in Baquba, Iraq. A suicide bomber kills twelve people at a hospital in Mosul.

Former Roman Catholic priest Paul Shanley is convicted in a Cambridge, Massachusetts court of two counts of child rape and two counts of indecent assault on a child under 14. He is sentenced to 12-15 years in prison.

**8 February 2005** At a meeting in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and the president of the Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas agreed to work together to end the violence which has been going on since 2000. Also present are President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and King Abdullah II of Jordan who both announce they will return ambassadors to Israel.

A suicide bomber kills 21 people and injures 27 in Baghdad.

The ruling center-right coalition of Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen of Denmark wins reelection in national voting. They will hold a slightly reduced majority.

**9 February 2005** Basque terrorists explode a bomb in Madrid which injures 40 people.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. announces it will close a Jonquiere, Quebec store shortly after the workers unionized.

**10 February 2005** The North Korean government announces that it has nuclear weapons and it is withdrawing from six-party talks aimed at curbing its nuclear weapons program.

Arab terrorists fire rockets and mortars into an Israeli settlement in southern Gaza.

Arthur Miller dies in Roxbury, Connecticut at the age of 89.

*Scenes from The Tempest* for four vocal soloists and orchestra by Thomas Adès (33) to words of Oakes after Shakespeare, is performed for the first time, in Los Angeles, directed by the composer.

**11 February 2005** A suicide bomber kills twelve people near a mosque in Balad Ruz.

**12 February 2005** A car bomb kills 17 people at a hospital south of Baghdad.

Sister Dorothy Stang, an outspoken opponent of Amazon deforestation, is shot to death near Anapu, Pará. Two men will be convicted for the crime, as well as the local ranchers who paid them.

**14 February 2005** An explosion at a coal mine in Fuxin, China kills at least 240 people.

Former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik al-Hariri is killed when a bomb detonates in his motorcade in Beirut. At least 13 other people are killed. Syria is blamed.

Verizon Communications Inc. announces it will buy MCI Inc. for $6,750,000,000.

**15 February 2005** *Réflexions* for chamber ensemble by Elliott Carter (96) is performed for the first time, at Cité de la Musique, Paris, conducted by the dedicatee, Pierre Boulez (79).

**16 February 2005** The Kyoto Protocol on greenhouse gas emissions, signed in 1997, goes into effect for the 141 nations that have ratified it.

*Ottoni* for brass by Magnus Lindberg (46) is performed for the first time, in Harris Hall, Chicago.

*Circus Maximus* (Symphony no.3) for winds by John Corigliano (66) is performed for the first time, at the University of Texas at Austin.

**17 February 2005** Iraq’s Independent Electoral Commission certifies the results of the 30 January election. The largest party in the national assembly is the mostly Shia United Iraqi Alliance (140 of 275 seats). Second is the Kurdistan Alliance (75 seats).

Zurab Teymurazovich Nogaideli replaces President Mikheil Nikolozis dze Saakashvili as Prime Minister of Georgia.

**18 February 2005** Over the next two days, eleven suicide bombers kill at least 74 people, mostly in Baghdad.

Fox hunting and the use of dogs to hunt animals are illegal in England and Wales from this day.

**19 February 2005** The Music Center at Strathmore opens in suburban Washington, DC. It is designed for use by the Baltimore Symphony, National Symphony, and the orchestras of the Kennedy Center.

**20 February 2005** The Israeli cabinet orders the removal of all 21 Israeli settlements from the Gaza Strip and four from the West Bank.

Spanish voters approve the new European Union constitution.

Voters in Portugal throw out the center-right coalition of Prime Minister Pedro Santana Lopes and give an absolute parliamentary majority to the Socialist Party of Jose Socrates Carvalho Pinto de Sousa.

*God So Loved the World* for chorus by Libby Larsen (54) is performed for the first time, at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis.

**22 February 2005** An earthquake centered in Zarand, Iran kills 612 people.

Brazilian environmentalist Dionisio Ribeiro Filho is shot to death by a poacher near the entrance to the Tingua reserve near Rio de Janeiro.

**23 February 2005** Two British soldiers are convicted by a British military court in Osnabruck of abusing and sexually humiliating Iraqi detainees near Basra in 2003.

**25 February 2005** Arab terrorists explode a bomb in Tel Aviv which kills five people and injures 50.

French Finance Minister Herve Gaymard resigns after it is disclosed that he and his family live in a €14,000-per month apartment in Paris at taxpayer expense.

Peter Benenson dies in Oxford at the age of 83.

*O Verbum Patris* for chorus and organ by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) to words of Hildegard von Bingen is performed for the first time, in Guilford Cathedral.

*Brooklyn Bridge* for clarinet and band by Michael Daugherty (50) is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York.

**26 February 2005** Popular music purveyors Irving Lorenzo (aka Irv Gotti) and Christopher Lorenzo (aka Chris Gotti) are indicted in federal court in New York on charges of laundering drug money. Their label, The Inc (formerly Murder Inc.), is a joint venture with Island Def Jam, a unit of multinational conglomerate Vivendi Universal SA.

**28 February 2005** In the face of anti-Syrian street protests since the murder of Rafik al-Hariri, Lebanese Prime Minister Omar Karami and his government resign.

Insurgents set off a car bomb in Hilla, south of Baghdad, killing 125 people and injuring 170.

Saajid Badat pleads guilty in a London court to conspiring to blow up a passenger airliner in 2001.

*Man Lebt Nur Einmal (Darum Tanzen Wir)*, a dance suite for orchestra by Samuel Adler (76) is performed for the first time, in Mannheim.

**3 March 2005** American Steve Fossett lands in Salina, Kansas after completing the first solo, nonstop flight around the world without refueling. It took him 67 hours to go 37,000 km.

**4 March 2005** Former Ukrainian Interior Minister Yuri Kravchenko is found dead from gunshot wounds outside Kiev. The body is discovered hours before questioning by prosecutors investigating the murder of reporter Georgy Gongadze in 2000. Authorities call it a suicide.

US soldiers fire into a car at a checkpoint near Baghdad, killing Italian intelligence officer Nicola Calipari and wounding another intelligence officer and Giuliana Sgrena, an Italian hostage who they have just rescued.

**5 March 2005** Sergiu Commissiona dies in Oklahoma City at the age of 76.

**6 March 2005** In elections in Moldova, the Communist Party loses 15 seats but retains a majority in Parliament.

**7 March 2005** President Bashar al-Assad of Syria announces that his 15,000 troops in Lebanon will be withdrawn to the Bekaa Valley.

The Netherlands formally completes its mission in Iraq.

**8 March 2005** Islamic terrorist group Hezbollah stages a large demonstration in Beirut in support of Syria.

Russian troops kill Chechen separatist leader Aslan Maskhadov in a raid outside Grozny.

Prime Minister Ramush Haradinaj of Kosovo is indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. He resigns and tomorrow will fly to The Hague.

**10 March 2005** Pro-Syrian Omar Karami is reappointed as Prime Minister of Lebanon.

Indictments against Ramush Haradinaj are unsealed in The Hague to reveal 37 counts of war crimes committed while he was leader of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

47 people are killed and over 100 injured when a bomb explodes near a Shia mosque in Mosul, Iraq.

*Marienhymne* for chorus by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in Winchester Cathedral.

The first setting of *Two Other Movements* for orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (52) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**12 March 2005** Socialist José Sócrates Carvalho Pinto de Sousa replaces center-right Pedro Miguel Santana Lopes as Prime Minister of Portugal.

Conservative Karolos Gregoriou Papoulias replaces Socialist Konstantinos Dimitriou Stephanopoulos as President of Greece.

Terry Ratzmann kills seven people and injures four others before killing himself in a hotel conference room in Brookfield, Wisconsin.

*Voices* for soprano and electronics by John Chowning ()70 is performed for the first time, in Paris.

*Music in the Garden*, an interactive installation by Tod Machover (51) in collaboration with landscape designer Julie Moir Messervy, opens to the public in the Marshall Fields store in Minneapolis. It remains open until 26 March.

*Celebration* for orchestra by Chen Yi (51) is performed for the first time, for the opening of the Music and Arts Education Center at Strathmore in Rockville, Maryland.

**13 March 2005** *En plein air* for flute, clarinet, harp, and string quartet by Wolfgang Rihm is performed for the first time, in Hotel Römerbad, Badenweiler, on the composer’s 53rd birthday.

*Voyage initiatique* for tape by Pierre Henry (77) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**14 March 2005** Jan Egeland, UN Undersecretary for Humanitarian Affairs, announces that an estimated 180,000 people have died of hunger or disease in Darfur over the last 18 months.

**15 March 2005** Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi announces that Italy will begin to withdraw its troops from Iraq in September.

Six men are convicted in a Paris court of conspiring to bomb the US embassy. They receive prison sentences of up to ten years.

A federal court in New York finds Bernard Ebbers, former CEO of WorldCom Inc., guilty on nine counts in an $11,000,000,000 accounting fraud in 2002.

*Gotham Glory* for piano by David Del Tredici is performed for the first time, in Zankel Hall, New York on the eve of the composer’s 68th birthday.

**16 March 2005** The transitional national assembly for Iraq holds its first meeting inside the Green Zone, a heavily armed, secure section of Baghdad.

Israel turns over control of Jericho to the Palestinian Authority.

The *New York Times* reports that 26 people have been killed in US custody in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2002. The acts constitute criminal homicide.

Two works are performed for the first time, in the Purcell Room, London: *Mosaic* for eight instruments by Elliott Carter (96), and *Cantus Iambeus* for 13 instruments by Harrison Birtwistle (70).

**18 March 2005** The *Toronto Globe and Mail* reports that police in Henan Province China have arrested a man who confessed to four murders. For one of those murders, another man has already been executed.

**19 March 2005** Fifth Quartet for string quartet by Donald Martino (73) is performed for the first time, in Slosberg Recital Hall of Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts.

*Western Songs* for chorus by Libby Larsen (54), to words of American folksongs, is performed for the first time, at Danville Area High School, Pennsylvania.

**21 March 2005** Israel turns over control of Tulkarm on the West Bank to the Palestinian Authority.

16-year-old Jeff Weise kills nine people and himself in a shooting spree on the Red Lake Indian Reservation in Minnesota.

Human Rights Watch reports that Russian government forces are largely responsible for the disappearance of 3,000-5,000 people in Chechnya since 1999.

**22 March 2005** *Cantus Mysticus* for soprano, clarinet, and strings by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in Iglesia de San Miguel, Madrid.

**23 March 2005** Vinko Pandurevic, a former general in the Bosnian Serb army, surrenders to the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague. He is charged with genocide and other crimes for his part in the murder of 8,000 people in Srebrenica in 1995.

Iraqi forces, supported by US troops, overrun an insurgent training camp 80 km northwest of Baghdad.

The opera *Rosenthal’s Children*, with music by Leonid Desvatnikov and words by Vladirmir Sorokin, opens at the Bolshoy Theatre in Moscow amidst protests by a pro-government youth group. The opera is mildly critical of the government.

**24 March 2005** Two new works are performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Boston: Piano Concerto no.4 by Charles Wuorinen (66), and *Darkbloom, Overture for an Imagined Opera* for orchestra by John Harbison (66).

**27 March 2005** *Sea Soaring and Music Garden* for prerecorded flute, electronics, and audience-interactive hyperinstruments by Tod Machover (51) is performed for the first time, in Marshall Fields, Minneapolis. It was commissioned by Marshall Fields for their annual garden show.

**28 March 2005** A magnitude 8.7 earthquake strikes off the west coast of Sumatra. Over 1,300 people are killed and 2,000 injured.

**29 March 2005** *Da pacem domine* for voices by Arvo Pärt (69) is performed for the first time, in St. Gerold.

**31 March 2005** The UN Security Council votes to refer prosecution of war crimes in Darfur to the International Criminal Court.

**3 April 2005** *Comme une symphonie, envoi à Jules Verne* for tape by Pierre Henry (77) is performed for the first time, in Amiens to celebrate the centennial of Jules Verne.

**2 April 2005** Pope John Paul II (Karol Wojtyla) dies in the Vatican at the age of 84.

Insurgents attack Abu Ghraib prison, west of Baghdad. 44 US soldiers are injured.

**6 April 2005** The Italian Parliament completes ratification of the new European Union constitution.

Prince Rainier III of Monaco dies in the principality and is succeeded by his son, Albert II.

Saul Bellow dies in Brookline, Massachusetts at the age of 89.

**7 April 2005** Bus travel resumes between Indian and Pakistani sectors of Kashmir. It was suspended in 1947.

Jalal Talabani replaces Ghazi Mashal Ajil al-Yawer as President of Iraq.

**8 April 2005** A referendum in Curaçao votes to support a “status aparte” as a separate entity within the Netherlands. In Sint Eustasius, voters support remaining part of the Netherlands Antilles.

**9 April 2005** *22* for 5.1 computer processed and spatialized sound, bass clarinet, percussion, real-time processing for coordination with motion capture system, digital graphics, and dancer by Roger Reynolds (70) and others is performed for the first time, at Arizona State University.

*Fanfare for a Learned Man* for brass quintet by Libby Larsen (54) is performed for the first time, at St. John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota.

**11 April 2005** Iraqi insurgents attack a US military base at Husaybah near Syria. At least 19 of them are killed.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (59) compact disc *Solo Live at Gasthof Heidelberg Loppem 2005*is recorded in Loppem, Belgium. The four CDs contain *Comp.307A, Comp.307B, Comp.307C, Comp.307D, Comp.307E, Comp.307F, Comp.307G, Comp.307H, Comp.308A, Comp.308B, Comp.308C, Comp.308D, Comp.308E, Comp.308F, Comp.308G, Comp.308H, Comp.308I, Comp.308J, Comp.308K, Comp.308L, Comp.309A, Comp.309B, Comp.309C, Comp.309D, Comp.309E, Comp.309F,* and *Comp.309G.*

**12 April 2005** The Polish government announces its troops will be withdrawn from Iraq by the end of the year.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (59) compact disc *Solo Live at Gasthof Heidelberg Loppem 2005*is recorded in Loppem, Belgium. See 11 April 2005.

**13 April 2005** Three days of fighting in Qaim, Iraq results in the deaths of 30 insurgents.

President Viktor Yushchenko orders that all Ukrainian troops in Iraq will pull out by the end of the year.

Andrus Ansip replaces Juhan Parts as Prime Minister of Estonia.

Pro-Life advocate Eric Rudolph pleads guilty in federal court in Birmingham, Alabama and Atlanta to four bombings in the 1990s, including the Olympic bombing of 1996. His bombs killed two people and injured over 100.

*Uphill Slides and Knockdown Dives* for percussion and cello by Annie Gosfield (44) is performed for the first time, in San Diego.

**14 April 2005** Car bombs kill 19 people in Baghdad.

*3. Doppelgesang* for clarinet, viola, and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (53) is performed for the first time, in Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis.

**16 April 2005** 13 people are killed when a bomb explodes in a restaurant in Baquba.

The Caribbean Court of Justice is inaugurated in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

A multimedia exhibition entitled *Visual Music 2005* by Tan Dun (47) opens at the Shanghai Gallery of Art. It consists of sights and sounds based around the rebuilding of abandoned pianos.

**17 April 2005** The South Bank Centre, London begins a series of concerts, films, and lectures in celebration of Peter Maxwell Davies (70).

*Ashberyana* for baritone voice, trombone, piano, and string quartet by Charles Wuorinen (66) to words of Ashbery, is performed for the first time, at the Guggenheim Museum, New York the composer conducting.

**18 April 2005** *Military March* for nine players by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) is performed for the first time, at the Royal Academy of Music.

**19 April 2005** Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger is elected Pope in the Vatican. He succeeds Pope John Paul II and take the name Benedict XVI.

The Parliament of Greece approves the new European Union constitution.

**20 April 2005** Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy resigns with the intention of forming a new government.

Governor Jodi Rell of Connecticut signs a law creating civil unions giving same sex couples the same legal rights as married couples.

**23 April 2005** String Trio by Jonathan Harvey (65) is performed for the first time, in Witten.

**24 April 2005** 21 Iraqis are killed in bombings in Baghdad and Tikrit.

*A Dance on the Hill* for mezzo-soprano and orchestra by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) to words of George Mackay Brown is performed for the first time, in Queen Elizabeth Hall, London.

*XENIA* for violin by Louis Andriessen (65) is performed for the first time, at Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, England.

**25 April 2005** A commuter train derails near Osaka and crashes into an apartment building. 107 people are killed.

Czech Prime Minister Stanislav Gross resigns in a scandal over his purchase of a luxury apartment in Prague. Jirí Paroubek is named to replace him.

*A Musical Portrait of Chuck Close* for piano by Philip Glass (68) is performed for the first time, in Alice Tully Hall, New York.

*Concerto da Camera III (Under the Sun's Gaze)* by Shulamit Ran (55) is performed for the first time, in San Francisco.

**26 April 2005** The last Syrian troops depart Lebanon after an occupation of 29 years.

*Naxos Quartet no.6* for string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) is performed for the first time, in the Purcell Room, London.

**27 April 2005** The A380, made by Airbus SAS, makes a debut flight at Toulouse Blagnac airport. At 555 seats, it is the largest passenger airplane ever built.

**28 April 2005** A new government headed by Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi is approved by Parliament.

**29 April 2005** 13 separate insurgent attacks across Iraq kill 40 people.

**30 April 2005** Insurgent attacks kill 16 people in Baghdad, Fallujah, and Mosul.

**1 May 2005** 35 people are killed in insurgent attacks in Iraq.

*The Cusp of Magic* for string quartet and pipa by Terry Riley (70) is performed for the first time, in Hertz Hall of the University of California at Berkeley.

**2 May 2005** 20 people are killed by insurgent attacks in Baghdad and Mosul.

Nine members of the East Waynesville Baptist Church in North Carolina are removed from membership because they voted for Senator John Kerry in the presidential election last November.

**3 May 2005** Ibrahim al-Shiqr al-Jaafari replaces Iyad Allawi as Prime Minister of Iraq.

*Walk the Walk* for baritone saxophone and percussion by Michael Daugherty (51) is performed for the first time, at the Knitting Factory, New York.

**4 May 2005** A bomb explodes in Erbil, Iraq killing 60 people.

Special investigator Stuart Bowen releases a report that shows Bush Administration officials mishandled $96,600,000 in reconstruction funds for Iraq.

*Transfigured Wind IV* for flute and quadraphonic computer processed sound by Roger Reynolds (70) is performed for the first time, at the University of California at Santa Cruz.

**5 May 2005** 28 people are killed in insurgent attacks in Baghdad and Mosul.

The British electorate gives the Labour Party of Prime Minister Tony Blair a third term in power, but with a reduced majority.

*Klang* for soprano, tenor, and organ or synthesizer by Karlheinz Stockhausen (76) is performed for the first time, in Milan Cathedral.

**6 May 2005** 26 people are killed in insurgent attacks in Suwaira and Tikrit, Iraq.

**7 May 2005** 22 people are killed by a bomb in Baghdad.

**9 May 2005** *Memoria* for two solo voices, chorus, and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (53) to words of Sachs is performed for the first time, in Berlin.

**10 May 2005** On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the defeat of fascism, President Vladimir Putin of Russia confers a commemorative medal on Mikis Theodorakis (79) at the Russian embassy in Athens.

Two works are performed for the first time, in Zankel Hall of Carnegie Hall, New York: *Orphée* for ensemble and electronics by John Zorn (51), and *O Lux* for instrumental ensemble by Brian Ferneyhough (62).

**11 May 2005** Insurgent attacks kill 79 people in three places in Iraq.

**12 May 2005** 21 people are killed in insurgent attacks across Iraq.

The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg rules that the 1999 trial of Kurdish leader Abudllah Ocalan was unfair. Ocalan is currently serving a life sentence in Turkey.

*Paul Revere’s Ride* for soprano, chorus, and orchestra by David Del Tredici (68) to words of Longfellow is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Atlanta. The dedication on the score reads: Written in Memory of the Victims of 9/11--Especially the firemen. The composer’s home is about two kilometers from the scene of the attacks.

**13 May 2005** Uzbek soldiers kill an unknown number of demonstrators in Andizhan after citizens freed 2,000 inmates from prison last night. Opposition sources report over 700 killed.

**15 May 2005** The bodies of 46 Iraqis are found in and around Baghdad. They were bound and shot in the head.

**16 May 2005** The Parliament of Kuwait votes to allow women to vote and stand for election.

US Army Specialist Sabrina Harman is convicted by a military court in Fort Hood, Texas on six counts of abusing detainees at the Abu Ghraib prison. She will be sentenced to six months in prison and a discharge from the military.

**17 May 2005** The bodies of several Sunni clerics are found in and around Baghdad. Two Shia clerics are shot to death.

Federal prosecutors file charges of aggravated homicide in Montevideo against former Uruguayan President Jaun María Bordaberry and his foreign minister Juan Carlos Blanco. The two are charged with ordering the kidnapping and murder of two legislators in exile in Argentina in 1976 as part of an agreement of conservative South American governments to destroy their liberal and leftist opponents.

**18 May 2005** *St. Bartholomew’s Prayer* for chorus by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) to words from the *Liber Usualis* is performed for the first time, in St. Magnus’ Cathedral, Orkney.

*Cantatrix Sopranica* for two sopranos, countertenor, and chamber ensemble by Unsuk Chin (43), to words of Mathews, Holz, and the composer, is performed for the first time, in Queen Elizabeth Hall, London.

TJ Anderson (76) is elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

**19 May 2005** Government troops begin tearing down thousands of homes across Zimbabwe leaving about 200,00 people homeless. The actions take place in areas which strongly support the opposition Movement for Democratic Change.

**20 May 2005** UNESCO and the International Music Council award the IMC-UNESCO Music Prize to Mikis Theodorakis (79).

**22 May 2005** Anthony Braxton’s (59) compact disc *Sextet (Victoriaville) 2005* is recorded live in Victoriaville, Quebec. It is *Comp.345.*

**25 May 2005** In ceremonies in Baku, Azerbaijan, an oil pipeline from Baku to Ceyhan, Turkey, linking the Caspian and Mediterranean Seas is opened.

Ruth Laredo dies in New York at the age of 67.

**26 May 2005** *The Deceitful Face of Hope and Despair* for flute and orchestra by Sofia Gubaidulina (73) is performed for the first time.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (59) compact disc *Quartet (GTM) 2006*is recorded at Wesleyan University. Included are *Comp.338, Comp.340, Comp.341,* and *Comp.346.*

*An Introduction to the Moon* for tuned water glasses, recorded voice, and winds by Libby Larsen (54) is performed for the first time, at Apple Valley High School, Minnesota.

**27 May 2005** A bomb explodes outside a Shia shrine in Islamabad killing 20 people and injuring 65.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (59) compact disc *Quartet (GTM) 2006*is recorded at Wesleyan University.

**28 May 2005** *Mahashakti* for violin and orchestra by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in The Megaron, Athens.

**29 May 2005** Thousands of Iraqi soldiers are deployed around Baghdad in a crackdown on insurgents. 20 people are killed in Baghdad and 34 throughout Iraq.

Voters in France reject the new European Union Constitution 55%-45%.

Aaron George Rochberg dies in a hospital in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania of complications from recent surgery, aged 86 years, ten months, and 24 days.

**30 May 2005** A bomb explodes at a Shia mosque in Karachi killing five people and injuring 20.

Three bombs explode in Hilla, Iraq killing 31 people and injuring hundreds of others.

Sudanese authorities arrest Paul Foreman, Sudan director of Doctors Without Borders. The group recently published a report on sexual violence in Darfur.

**31 May 2005** A court in Moscow sentences billionaire oilman Mikhail Khodorkovsky and his partner Platon Lebedev to nine years in prison for fraud and tax evasion.

Dominique Galouzeau de Villepin replaces Jean-Pierre Raffarin as Prime Minister of France.

*Vanity Fair* magazine reveals the identity of Deep Throat, the shadowy informant in the Watergate scandal, as former FBI official Mark Felt.

**1 June 2005** A bomb kills at least 20 people at a mosque in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

At the trial of Slobodan Milosevic at The Hague, prosecutors show a video which clearly depicts Serb paramilitaries killing Moslems during the Srebrenica massacre of 1995.

Voters in the Netherlands reject the new European Union Constitution 62%-38%.

*De Opening* for chamber ensemble by Louis Andriessen (65) is performed for the first time, in Amsterdam.

*Jeux deux* for hyperpiano, orchestra, and video projections by Tod Machover (51) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Boston.

The film *Ned Rorem: Word and Music* is shown for the first time.

**2 June 2005** Bombs kill 44 people across Iraq.

Israel releases 398 Arab inmates from Ketziot prison.

The video shown yesterday at The Hague is screened on Serbian television. Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica of Serbia announces arrests of those involved.

**3 June 2005** A report in *Science* shows that lakes in northern Siberia lost six percent of their area between 1972 and 1998 due to climate change.

**4 June 2005** *Invocations and Last Word* for chorus by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time.

*I Dream of Peace* for chorus and percussion by Libby Larsen (54) is performed for the first time, at the First Congregational Church, Corvallis, Oregon.

**5 June 2005** Swiss voters approve joining the open-border zone of the European Union. They also approve expanding certain rights for same-sex couples.

*Fahrstühle* by Francisco López (41) is performed for the first time, at the Leipzig Opera.

**6 June 2005** The British government suspends plans to hold a referendum on the new European Union constitution after it was rejected by voters in France and the Netherlands.

Claiming that the country is ungovernable after weeks of protests, President Carlos Mesa Gisbert of Bolivia resigns. He is replaced by Enrique Eduardo Rodríguez Veltzé, President of the Supreme Court.

*Commemoration Sixty* for chorus and orchestra with brass band and trumpets ad lib by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) is performed for the first time, in Central Hall, Westminster, London conducted by the composer. The work was commissioned by Queen Elizabeth II, the Royal British Legion, and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. Also premiered is Davies’ *Beacons of Hope* for military band.

**7 June 2005** At least 20 people are killed by bombs in Hawija, Iraq.

**8 June 2005** Ethiopian soldiers fire into a crowd in Addis Ababa demonstrating against the results of recent elections, killing at least 26.

The Bach Archive in Leipzig announces that a work for soprano and keyboard found in a shoebox last month in Weimar is a work by Johann Sebastian Bach (†254) dating from 1713.

**12 June 2005** A flash flood in Shalan, Heilongjiang, China kills as many as 200 people.

UniCredito Italiano SpA announces it will buy HVB Groups AG for €15,400,000. It is the largest cross-border European bank merger.

**13 June 2005** Popular music entertainer Michael Jackson is acquitted of ten counts of child molestation in a court in Santa Marino, California.

David Leo Diamond dies at the Wolk Manor of the Rochester Jewish Home in Rochester, New York of congestive heart failure, aged 89 years, eleven months, and four days. His mortal remains will be cremated.

**14 June 2005** A bomb kills 22 people and injures 80 in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Carlo Maria Giulini dies in Brescia at the age of 91.

The Supreme Court of Argentina strikes down amnesty laws designed to protect members of the military who committed murder, torture, and other crimes during their dirty war against leftists in the 1970s and 1980s.

*Fragments from the Song of Songs* for mezzo-soprano, clarinet, and piano by Samuel Adler (77) is performed for the first time, in Berlin.

**15 June 2005** A bomber kills 23 Iraqi soldiers in Khalis, Iraq.

**16 June 2005** Leaders of the European Union meet in Brussels and push back the deadline for ratification of the new constitution.

*Court Studies* for clarinet, violin, cello, and piano by Thomas Adès (34), is performed for the first time, in Jubilee Hall, Aldeburgh.

**17 June 2005** US and Iraqi forces begin a five-day campaign against insurgents in al-Anbar province in the west of Iraq.

A jury in New York City convicts former Tyco International Ltd. executives Denis Kozlowski and Mark Swartz on 22 counts of stealing $600,000,000 from the company.

*Slow Structures* for flute, cello, and piano by Libby Larsen (54) is performed for the first time, in Potsdam, Germany.

**18 June 2005** *Neruda madrigales* for chorus and chamber ensemble by Harrison Birtwistle (70) to words of Neruda is performed for the first time, in Snape Maltings.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *4 Compositions (Ulrichsberg) 2005—Phonomanie VIII* is recorded in Ulrichsberg, Austria. Today are recorded *Comp.301* for solo piano and *Comp.96+134* (tri-centric version).

**19 June 2005** A bomber kills 23 Iraqis and injures 30 in Baghdad.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *4 Compositions (Ulrichsberg) 2005—Phonomanie VIII* is recorded in Ulrichsberg, Austria. Today are recorded *Comp.323A* and *Comp.169+147* (tri-centric version).

Largo for cello and orchestra by Krzysztof Penderecki (71) is performed for the first time, in the Musikverein, Vienna.

**20 June 2005** A bomber kills at least 15 people and injures 100 in Erbil, Iraq.

John Rigas, founder and CEO of Adelphia Communications Corp., is sentenced to 15 years in prison for theft and fraud by a federal court in New York.

**21 June 2005** *Backaskail March* and *Cross kirk* for school string orchestra by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) is performed for the first time, in the Community Hall, Sanday, Orkney. See 21 June 2006.

**22 June 2005** Several bomb explosions across Iraq kill dozens of people.

A commission of the Spanish Cortes issues a report saying that the Aznar government “manipulated and twisted” evidence to claim that ETA was responsible for the March 2004 train bombing, in order to strengthen their position in elections three days afterward.

**23 June 2005** Four car bombs in Baghdad kill 17 people.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Trio (Glasgow) 2005* is recorded live at the Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow. On it are *Comp.323A* and *Comp.323B*.

**24 June 2005** Conservative Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is elected President of Iran.

**25 June 2005** Chinese media reports that 536 people have died in recent floods and landslides across the country.

In Bulgarian parliamentary elections, the opposition socialist Coalition for Bulgaria gains 34 seats but falls short of a majority.

Bomb attacks today and tomorrow in Mosul, Iraq kill at least 38 people.

**26 June 2005** Symphony no.8 “Lieder der Vergänglichkeit” for vocal soloists, chorus, and orchestra by Krzysztof Penderecki (71) to words of various authors, is performed for the first time, at the inauguration of the Salle Grande-Duchesse Joséphine-Charlotte, Luxembourg.

**27 June 2005** *Erimilia (Solitude)*, a cycle for voice and orchestra by Mikis Theodorakis (79) to words of Papadapoulos, is performed for the first time, in the Palace of Music, Thessaloniki. It is the first of several concerts to celebrate the 80th birthday of the composer.

**28 June 2005** Representatives of China, France, Japan, Korea, Russia, and the United States sign an agreement in Moscow to build the first nuclear fusion reactor in Cadaraches, France.

A US helicopter is shot down in Kunar Province, Afghanistan killing all 16 aboard.

Ivo Miro Jovic replaces Borislav Paravac as Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

*Missa Brevis* for treble voices and organ by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in Westminster Cathedral, London.

**30 June 2005** Bank of America Corp. agrees to buy MBNA Corp. for $35,000,000,000.

**2 July 2005** *A Song for Fé* for viola and piano by Peter Sculthorpe (76) is performed for the first time.

*Fantasie* for cello and piano by Alexander Goehr (72) is performed for the first time, in Lincoln, Great Britain.

**3 July 2005** In general elections in Albania, the conservative Democratic Party wins 56 of 140 followed by the Socialist Party with 42.

A new law goes into effect in Spain allowing same sex couples to marry and granting them all rights enjoyed by heterosexual couples.

**4 July 2005** The US spacecraft *Deep Impact*, having traveled 136,000,000 km, sends a probe to collide with the comet Tempel 1.

*Oscura* for soprano and computer sounds by Jean-Claude Risset (67) is performed for the first time, in Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid.

**5 July 2005** Six Moslems attack the Hindu temple at Ayodhya, India. Indian security forces kill them all.

*Marching to Carcassonne* for piano and chamber orchestra by Alexander Goehr (72) is performed for the first time, in the National Arts Center, Ottawa.

**6 July 2005** Diplomats from Pakistan and Bahrain escape attempts on their lives in Baghdad.

Voters in Malta ratify the new European Union constitution.

Popular music entertainer Kimberly Jones (aka Lil’ Kim) is sentenced in federal court in New York to a year and a day in prison and fined $50,000 for lying to a grand jury.

*A Friend of Napoleon*, an opera by Robert Ward (87) to words of Stuart, is performed for the first time, in Wooster, Ohio.

**7 July 2005** Moslem terrorists explode three separate bombs in the London Underground killing 56 people. A fourth bomb explodes on a London bus, killing two more. Hundreds are injured in the blasts.

Members of al-Qaeda announce that they have killed Ihab al-Sherif, ambassador-designate of Egypt to Iraq. He was kidnapped in Baghdad on 2 July.

**8 July 2005** *Suscipe Quaesumus*, for chorus and organ by Peter Maxwell Davies (70), is performed for the first time, in St. Magnus Cathedral, Orkney.

**9 July 2005** An Autonomous Government of Southern Sudan is established. John Garang de Maboir is named President.

**10 July 2005** 40 people are killed in explosions across Iraq.

Voters in Luxembourg ratify the new European Union constitution.

Two works by Arvo Pärt (69) are performed for the first time, in the Stiftskirche Ossiach: the church opera *Der Weg* to words of Deutsch, and *L’abbé Agathon* in the version for soprano, four violas, and four cellos. See 5 May 2004.

*The Light of the Lord* for chorus and organ by Peter Maxwell Davies (70) to words of the Bible is performed for the first time, in Westminster Abbey in the presence of Queen Elizabeth II. The work commemorates the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II.

*The Mouse Felt...*, a song for solo voice and piano by Harrison Birtwistle (70) to words of Brendel, is performed for the first time, in Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham.

**11 July 2005** *Vater unser* for boy soprano and piano by Arvo Pärt (69) is performed for the first time, in Ossiach, Austria, the composer at the keyboard.

**12 July 2005** Moslem Mohammed Bouyeri confesses to an Amsterdam court that he killed filmmaker Theo van Gogh last November. He says that if he is released, he would do it again to anyone he feels insults Islam. Bouyeri will be sentenced to life in prison.

Arab terrorists set off a bomb in Netanya, Israel killing five people and injuring 80.

*Pre-echo for Jean-Guihen* for cello by Jonathan Harvey (66) is performed for the first time, in Litchfield Cathedral. It is composed to precede the Cello Suite in d minor by Johann Sebastian Bach (†264).

**13 July 2005** Three trains are involved in a collision in Ghotki, Pakistan. 109 people are killed.

A bomb explodes in Baghdad killing 28 people. Most of the dead are children.

Bernard Ebbers, founder and CEO of WorldCom, Inc., is sentenced to 25 years in prison for fraud by a federal court in New York.

**15 July 2005** Seven bombs go off in Baghdad, killing 25 people and injuring over 100.

Enron Corp. agrees to pay a $1,520,000,000 penalty to the states of California, Oregon, and Washington as restitution for causing the 2000-2001 energy shortage on the West Coast of the US.

**16 July 2005** A bomb explodes in a market in Musayyib, Iraq which ignites a nearby gas tanker, which creates a tremendous fireball. Over 100 people are killed.

**17 July 2005** An Iraqi court charges former President Saddam Hussein with war crimes.

Representatives of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement initial a peace agreement in Helsinki.

**18 July 2005** A court in Belgrade convicts eight men for the 2000 murder of former Serbian President Ivan Stambolic, and the attempted murder of Vuk Draskovic the same year. The crimes were ordered by Slobodan Milosevic, who was President of Yugoslavia at the time.

**20 July 2005** Royal assent is granted to a law granting all marriage rights to same-sex couples in Canada.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Sextet (Molde) 2005* is recorded in the Kulturhuset, Molde, Norway. It is *Comp.345.*

*Sifting Through the Ruins* for mezzo-soprano, viola, and piano by Libby Larsen (54), to words of various writers, is performed for the first time, in Harris Hall, Aspen, Colorado.

**21 July 2005** Al-Qaeda terrorists kidnap and kill two Algerian diplomats in Baghdad.

Arvo Pärt (69) is awarded the European Sacred Music Prize in Schwäbisch-Gmünd, Germany.

**22 July 2005** London police mistakenly kill a Brazilian man in an Underground train, thinking he is a suicide bomber.

**23 July 2005** Dozens of people are killed when three bombs explode in Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt.

Serenade for violin by Peter Sculthorpe (76) is performed for the first time, in London.

**24 July 2005** A bomb explodes in Baghdad killing at least 22 people.

**25 July 2005** Sony BMG Music Entertainment agrees to pay a $10,000,000 fine to settle charges it bribed radio stations to favor its recordings. The fine will be distributed by New York State to nonprofit arts and education programs.

**26 July 2005** Two days of record rainfall causes massive flooding in western Maharashtra State in India. Almost 1,000 people are killed.

**28 July 2005** The Provisional Irish Republican Army announces that it is abandoning its 36-year armed struggle against British rule in Northern Ireland.

**29 July 2005** The government of Uzbekistan tells the Bush administration to remove all US personnel and equipment from Karshi-Khanabad air base within 180 days.

**31 July 2005** Former South Sudanese rebel leader John Garang, inaugurated as Vice-President three weeks ago, dies in a helicopter crash in southern Sudan.

**1 August 2005** King Fahd of Saudi Arabia dies of pneumonia in Riyadh. He is replaced by his half-brother, Abdullah.

South Sudanese begin three days of rioting in Khartoum and cities in southern Sudan in response to the death of John Garang. Over 100 people are killed.

The British government announces that it will remove 5,000 troops, or half its force, from Northern Ireland within two years.

US President George W. Bush supports the teaching of “intelligent design” along with evolution in his country’s schools.

**2 August 2005** US President George Bush signs the Central American Free Trade Agreement with Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and the Dominican Republic.

**3 August 2005** Mahmoud Ahmadinejad replaces Hojatolislam Mohammad Khatami as President of Iran.

14 US military are killed by a roadside bomb in Haditha, Iraq.

Adidas-Salomon AG agrees to buy Reebok International Ltd. for $3,800,000,000.

**5 August 2005** László Sólyom replaces Ferenc Mádl as President of Hungary.

**6 August 2005** A flood in a coal mine in Xingning, Guangdong Province, China kills 123 people.

Grand Concerto for percussion and keyboards by Gunther Schuller (79) is performed for the first time, at Tanglewood, Lenox, Massachusetts.

**7 August 2005** *Gathering* for two female singers, two trombones, harp, and marimba by Steven Mackey (49) is performed for the first time, in Seiji Ozawa Hall, Tanglewood.

**8 August 2005** *Zwei Sprüche* for voice and piano by Wolfgang Rihm (53) to words of Schiller is performed for the first time, in Bad Reichenhall, Germany.

**11 August 2005** Malaysia declares a state of emergency because of hazardous air pollution from hundreds of fires in Sumatra and Borneo.

Former WorldCom CFO Scott Sullivan is sentenced in a New York federal court to five years in prison for his part in the massive accounting fraud which brought down the company.

*Song Without Words* for flute and piano by George Perle (90) is performed for the first time, in San Diego.

**14 August 2005** A Helios Airways 737 loses cabin pressure causing the crew to become incapacitated. Eventually, the plane runs out of fuel and crashes at Grammatiko, Greece. All 121 people on board are killed.

Steve Reich (68) receives the MacDowell Medal at a ceremony in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

**15 August 2005** Israeli defense forces begin removing about 8,500 Israelis from 21 settlements in the Gaza Strip.

Representatives of Indonesia and the Free Aceh Movement sign a peace agreement in Helsinki, ending 29 years of war.

**16 August 2005** 17 Spanish soldiers are killed when their helicopter crashes near Herat, Afghanistan.

Socialist Sergey Dimitryvich Stanishev replaces Simeon Borisov Sakskoburggotski as Prime Minister of Bulgaria.

A West Caribbean Airways MD-82 crashes into mountains near Maracaibo, Venezuela. All 160 people on board are killed.

**17 August 2005** Over 400 small bombs explode in one hour across Bangladesh. Two people are killed, 125 injured. Islamic militants claim responsibility.

Three bombs in Baghdad kill at least 43 people and injure 88.

**18 August 2005** A spokesperson for popular music entertainer Marshall Bruce Mathers III (aka Eminem) announces that he is undergoing treatment for a drug dependency.

**20 August 2005** *Penthisilea-Monolog* for female voice and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (53) to words of von Kleist is performed for the first time, in Weimar.

**22 August 2005** Robert Moog dies at his home in Asheville, North Carolina at the age of 71.

Iraqi political leaders submit a draft constitution to the transitional national assembly.

Whirlpool Corp. buys Maytag Corp. for about $1,700,000,000 in cash and stock.

Pro-Life advocate Eric Rudolph is sentenced in federal court in Atlanta to three consecutive life terms plus 120 years for three bombings during the 1990s. The three are the 1996 Olympic bombing in Atlanta and two in 1997 at a homosexual night club and a clinic which provided abortions.

Conservative Christian leader Pat Robertson urges the United States government to murder President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela.

*Four Initiums in homage to Jacob Obrecht* for viola and cello by György Kurtág (79) is performed for the first time, in Anvers, Belgium. Also premiered is Kurtág’s *Hommage à Jacob Obrecht* for string quartet.

**23 August 2005** Israeli security forces complete the removal of 25 Jewish settlements at 8,500 settlers from Gaza. They also complete the removal of four settlements from the West Bank.

**23 August 2005** *Exploration of the House* for orchestra and digital tape delay system by Alvin Lucier (74) is performed for the first time, in Ostrava, Czech Republic.

*Concertini* for large ensemble by Helmut Lachenmann (69) is performed for the first time, in Lucerne.

**28 August 2005** US President George W. Bush praises the draft constitution for Iraq even though it is widely condemned by Sunni Moslems in the country.

Popular music millionaire Marion (Suge) Knight is shot in the leg at a party in Miami Beach. He will survive.

**29 August 2005** Hurricane Katrina strikes the coast of Louisiana and Mississippi with 230 kph winds. It creates a storm surge of eight meters. Winds break through the New Orleans Superdome where 9,000 people have taken refuge. 2,700,000 customers are without electricity. 1,750,000 customers are without telephone service. The confirmed death toll will be 1,836 with 135 missing. Estimated losses will reach as high as $125,000,000,000.

**30 August 2005** Levees protecting New Orleans breach as a result of Hurricane Katrina, inundating the city.

**31 August 2005** When rumors of a suicide bomber spread through a group of Shia pilgrims crossing the Aimma Bridge in Baghdad, a stampede ensues. An estimated 950 people are killed.

Authorities begin the evacuation of the New Orleans Superdome where 20,000 refugees have been gathered. Local authorities plead for help for those stranded in the flooded city as the complete bungling of the rescue effort by the Bush administration becomes apparent. Armed and violent looters begin roaming the streets.

**2 September 2005** The first of 17,000 regular army and 41,000 National Guard troops begin to deploy in flooded New Orleans. President Bush publicly supports the director of FEMA, the federal agency in charge of disaster relief, saying “…you’re doing a heck of a job.”

*Verwandlung 2*for orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (53) is performed for the first time, in the Gewandhaus, Leipzig.

Serenade in D flat for oboe/english horn, clarinet, viola, and harp by Robin Holloway (61) is performed for the first time, in Ewenny Priory Church.

**3 September 2005** 21 people are killed in several attacks in northern Iraq.

**4 September 2005** *Adagio, Fuge und Mänadentanz von der Oper “Die Bassariden”* for orchestra by Hans Werner Henze (79) is performed for the first time, in the Laeiszhalle, Hamburg.

Violin Concerto by Thomas Adès (34), is performed for the first time, in the Kammermusiksaal, Berlin, directed by the composer.

**5 September 2005** A Mandala Airlines 737 crashes into the city of Medan, Indonesia right after takeoff from Polonia International Airport. 100 people on board and 49 people on the ground are killed. 17 people on the plane survive the crash.

Arab terrorists accidentally detonate explosives they are secreting in a home in Gaza, killing four people and injuring dozens of others.

*Double* *(Grido II)* for string orchestra by Helmut Lachenmann (69) is performed for the first time, in Lucerne.

**7 September 2005** Two bombs explode in Basra, killing 20 people and injuring at least 20 others.

US scientists publish findings in the *Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans* that the increased absorption of carbon dioxide by the oceans will damage coral reefs.

**8 September 2005** President Viktor Yushchenko sacks Prime Minister Yulia Volodymyrivna Tymoshenko and her government over accusations of corruption and replaces here with Yurii Ivanovych Yekhanurov.

**9 September 2005** Michael Brown, director of FEMA, is removed as the lead federal officer in the Gulf Coast disaster area. Referring to hurricane Katrina, Republican Congressman Richard Baker of Louisiana tells a group of lobbyists, “We finally cleaned up public housing in New Orleans. We couldn’t do it but God did.”

*Neverwas*, a film with music by Philip Glass (68), is shown for the first time, at the Toronto International Film Festival.

Concerto for oboe and orchestra by Jennifer Higdon (42) is performed for the first time, in St. Paul, Minnesota.

**10 September 2005** Protestants go on a three-day rampage in Belfast when they are prevented from routing their annual marches through Roman Catholic districts. 70 people, mostly police, are injured.

*Waiting for the Barbarians*, an opera by Philip Glass (68) to words of Hampton after Coetzee, is performed for the first time, in Erfurt.

**11 September 2005** In voting for the Japanese House of Representatives, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party gains 55 seats over the last election and an absolute majority.

Conservative Sali Ram Berisha replaces Fatos Thanas Nano as Prime Minister of Albania heading a multi-party government.

**12 September 2005** Israel removes its last troops from the Gaza Strip and turns it over to the Palestinian Authority. Arab looters ransack the abandoned Jewish settlements.

Voting for the Norwegian Storting results in a gain of 18 seats for the opposition Labour Party while the conservative Progress Party gains twelve seats. The ruling center-right coalition loses 18 seats.

Michael Brown resigns as director of the US Federal Emergency Management Agency after his wholesale bungling of the rescue and relief efforts following hurricane Katrina.

**14 September 2005** At least twelve bombs explode in Baghdad killing almost 150 people and injuring over 500 more.

**15 September 2005** Bombs and gun battles kill 20 policemen in Baghdad.

Speaking on national television from New Orleans, US President George W. Bush takes full responsibility for his government’s pathetic response to the Katrina crisis.

*Laila (Amu)* for soprano, tenor, and orchestra by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in Sadler’s Wells Theatre, London.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Solo (Wesleyan) 2005* is recorded in Crowell Concert Hall, Wesleyan University.

**16 September 2005** An exhibition of drawings, prints, and video by Laurie Anderson (58) entitled *The Waters Reglitterized* opens at the Sean Kelly Gallery, New York.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Trio (Wesleyan) 2005* is recorded in Crowell Concert Hall, Wesleyan University. It is *Comp.323C.*

**17 September 2005** In parliamentary elections in New Zealand, the opposition National Party gains 21 seats but falls short of the ruling Labour Party 50-48. Prime Minister Helen Clark will form a new minority coalition government.

A new version of the *Polish Requiem* in honor of Pope John Paul II by Krzysztof Penderecki (71) is performed for the first time, in Wroclaw.

*Vermeer Pictures* for orchestra by Louis Andriessen (66) and Clark Rundell, a suite from his opera *Writing to Vermeer*, is performed for the first time, in Dr. Anton Philipszaal, The Hague, the Netherlands. Also premiered is *Time Release* for percussion and orchestra by Steven Mackey (49).

**18 September 2005** Afghanistan holds its first national legislative elections since 1969.

In elections for the German Bundestag, the ruling red-green coalition loses 33 seats while the conservative opposition coalition loses nine seats, creating a hung parliament. The greatest gains are seen by leftist parties.

**19 September 2005** North Korea agrees in principle to abandon its nuclear weapons program in a joint statement in Beijing with China, South Korea, Japan, Russia, and the United States.

Ex-CEO Dennis Kozlowski and ex-CFO Mark Swartz of Tyco International Ltd. are sentenced in a New York court to eight to 25 years in prison. Kozlowski is fined $70,000,000 and ordered to pay $97,000,000 restitution. Swartz is fined $35,000,000 and ordered to pay $38,000,000 restitution.

**22 September 2005** BP PLC agrees to pay a $21,400,000 fine imposed by the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration for over 300 “willful and egregious” safety violations which contributed to an explosion in Texas City, Texas which killed 15 and injured 170.

**23 September 2005** During a rally organized by Arab terrorists in Gaza, a truck full of rockets explodes killing at least 15 people and injuring 80. The terrorists launch 30 rockets into Israel from Gaza today and tomorrow.

**24 September 2005** Israeli warplanes strike terrorist targets in Gaza in response to rockets attacks.

The IAEA votes 22-1-12 to report Iran to the Security Council for violating the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

**25 September 2005** In voting for the Polish Sejm, two conservative parties, Law and Justice and Civic Platform, gain a combined 179 seats while the Democratic Left Alliance loses 161 seats.

**26 September 2005** Canadian General John de Chastelain, head of an international agency overseeing disarmament in Northern Ireland, certifies that the Irish Republican Army has completely disarmed.

18 Moslems are convicted in a Madrid court of being part of an al-Qaeda cell.

**27 September 2005** The US military reports that it has killed Abu Azzam, the second highest al-Qaeda leader in Iraq.

Michaëlle Jean replaces Adrienne Bing Chee Clarkson as Governor General of Canada.

*Orphée dévoilé* for tape by Pierre Henry (77) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

*for Lou Harrison* for string quartet, strings, and two pianos by John Luther Adams (52) is performed for the first time, at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston.

**28 September 2005** The US National Snow and Ice Data Center announces that the Arctic ice pack now covers 5,310,000 sq km, the smallest ever recorded.

**29 September 2005** About 100 people are killed in three bombings in Balad, north of Baghdad.

The television series *Night Stalker* with theme music by Philip Glass (68), is shown for the first time, over the airwaves of the American Broadcasting Company.

**30 September 2005** *Eine Stimme 1-3* for mezzo soprano and twelve players by Wolfgang Rihm (53) is performed for the first time, in the Palais de Fêtes, Strasbourg.

*Pygmalion* for band by Samuel Adler (77) is performed for the first time.

**1 October 2005** Moslem terrorists explode three bombs on Bali, killing 23 people and injuring 100 others.

US troops attack Sadah in western Iraq. They kill 21 people and net many weapons but not many insurgents are found.

*Doctor Atomic*, an opera by John Adams (58) to words organized by Peter Sellars, is performed for the first time, in the San Francisco Opera House. Press and public are ecstatic.

**2 October 2005** *Made in America* for orchestra by Joan Tower (67) is performed for the first time, in Glen’s Falls, New York. In a project funded by the Ford Motor Company Fund, the work is intended to be performed by community orchestras in each of the 50 United States over the next two years.

**4 October 2005** The Soranos Friendship and Peace Award, given by the faculty of Dkuz Eylul University, Izmir, Turkey, is conferred upon Mikis Theodorakis (80). He is too ill to attend.

Hurricane Stan comes ashore on the Yucatan Peninsula, killing over 1,600 people with floods and mudslides in Mexico, Guatemala, and El Salvador.

**5 October 2005** At least 25 people are killed and 87 injured by a bomb in Hilla, Iraq.

**6 October 2005** The International Criminal Court issues warrants for the arrest of five leading members of the Lord’s Resistance Army in Uganda, including Joseph Kony. They are charged with war crimes and crimes against humanity.

*The Image Machine*, real-time interactive computer music by Roger Reynolds (71), is performed for the first time, in Oslo.

*Three Illusions for Orchestra (Micomicón, Fons juventatis, More’s Utopia)* by Elliott Carter (96) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Boston. See 15 January 2004.

*Three Gymnopedies* for piano by David Del Tredici (68) are performed completely for the first time, in Symphony Space, New York.

*Soundings* for orchestra by Elliott Carter (96) is performed for the first time, in Orchestra Hall, Chicago.

*Three Wordsworth Songs* for soprano and computer by John Melby (64) is performed for the first time, at Pella College, Pella, Iowa.

*Sculpture* for orchestra by Magnus Lindberg (47) is performed for the first time, in Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles.

**7 October 2005** *Crowd* for harp by Harrison Birtwistle (71) is performed for the first time, in the Hochschule für Musik und Theater, Rostock.

**8 October 2005** An earthquake centered 160 km north of Islamabad kills an estimated 100,000 people and injures 50,000 more in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India. An estimated 2,500,000 are homeless.

The Queen Sophia Opera House opens in Valencia, inaugurated by the Queen herself.

The Board of Education of the State of Kansas in the United States votes to adopt science standards critical of evolution. They also strike a clause in the definition of science that calls it “a search for natural explanations of observable phenomena.”

**11 October 2005** A bomb explodes in Tal Afar, Iraq killing 24 people.

**12 October 2005** A bomb explodes in Tal Afar, Iraq killing 30 people.

**13 October 2005** *…but not simpler…* for string quartet by Tod Machover (51) is performed for the first time, at the Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**15 October 2005** Iraqis vote in a referendum on a new constitution.

*…songs are sung* op.67 for string quartet by Henryk Górecki (71) is performed for the first time, in Bielsko-Biala, Poland.

**16 October 2005** US warplanes strike near Ramadi, Iraq. They claim 70 insurgents are killed and no civilians. Hospital officials state that at least 39 civilians are killed and around 13 insurgents.

Arab terrorists kill three Israelis and injure five others in drive-by shootings in the West Bank.

**17 October 2005** Jens Stoltenberg of the Labour Party replaces Kjell Magne Bondevik as Prime Minister of Norway at the head of a three-party red-green coalition.

**19 October 2005** The trial of Saddam Hussein and seven others opens in Baghdad.

*Naxos Quartet no.7* for string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed for the first time, in Wigmore Hall, London.

**20 October 2005** A United Nations report shows that high ranking Syrian and Lebanese officials ordered and organized the assassination of Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri.

*Run Before Lightning* for flute and piano by Jonathan Harvey (66) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**21 October 2005** Moslems go on a rampage through Christian districts in Alexandria. They believe that Christians have distributed a DVD that is insulting to Islam. Police use rubber bullets to quell the disturbances. At least three people are killed.

*Animal, Vegetable, Mineral* for saxophone quartet and orchestra by Steven Mackey (49) is performed for the first time, in Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Nashville.

**22 October 2005** Ali Mohaqiq Nasab, editor of the magazine *Women’s Rights*, is sentenced to two years in prison in Kabul after being found guilty of blasphemy. Nasab printed an article suggesting that Moslems who convert to other faiths should not be stoned to death.

A Bellview Airlines 737 crashes right after takeoff from Murtala Muhammed International Airport in Lagos. All 117 people on board are killed.

Rioting erupts between Blacks and Pakistanis in Birmingham, England.

Trio Concerto for violin, cello, piano, and orchestra by Kevin Volans (56) is performed for the first time, in Groningen.

**23 October 2005** In elections to the Argentine Congress, candidates supporting President Nestor Kirchner win the most seats.

Serenata Notturna for oboe and string quartet by William Bolcom (68) is performed for the first time, in Philadelphia.

*Poem of the Forgotten*, for voice and piano by John Luther Adams (52) to words of Haines, is performed for the first time, in Seattle.

**24 October 2005** Rosa Parks dies in Detroit at the age of 92.

**25 October 2005** The results of the 15 October Iraqi referendum are announced. The new constitution is approved by 78.6% of the voters.

**26 October 2005** In a speech in Teheran, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad says that Israel should be “wiped off the map.” He says that Arab countries seeking better relations with Israel will “burn in the fire of the Islamic nation’s fury.”

Arab terrorists explode a bomb in Hadera, Israel, killing five people and injuring at least 20 others.

Three Arabs are convicted in a court in Düsseldorf of plotting to bomb Jewish sites in Germany.

**27 October 2005** In retaliation for yesterday’s bombing, Israeli warplanes kill at least seven people north of Gaza City.

Riots break out in Clichy-sous-Bois near Paris among African immigrants. Violence spreads.

An Independent Inquiry Committee of the United Nations concludes that almost 2,400 companies paid almost $1,800,000,000 in kickbacks to the government of President Saddam Hussein of Iraq through the oil for food program.

*Adagio: Convolutions on a Theme By Mozart* for clarinet and computer by Larry Austin (75) is performed for the first time, at Bowling Green State University, Ohio.

**28 October 2005** I. Lewis “Scooter” Libby, chief of staff to US Vice President Dick Cheney, is indicted by a federal grand jury on five felony counts surrounding the disclosure of the identity of a CIA operative. He immediately resigns.

**29 October 2005** Three bombs explode around New Delhi killing over 60 people and injuring more than 200. Kashmiri militants take responsibility.

A train derails near Hyderabad, India. Three cars fall into a river. 114 people are killed.

A car bomb kills 25 people in Huwaider, north of Baghdad.

**30 October 2005** Tan Dun (48) is awarded the Musikpreis der Stadt Duisburg.

**31 October 2005** Conservative Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz replaces social democrat Marek Belka as Prime Minister of Poland at the head of a minority government.

The Judicial Council of the United Methodist Church decides to remove Irene Elizabeth Stroud from the ministry because she is a practicing homosexual.

**1 November 2005** Four days of violent protests begin in Addis Ababa over the results of elections last May. 46 people are killed.

**2 November 2005** A bomb kills 20 people near a Shia mosque in Musayyib, south of Baghdad.

Symphony no.8 for orchestra by Philip Glass (68) is performed for the first time, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York.

**4 November 2005** The UNESCO music prize is conferred upon Mikis Theodorakis (80) in Aachen.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Sextet (Philadelphia) 2005* is recorded in International House, Philadelphia. It is *Comp.340.*

*Purple Rhapsody*, a concerto for viola and orchestra by Joan Tower (67), is performed for the first time, in Omaha, Nebraska.

**5 November 2005** US and Iraqi troops begin an offensive into Anbar Province in the west of Iraq.

String Quartet no.16 by Peter Sculthorpe (76) is performed for the first time, in Hamer Hall, Melbourne.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving in Times of Terror* by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) to words of the Earl of Northampton, is performed for the first time, in Waltham Abbey, Essex. It commemorates the 400th anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Sextet (Boston) 2005* is recorded at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston. On it are *Comp.345* and *Comp.349.*

**6 November 2005** Immigrant rioters in Grigny, France begin firing at police, wounding ten. Police in Evry uncover a bomb-making factory. Rioting spreads to major French cities, Bordeaux, Lille, Marseille, Strasbourg, Toulouse.

**7 November 2005** Apparently inspired by events in France, African immigrants begin rioting in Brussels.

Former President of Peru Alberto Fujimori is arrested by Chilean authorities when he lands in Santiago. He is wanted in Peru on charges of murder and corruption.

It is reported that the Yale University School of Music has received an anonymous donation of $100,000,000 to eliminate tuitions.

The US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission files a suit in federal court alleging sexual harassment and discrimination against Fox News Network LLC. They claim that Fox assigned women to freelance roles and other less secure positions. They say Vice President Joe Chillemi “routinely used gross obscenities and vulgarities when describing women or their body parts,” and that he admitted to favoring male employees over women.

**8 November 2005** The French government declares a state of emergency in the face of rioting by immigrants since 27 October.

**9 November 2005** Moslem terrorist Azahari Husin, accused of making bombs which killed hundreds of people in Indonesia, is killed in a police raid in Batu, near Malang.

Moslem terrorists explode three bombs in Amman, Jordan hotels killing at least 56 people and injuring another 100. Many lives are lost at a wedding reception at the Raddison Hotel.

*Venus Express* is launched by the European Space Agency from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazahstan. It is intended to survey the surface of Venus and analyze the atmosphere.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy announces that any foreigner participating in the recent violence will be deported.

**10 November 2005** Moslem terrorists explode a bomb in a Baghdad restaurant killing 34 people and injuring 25.

**11 November 2005** French authorities ban all public meetings in Paris in an attempt to curb the violence.

**13 November 2005** Two works for chorus by Henryk Górecki (71) are performed for the first time, in Krakow: *The Song of Rodziny Katynskie* op.81to words of Lutoborski and*Five Marian Songs* op.54 to traditional words.

**14 November 2005** The Rhode Island School of Design presents its Helen Adelia Rowe Metcalf Award for Lifetime Achievement to Laurie Anderson (58) in New York.

**17 November 2005** French authorities report that the situation has returned to normal after weeks of immigrant violence.

**18 November 2005** Bombs explode at two Shia mosques in Khanaqin, 160 km northeast of Baghdad. At least 77 people are killed and 100 injured.

An international conference of governments in Tunis endorses a plan to leave overall control of the internet in the hands of the US government.

**19 November 2005** Popular music entertainer Gary Glitter is arrested in Vietnam and charged with child molestation.

At least 18 people are killed by a car bomb in Baquba, Iraq. 16 people are killed by a roadside bomb in Haditha.

**20 November 2005** Three Little Nocturnes for string quartet and accordion by Hans Abrahamsen (52) are performed for the first time, in Huddersfield, England.

*Rip Van Winkle* for speaker and orchestra by David Del Tredici (68) to words of Warman, after Irving, is performed for the first time, in the Kennedy Center, Washington.

**22 November 2005**  18 people are killed by a bomb in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Angela Kasner Merkel replaces Gerhard Schröder as Chancellor of Germany at the head of a left-right grand coalition.

**23 November 2005** The National Elections Commission of Liberia names Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf as the winner of a runoff election for president held on 8 November. She is the first woman to be elected a head of state in Africa.

*Laudate Dominum* for chorus by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) to Psalm 150 is performed for the first time.

**24 November 2005** A bomb explodes outside a hospital in Mahmudiya, south of Baghdad, killing at least 30 people.

A new law allowing pubs to stay open 24 hours a day goes into effect in England.

Former dictator of Chile, Augusto Pinochet, is indicted for the kidnapping and murder of six people in 1975.

**27 November 2005** An explosion in a coal mine at Qitaihe, Heilongjiang Province, China kills 161 people.

In a 15-hour procedure in Lille, French doctors complete the first face transplant on a 38-year-old woman.

Retired General Manuel Contreras Sepulveda is quoted in *La Tercera* that former dictator Augusto Pinochet personally ordered him to arrest Michelle Bachelet Jeria (presently a candidate for president) and her mother in 1975. The two were tortured by the Chilean military. Bachelet’s father was tortured and killed by Pinochet’s henchmen in 1974.

**29 November 2005** Talks resume in Abuja, Nigeria between Darfur rebels and the government of Sudan.

**30 November 2005** The European Union asks the Bush Administration to explain press reports that the US has been kidnapping terrorism suspects in Europe, flying them to certain countries, and maintaining secret prisons in eastern Europe for terrorist suspects.

The US military publicly admits that they bought Iraqi news reports praising their efforts in the war and the rebuilding of Iraq.

Police in Belgium arrest 14 members of a group recruiting fighters for the Iraq insurgency.

Two women are elected to local posts in Jidda. It is the first time that women have won an election of any kind in Saudi Arabia.

*In This Dream that Dogs Me* for percussion, guitar, cello, and electronics by Annie Gosfield (45) is performed for the first time, in the Duke Theatre, New York.

**1 December 2005** Ten US Marines are killed and eleven injured in Fallujah.

British scientists report in *Nature* that the current in the Atlantic Ocean is moving 30% slower than in 1957.

The World Health Organization reports that henceforth it will not hire smokers.

**2 December 2005** UN investigator Manfred Nowak reports in Beijing that the use of torture in China is on the decline but remains widespread.

**4 December 2005** *Deux coups de sonnette* for tape by Pierre Henry (77) is performed for the first time.

**5 December 2005** An Arab terrorist explodes a bomb in Netanya, Israel killing five people and injuring 35.

**6 December 2005** Exploding bombs kill 36 people in Baghdad and injure twice that number.

An Iran Air Force C-130 crashes into an apartment building in Tehran. All 94 people on the plane are killed along with about 30 on the ground. 90 people are injured.

John Austin of the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reports in San Francisco that the ozone layer will not begin to recover from chlorofluorocarbons until 2065.

**7 December 2005** An Israeli air strike kills Arab terrorist leader Mahmoud Arkhan in Gaza.

The leading Croatian war crimes suspect, General Ante Gotovina, is arrested on Tenerife in the Canary Islands.

The City Council of Chicago votes to ban smoking in most public places.

**8 December 2005** A bomb explodes on a bus in Baghdad killing at least 30 people.

An Israeli air strike kills two Arab terrorists in Gaza. An Arab man kills an Israeli soldier at the northern border of Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The highest court of Great Britain, the Law Lords, rule that evidence gained by torture is not admissible in British courts.

Donald James Martino dies on a cruise ship off the coast of Antigua, of a heart attack following complications of diabetes, aged 74 years, six months, and 22 days.

**9 December 2005** The representative of the Bush administration to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Montreal walks out of the session.

Harrison Birtwistle (71) wins two British Composer Awards, in the orchestral category for *Night’s Black Bird*, and in the choral category for *Ring Dance of the Nazarene.*

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Alumni Orchestra (Wesleyan) 2005* is recorded in Crowell Concert Hall, Wesleyan University. On it are *Comp.164(+220+346+336+Falling River Music)* and *Comp.165(+220+346+336+Falling River Music).*

**10 December 2005** A Sosoliso Airlines DC-9 crashes while attempting to land at Port Harcourt, Nigeria. 108 people are killed. Two survive.

Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact disc *Two Compositions (Orchestra) 2005* is recorded in Crowell Concert Hall, Wesleyan University. They are *Comp.24* and *Comp.83*.

*Cry Peace* for chorus by Libby Larsen (54) is performed for the first time, at First Christian Church, Tampa, Florida.

**11 December 2005** About 5,000 white Australians run amok in suburban Sydney, attacking anyone presumed to be of Middle Eastern descent. When police and medical personnel arrive, they are attacked by the mobs.

Former Defense Minister Michelle Bachelet Jeria, who was tortured by the military under the Pinochet dictatorship, comes in first in the presidential election in Chile. She will face billionaire Sebastián Piñera Echenique in a January runoff. Bachelet’s Concertacion coalition wins Congress for the first time since the return of democracy in 1990.

**12 December 2005** Gangs of youths of Middle Eastern descent run amok in suburban Sydney in response to the events of yesterday. Christian churches and worshippers are particular targets.

A court in Serbia convicts 15 Serb militiamen for the massacre of 200 people in Vukovar, Croatia after the town was captured in 1991. They are given prison terms of from five to 20 years.

Popular music entertainer Young Buck is sentenced to three years’ probation and 80 hours of community service for stabbing Jimmy James Johnson at a rap music awards show in November 2004.

**14 December 2005** Israeli war planes kill four Arab terrorists in Gaza.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran calls the Holocaust a “myth” and says it is used to justify the existence of Israel.

**15 December 2005** For the first time since the United States overthrew Saddam Hussein, a national election for a full-term government takes place in Iraq.

The terrorist group Hamas wins the largest number of seats in local elections in the Palestinian territories.

Three separate teams of scientists from the US and UK announce that 2005 has been one of the warmest years ever recorded.

**16 December 2005** Emily’s Aria from Ned Rorem’s (82) unperformed opera *Our Town* is performed for the first time, in St. Matthew and St. Timothy’s Church, New York.

**17 December 2005** US President George W. Bush acknowledges that he authorized the National Security Agency to eavesdrop on individuals in the US without warrant. He claims it is legal.

**18 December 2005** A hospital in Lausanne reports that it will allow assisted suicide for mentally competent, terminally ill patients.

Leftist Evo Morales Aima wins election at President of Bolivia. He is the first native president in the country’s history.

**19 December 2005** The first new parliament in Afghanistan since 1969 is inaugurated.

President Mahmoud Ahmedinejad decrees that “indecent and Western music” is henceforth banned from Iranian state-run radio and television.

Antonio Fazio, governor of the Bank of Italy, resigns over a scandal about his intervention in a bank takeover.

The first ceremonies under Great Britain’s Civil Partnership Act take place in Belfast.

**20 December 2005** Preliminary results from the 15 December Iraqi elections show the Shia United Iraqi Alliance in the lead. Sunni leaders denounce the results as rigged.

**21 December 2005** State media in China reports that a zinc-smelting plant in Shaoguan, Guangzhou discharged waste with dangerous levels of cadmium into the Bei River.

**22 December 2005** *Sebastian im Traum* for orchestra by Hans Werner Henze (79) is performed for the first time, in the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam.

**23 December 2005** Eleven members of the Indian Parliament are expelled for accepting bribes.

Lech Aleksander Kaczynski replaces Aleksander Kwasniewski as President of Poland.

**24 December 2005** *Away in a Manger* for chorus by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in King’s College, Cambridge.

**25 December 2005** Birgit Nilsson dies in Vastra Karup, Sweden at the age of 87.

*Carol: An Heavenly Song* for chorus and organ by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) to an anonymous medieval text is performed for the first time, in the Chapel Royal, London.

**27 December 2005** The Free Aceh Movement formally disbands.

Ukraine and Bulgaria announce that their forces have been completely removed from Iraq.

**28 December 2005** The head of UN election monitors in Iraq, Craig Jenness, calls the recent Iraqi elections “transparent and credible.”

Police officers process the arrest of former dictator Augusto Pinochet at his home outside Santiago, although they do not take him into custody.

A concert in memory of George Rochberg (†0) takes place in Carnegie Recital Hall, New York.

**29 December 2005** The 29-year rebellion in Aceh Province officially ends when Indonesian troops withdraw from the province.

An Arab terrorist kills two Arabs and an Israeli soldier with a bomb at a checkpoint near Tulkarm.

Croatian Serb Slobodan Davidovic is convicted in a Zagreb court of taking part in the 1995 massacre of 8,000 Moslem men and boys at Srebrenica. He is sentenced to 15 years in prison.

**31 December 2005** After six years in the country, United Nations peacekeepers depart Sierra Leone.

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26 February 2016