**3 January 2006** Lobbyist for the Republican Party Jack Abramoff pleads guilty in federal court in Washington to charges of conspiring to bribe public officials, fraud, and tax evasion. He bribed members of Congress and defrauded Indian tribes.

**4 January 2006** Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel suffers a stroke and undergoes emergency brain surgery in Jerusalem. Ehud Olmert becomes acting Prime Minister.

Bombs kill 38 people in Miqdadiya and Baghdad.

Arab terrorists bulldoze a wall separating the Gaza Strip from Egypt allowing hundreds of their number to invade Egyptian territory. They battle with Egyptian soldiers, killing two of them. 30 people are injured.

A state of emergency, imposed by President Jacques Chirac last November, is lifted in France. Rioting by immigrant youth has subsided, but not before 10,000 cars and hundreds of buildings were set afire and 5,000 people arrested.

**5 January 2006** Bombs kill 110-140 people in Karbala and Ramadi, Iraq. Eleven US soldiers are killed in attacks around Iraq.

**9 January 2006** A bomb kills about 20-25 people near the Interior Ministry in Baghdad. Four other people are killed in other bombings.

**10 January 2006** Iran resumes its nuclear program, including its uranium enrichment facility at Natanz. It is condemned by the US and some EU members.

An Israeli court sentences Arab terrorist Abbas Sayed is sentenced to 35 life sentences for several murders.

**11 January 2006** The Israeli Ministry of Tourism ends negotiations with Christian cleric Pat Robertson for a Christian tourism center near the Sea of Galilee. Robertson claimed that the recent stroke suffered by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon was God’s punishment for the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza last September.

Final results of a constitutional referendum in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are announced. Over 84% of the electorate favor the new measure.

**12 January 2006** Arab terrorists open fire on the Palestinian cabinet building in Ramallah and the home of Interior Minister Nasser Youssef. Four people are injured.

Over 350 pilgrims are crushed to death in a stampede in Mina, near Mecca. About 1,000 people are injured.

**13 January 2006** Alyeksandr Koptsev enters a synagogue in Moscow and stabs eight people before being subdued. He will be charged with racially motivated attempted murder.

**15 January 2006** The US spacecraft *Stardust* releases a capsule containing particles collected from the comet Wild 2. A few hours later, the capsule returns to Earth in Utah.

Socialist Michelle Bachelet Jeria defeats conservative billionaire Sebastián Piñera Echenique in presidential elections in Chile.

**16 January 2006** Bombers kill at least 24 people in two separate incidents in Afghanistan.

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf is inaugurated as the President of Liberia in Monrovia, the first woman elected head of state in Africa.

**18 January 2006** Bodies of 36 murdered people are discovered in two villages north of Baghdad.

**19 January 2006** The Italian government announces it will withdraw its 2,600 troops from Iraq by the end of the year.

Two bombs kill 15 people in Baghdad.

The Bush Administration issues a legal defense of its program of warrantless surveillance of terrorism suspects inside the US.

The US launches *New Horizons*, the first exploratory mission to Pluto.

*…towards a pure land* for orchestra by Jonathan Harvey (66) is performed for the first time, in The City Hall at The Gait, Glasgow.

**20 January 2006** Results of the Iraqi national election held last December are announced in Baghdad. The United Iraqi Alliance, a coalition of Shia religious parties, wins 128 of the 275 seats. Kurdish parties win 53 while Sunni religious parties win 44 seats.

Calm is restored after four days of political violence in Côte d’Ivoire.

*Tribute to Cavafy* for narrator, chorus, and percussion by John Tavener (61) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Hall, Birmingham.

**22 January 2006** Socialist Juan Evo Morales Ayama replaces Enrique Eduardo Rodríguez Veltzé as President of Bolivia.

**23 January 2006** Heavy fighting resumes in Darfur Province between Sudanese military and the Sudanese Liberation Army.

Elements of the Ugandan rebel Lord’s Resistance Army battle UN troops in northeastern Congo. Eight Guatemalans and 15 rebels are killed.

In Canadian parliamentary elections, the Conservative Party gains 25 seats to become the largest party in the House of Commons.

**24 January 2006** The Walt Disney Co. announces it will purchase Pixar Animation Studios for $7,400,000,000 in stock.

**25 January 2006** The Arab terrorist group Hamas wins a majority of seats in elections to the Palestinian Legislative Council.

**26 January 2006** Saudi Arabia recalls its ambassador from Copenhagen over the publishing of caricatures of the prophet Mohammed in Danish newspapers.

*Il sogno di Leporello* for orchestra by Henri Pousseur (76) is performed for the first time, in Freiburg.

**27 January 2006** *Fremdes Licht* for soprano, violin, clarinet, and chamber orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (53) to words of Brentano is performed for the first time, in the Kongresshalle, Augsburg.

*Diamond in the Rough* for violin, viola, and percussion by Michael Daugherty (51) is performed for the first time, in Cullen Theatre, Houston.

*Roving Mars*, a film with music by Philip Glass (68), is released in the United States and Canada.

**29 January 2006** Social Democrat Tarja Halonen is reelected as President of Finland.

A study based on figures from the Congressional Budget Office shows that the share of all capital income going to the richest one percent of the US was 57.5% in 2003, up from 38.3% in 1991.

Nam June Paik dies at his home in Miami, Florida, USA, aged 73 years, six months, and nine days.

**30 January 2006** Danish dairy company Arla Foods reports that a boycott of Danish products in the Middle East has cost them $1,600,000. Libya closes its embassy in Copenhagen.

**1 February 2006** In the midst of controversy over cartoons of the prophet Mohammed in Danish newspapers, periodicals in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Spain reprint some of the offending caricatures. Syria withdraws its ambassador from Denmark.

**2 February 2006** Protests intensify throughout the Moslem world over caricatures of the prophet Mohammed in Danish newspapers.

**3 February 2006** About 100 radical Moslems storm a building in Jakarta housing the Danish embassy.

A ferry carrying 1,400 people from Duba, Saudi Arabia to Safaga, Egypt sinks in the Red Sea. Over 1,000 people are lost.

*Milosz Songs* a cycle for voice and orchestra by John Harbison (67) to words of Milosz is performed for the first time, in New York.

**4 February 2006** Protesters angry about Danish cartoons set fire to the Danish and Norwegian embassies in Damascus. The Swedish embassy is also damaged.

The *New York Times* reports that NASA officials complained of attempts by the Bush administration to control the release of scientific information, especially on climate change and the Big Bang.

**5 February 2006** 20,000 Moslems set fire to the Danish embassy in Beirut and rampage through a Christian district of the city.

A Moslem, angered by the cartoon controversy, kills a Roman Catholic priest at prayer in Trebzond, Turkey.

Ahmed al-Meghani, Attorney-General of the Palestinian Authority, announces that at least $700,000,000 in public money has been stolen or misused by Palestinian officials since 1997.

Two works by Donald Martino (†0) are performed for the first time, in Paine Hall of Harvard University: Violin Sonata no.2 and a Piano Trio.

**6 February 2006** Toshiba Corp. announces it will buy all of Westinghouse Electric Co. for $5,400,000,000.

About 1,000 Moslem protesters battle police outside the US air base at Bagram, Afghanistan. Police fire into the crowd, killing four.

Mobs set fire to the Danish embassy in Tehran and attack the Austrian embassy.

Conservative Stephen Harper replaces Liberal Paul Martin as Prime Minister of Canada.

**7 February 2006** Protesters battle NATO troops in Maimana, Afghanistan. Three people are killed. Mobs rampage through Kabul, attacking UN and NATO property.

**8 February 2006** *Ghost Ranch* for orchestra by Michael Daugherty (51) is performed for the first time, in The Lighthouse, Poole, Great Britain.

**9 February 2006** The *National Journal* reveals that Lewis Libby, former chief of staff to US Vice President Dick Cheney, stated in sworn testimony that he leaked classified information to the news media on orders from his superiors.

American International Group, Inc. agrees to pay $1,640,000,000 to settle charges and end investigations by the Justice Dept., the SEC, and New York State agencies.

**10 February 2006** Mobs riot before the French embassy in Tehran, throwing rocks, firecrackers, and Molotov cocktails.

Attacks in two places in Iraq kill 13 people.

The 20th Winter Olympic Games open in Turin, Italy.

**11 February 2006** Steve Fossett lands his experimental plane at Bournemouth International Airport in England after setting a record for longest nonstop flight. Fossett flew 42.469.5 km over the last 76 hours and 45 minutes.

US Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shoots his hunting partner in the face, neck, and torso with birdshot. The incident takes place south of Corpus Christi, Texas. Cheney’s office will not acknowledge the shooting for two days. The victim will survive.

**12 February 2006** At least twelve people are killed in attacks throughout Iraq.

*Gegenstück* for contrabass saxophone, percussion, and piano by Wolfgang Rihm (53) is performed for the first time, in Theaterhaus Stuttgart.

*spazio elastico* for chamber ensemble by Olga Neuwirth (37) is performed for the first time, in Stuttgart.

**13 February 2006** 13 people are killed in several attacks in Iraq.

Former President Rene Preval is declared the winner of presidential elections in Haiti.

A UN investigation into conditions at US prison camps at Guantanamo, Cuba recommends that the camps should be closed down. They say that the treatment of prisoners violates international law and in some cases amounts to torture. The Bush administration will dismiss the findings.

Trio in Four Movements for flute, viola, and harp by Libby Larsen (55) is performed for the first time, in Weigel Hall of Ohio State University, Columbus.

**14 February 2006** Mobs go on a rampage in Lahore, Pakistan, attacking government buildings and western interests in protests over the Mohammed cartoons. Two people are killed.

The Iranian government announces that it has begun to enrich uranium again.

The British Parliament votes to ban smoking in all indoor places in England, except prisons and hotel rooms.

**15 February 2006** Rioting takes place in Peshawar, Pakistan, fueled by radical Islamic groups. Three people are killed.

Attacks in Baghdad kill eleven people.

A committee of the US House of Representatives investigating the response to Hurricane Katrina last August calls it a national failure, and criticizes all levels of government.

Two works for orchestra by Arvo Pärt (70) are performed for the first time, in Turin Cathedral: *La Sindone* and *La tela traslata*.

*Feast During a Plague* for orchestra by Sofia Gubaidulina (74) is performed for the first time, in Philadelphia.

*Song Concerto* for saxophones and chamber orchestra by Libby Larsen (55) is performed for the first time, in Hancher Auditorium, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

**16 February 2006** Attacks in various places in Iraq kill 13 people.

*Will Sound* for chamber group by Wolfgang Rihm (53) is performed for the first time, in Carnegie Hall, New York.

*LUVN BLM* for flute, clarinet, percussion, piano, violin, and cello by Ellen Taaffe Zwilich (66) is performed for the first time, in Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles.

**17 February 2006** A mudslide buries the Philippine town of Guinsaugon, Leyte killing about 1,000 people.

About 1,000 people attack the Italian consulate in Benghazi, Libya after an Italian minister appears on television wearing a shirt with the Mohammed cartoons printed on it. Libyan police kill eleven people as they battle the protesters.

A study in *Science* shows the rate of melting of Greenland’s glaciers has doubled over the last ten years.

**18 February 2006** Moslems begin attacking Christians in Maiduguri, Nigeria after the cartoon incident. 21 people are killed and 30 churches destroyed.

Members of the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta carry out attacks on Nigeria’s oil industry.

String Quartet no.10by Kevin Volans (56) is performed for the first time, in O’Reilly Theatre, Dublin.

**19 February 2006** The Israeli government begins withholding tax revenue it collects for the Palestinian Authority because the PA is now in the hands of avowed terrorists.

**20 February 2006** 18 people are killed in two separate bombings in Iraq.

Violence in Nigeria spreads to Bauchi. About 25 people are killed.

**21 February 2006** 21 people are killed by a bomb in a Baghdad market.

Christians retaliate against Moslems in Onitsha, Nigeria. At least 80 people are killed and several mosques are torched.

**22 February 2006** Bombs planted inside the Golden Mosque in Samarra, Iraq go off, causing extensive damage to the building. No one is killed in the shrine holy to Shia Moslems. Shias blame Sunnis and waves of attacks against Sunnis begin over the next few days. At least 17 Sunni mosques are damaged in Baghdad alone. Over 400 people will be killed in Sunni-Shia violence over the next week. Some estimates put the number over 1,000.

In the largest cash robbery in British history £53,000,000 is taken from a cash depot in Tonbridge, Kent.

*Overvoltage Rumble* for bass clarinet, percussion, guitar, cello, bass, and electronics by Annie Gosfield (45) is performed for the first time, in Merkin Concert Hall, New York.

Sonata for cello and piano no.3 op.90 by Lowell Liebermann is performed for the first time, in the Fort Worth Museum of Modern Art, Fort Worth, Texas, the composer at the keyboard on his 45th birthday.

**23 February 2006** *Morning’s Embrace* for orchestra by Joseph Schwantner (62) is performed for the first time, in the Kennedy Center, Washington.

**24 February 2006** Daytime curfews are imposed on Baghdad and vicinity in an attempt to curb Sunni-Shia violence.

Terrorists attempt to bomb the oil processing plant at Abqaiq, Saudi Arabia but are thwarted by security personnel.

*Our Town*, a chamber opera by Ned Rorem (82) to words of McClatchy after Wilder, is performed for the first time, at Indiana University, Bloomington.

**25 February 2006** An uprising by about 1,000 inmates occurs at Pul-i-Charkhi prison, Afghanistan. Six people will be killed in the rioting.

*Salute* for chorus (with kazoos), brass, and percussion by John Corigliano (68) is performed for the first time, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York.

**26 February 2006** The 20th Winter Olympic Games conclude in Turin. In 16 days of competition, 2,508 athletes from 80 countries took part.

**28 February 2006** Sulejman Tihic replaces Ivo Miro Jovic as Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Hercegovina.

**1 March 2006** Rioting inmates surrender to authorities at Pul-i-Charkhi prison, Afghanistan after a five day uprising.

**2 March 2006** A commission of the Italian Parliament releases a draft of an investigative report showing that the leaders of the USSR ordered the killing of Pope John Paul II in 1981, “beyond all reasonable doubt.”

Scientists at the University of Colorado report in the online version of *Science* that Antarctica is losing an estimated 150 cubic km of ice per year.

It is discovered that 1,000,000 litres of crude oil has leaked over one hectare from the Alaska pipeline in the North Slope.

**4 March 2006** Côte d’Ivoire extradites Youssouf Fofana to France. Foufana is the leader of a gang called the Barbarians which kidnapped, tortured, and murdered Ilan Halimi because he was a Jew.

**5 March 2006** *Blue Windows* for woodwind quintet and piano by Libby Larsen (55) is performed for the first time, in Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester, New York.

**6 March 2006** The Governor of South Dakota signs a bill which outlaws abortion, except where the life of the mother is at risk.

**7 March 2006** After a week of Hindu-Moslem violence in Lucknow, two bombs go off in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India killing 14 people and injuring 200. The bombs were placed at a Hindu holy site and a train station.

**8 March 2006** Iraqi and US officials in Baghdad find the bodies of 24 people who were killed execution style.

Popular music entertainer Boy George pleads guilty in a New York court to falsely reporting a burglary at his apartment. Police found no evidence of forced entry but did find 13 bags of cocaine.

Two works are performed for the first time, in Holywell Music Rooms, Oxford: *Song of Myself* for baritone, double bass, and percussion by Harrison Birtwistle (71) and *A Page from A Humument* for soprano, two clarinets, viola, cello, and double bass by Robin Holloway (62) to words of Phillips.

**9 March 2006** Aníbal António Cavaco Silva replaces Jorge Fernando Branco de Sampaio as President of Portugal.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston announces it has settled claims by 88 people who say that they were abused by priests. The average payout is $75,000.

*Variance* for tape by Pierre Henry (78) is performed for the first time, at Radio France, Paris.

*At a Cloud Gathering* for percussion and electronics by Jonathan Harvey (66) is performed for the first time, in Le Toboggan, Centre Culturel de Décines, Lyon.

**10 March 2006** Italian police arrest 16 people for spying on the opponents of Health Minister Francesco Storace when he ran for governor of the Lazio region. Storace resigns his ministry.

Anna Moffo dies in New York at the age of 73.

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter enters orbit around the red planet.

*Naxos Quartet no.8*for string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed for the first time, at Canterbury Christ Church University.

**11 March 2006** Former President of Yugoslavia Slobodan Milosevic is found dead in his cell in The Hague, the victim of a heart attack. Thus ends his trial for genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. It was the first genocide trial of a former head of state.

French police storm the Sorbonne with tear gas to rout students from a three-day occupation of the main building. The students are protesting a new law by the conservative government which would make it easier for employers to fire workers.

Verónica Michelle Bachelet Jeria replaces Ricardo Froilán Lagos Escobar as President of Chile. She is the first woman to hold that post.

**12 March 2006** 58 people are killed and over 200 injured in several bombings in a Shia section of Baghdad.

**13 March 2006** Capital One Financial Corp. announces it will buy North Fork Bancorporation for $14,600,000,000.

**14 March 2006** Israeli forces take six high-ranking detainees from a prison in Jericho run by the Palestinian Authority. Authority leaders recently said that the terrorists might soon be freed. Arabs respond by kidnapping eleven foreigners in the West Bank.

In searches throughout Baghdad, officials uncover 85 bodies, many of them bound and tortured.

The World Meterological Organization reports that levels of greenhouse gases reached record levels in 2004.

**15 March 2006** The UN General Assembly replaces the Human Rights Commission with a new, somewhat smaller Human Rights Council. It will have more stringent rules for membership.

The UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague convicts two Bosnian army generals for failing to prevent or punish atrocities committed by their troops. Enver Hadzihasanovic is sentenced to five years in prison. Amir Kubura receives a sentence of two years and six months.

The Parliament of the Czech Republic overrides a veto by President Vaclav Klaus and approves same-sex unions.

*Ragged Edge* for chamber orchestra by TJ Anderson (77) is performed for the first time, in the Harris Theatre for Music and Dance, Chicago.

**16 March 2006** The Parliament of Iraq meets for the first time since elections last December. They are unable to agree on anything, do not elect a speaker, and adjourn after 30 minutes.

The online version of *Science* publishes a study showing that the rise in ocean temperatures is linked to increased severity of storms.

The Bolivian government charges three former presidents and eight former energy ministers with violating the constitution when they approved 44 contracts with foreign energy companies without approval of Congress.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact discs *9 Compositions (Iridium) 2006* is recorded at the Iridium Jazz Club, New York. Today are recorded *Comp.350* and *Comp.351.*

**17 March 2006** Part of Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact discs *9 Compositions (Iridium) 2006* is recorded at the Iridium Jazz Club, New York. Today are recorded *Comp.352* and *Comp.353*.

**18 March 2006** About 100,000 students and workers march in Paris against the new First Employee Contract law. Protests across France involve 1,500,000 people.

Variations for Vibes, Pianos, and Strings, a dance piece by Steve Reich (69), is performed for the first time, in the Philharmonie, Cologne.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact discs *9 Compositions (Iridium) 2006* is recorded at the Iridium Jazz Club, New York. Today are recorded *Comp.354, Comp.355*, and *Comp.356.*

**19 March 2006** *But Mary Stood (Sacred Symphony)* for soprano, chorus and strings by John Harbison (67) to words of the Bible is performed for the first time, in Boston.

Part of Anthony Braxton’s (60) compact discs *9 Compositions (Iridium) 2006* is recorded at the Iridium Jazz Club, New York. Today are recorded *Comp.357* and *Comp.358.*

**20 March 2006** 13 people are killed in bombings in Baghdad.

Thomas Lubanga, a warlord from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, becomes the first person to face war crimes charges before the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

President Alyeksandr Lukashenko of Belarus wins reelection in voting widely viewed as fraudulent. Arrests of opposition activists and severe media controls spur opposition calls for a new election.

**21 March 2006** Insurgents attack a jail in Miqdadiya, killing 18 police officers and freeing 30 prisoners.

In a trial at Fort Meade, Maryland, US Army Sgt. Michael Smith is found guilty of maltreatment, dereliction of duty, and committing an indecent act at Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq. He will be sentenced to reduction in rank, 179 days confinement, and a dishonorable discharge.

*The Place Where You Go To Listen*, a sound and light environment by John Luther Adams (53) opens at the University of Alaska Museum of the North in Fairbanks.

**22 March 2006** The Basque terrorist group Euzkadi ta Askatasuna (ETA) announces that it is declaring a permanent cease fire in its struggle for independence for the Basque region. Over the past 30 years, ETA has killed about 800 people.

17 people are killed in attacks in Iraq.

At least 125 people are killed when a ferry travelling from Nigeria to Gabon sinks off Cameroon.

**23 March 2006** 33 people are killed in three bombings in Iraq.

**24 March 2006** Police arrest about 200 protesters in Minsk, Belarus who have camped in October Square since the announcement of the results of the presidential election on 20 March.

A study published in the journal *Science* estimates that the world’s seas will rise by four to six meters by the year 2100.

**25 March 2006** The Nigerian government agrees to hand over former President Samuel Taylor to the new democratic government of Liberia for trial. However, tonight he disappears from Calabar, where he has been living.

Police attack about 6,000 demonstrators in October Square, Minsk, arresting one of the opposition presidential candidates, Aleksandr Kozulin.

Public workers begin a 36-hour strike against the new French labor law. Transportation, education, and state-run companies are all disrupted.

**26 March 2006** *Für Lennart in memoriam* for string orchestra by Arvo Pärt (70) is performed for the first time, in Tallinn. It was commissioned by former Estonian President Lennart Meri for his own funeral.

**27 March 2006** A bomb kills 40 people and injures 30 at an army recruitment center in Kasak, Iraq.

*Another Life* for nine instruments and electronics by Tod Machover (52) is performed for the first time, in Boston.

**28 March 2006** In parliamentary elections in Israel, center and center-left parties win the most seats, including the Kadima party of Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

Over 1,000,000 people join demonstrations throughout France to protest the new law giving employers the right to sack workers under 26 without cause. Groups of young thugs attack the 700,000 people in the Place de la Bastille, Paris and police move in to quell the disturbances.

Violence erupts between Kurds and Turkish security forces in Diyarbakir and southeastern Turkey. Over the next week, 15 people will be killed.

*Crystal* for flute, alto flute, and piano by Michael Daugherty (51) is performed for the first time, in Rackham Auditorium, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**29 March 2006** Nigerian authorities capture former Liberian President Samuel Taylor in Ngala, near the border with Cameroon. He is flown to Liberia and handed over to UN peacekeeping troops, then brought to Sierra Leone for trial before the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Former Republican lobbyist Jack Abramoff is sentenced in federal court in Miami to five years, ten months in prison for fraud.

Members of the terrorist group Hamas are sworn in as the government of the Palestinian Authority in Gaza City. The United States and Canada break relations with the PA.

The UN Security Council votes unanimously to urge Iran to halt its uranium enrichment program.

*Variations on a Theme of Schubert* op.92 for wind band by Lowell Liebermann (45) is performed for the first time.

**30 March 2006** An Arab suicide bomber kills four people and himself near the settlement of Kedumim in the West Bank. A few hours later, Interior Minister Saeed Siyyam of the Palestinian Authority announces that the PA will no longer arrest militants.

Portia Simpson Miller becomes the first woman Prime Minister of Jamaica.

**31 March 2006** Police in Baghdad find the bodies of 24 people who have been tortured and executed.

Information Minister Yusuf Rizqa of the Palestinian Authority says the bombing of yesterday is a legitimate form of protest. Rival Arab groups engage in a gun battle in Gaza City. Three people are killed, 35 injured.

In a nationwide address, French President Jacques Chirac says he will sign the labor bill which has caused massive protests, but will not enforce it until the Parliament makes changes.

Pursuant to a new law, 16 foreign companies sell stakes in their oil operations in Venezuela to the government. They are now minority holders.

Four Preludes on Jewish Melodies for organ by William Bolcom (67) is performed for the first time, in Cincinnati.

*Fragments of Prophecy* for chorus by Richard Wernick (72) is performed for the first time, in Bloomington, Indiana.

*Submerged Memories* for narrator, clarinet, violin, electric guitar, percussion, electroacoustic processing, and visual projections by Roger Reynolds (71) to words of Sebald (tr. Hulse), is performed for the first time (musical elements only), in Project Artaud Theatre, San Francisco. See 20 April 2013.

**1 April 2006** Venezuela takes over two oil fields, one operated by a French company, the other by an Italian, after they refused to obey a new law requiring them to sell part of their holdings to the government.

Honduras and Nicaragua become full members of the Central American Free Trade Agreement with El Salvador and the United States.

Concerto for Bass Viol by John Harbison (67) is performed for the first time, in Toronto.

**2 April 2006** At least 24 people are killed in bombings and battles between US troops and Iraqi insurgents.

Alcatel SA of France and Lucent Technologies Inc of the US announce a merger to create the largest telecommunications equipment concern by revenue.

*Daydream and Nightmare* op.94 for two pianos, eight hands by Lowell Liebermann (45) is performed for the first time, at the Rivers School of Music, Weston, Massachusetts.

**3 April 2006** Three bombs in Baghdad kill 13 people.

Former President Samuel Taylor of Liberia appears before the Special Court for Sierra Leone in Freetown. He is indicted on eleven counts related to his support for the Revolutionary United Front in the Sierra Leone civil war.

A jury in federal court in Alexandria, Virginia finds that Zacarias Moussaoui is eligible for the death penalty because he lied to US authorities in the weeks before the 11 September 2001 attacks. Had he been truthful, the attacks may have been prevented.

**4 April 2006** A bomb in a Shia neighborhood in Baghdad kills over ten people.

Women participate in a Kuwaiti election for the first time, as voters and candidates. It is for a seat on a municipal council.

3,000,000 people take part in protests against the new labor law in France. Demonstrations in Paris are attacked by immigrant gangs who also attack police sent to quell the violence.

Congressman Tom Delay of Texas, formerly the Republican leader in the House of Representatives, resigns his seat in a corruption scandal.

*A Guy Walks Into a Modal Bar* for five laptops by Paul Lansky (61) is performed for the first time, at Princeton University.

**5 April 2006** In a filing in federal court in Washington, former administration official Lewis Libby testifies that President Bush, through Vice President Cheney, authorized him to disclose classified intelligence in order to strengthen Bush’s case for invading Iraq.

**6 April 2006** A bomb in Najaf, Iraq kills over ten people.

Pro-democracy protests begin in Nepal against the autocratic rule of King Gyanendra.

At least 109 people are killed when a ferry sinks in the Red Sea near Djibouti.

*…and bells remembered* for percussion by John Luther Adams (53) is performed for the first time, at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls.

**7 April 2006** The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs appeals for aid to save over 15,000,000 people in the horn of Africa severely affected by drought.

Three suicide bombers attack the Baratha Shia mosque in Baghdad. At least 90 people are killed and 175 injured.

The European Union and the United States suspend direct funding to the Palestinian Authority because it is now in the hands of the Hamas terrorist organization.

**8 April 2006** *Threads* for percussion quartet by Paul Lansky (61) is performed for the first time, at Princeton University.

**9 April 2006** Israel formally cuts ties to the Palestinian Authority because it is now in the hands of the Hamas terrorist organization.

*Das Namenlose* for soprano, clarinet, and soprano by Wolfgang Rihm (54) is performed for the first time, in Heidelberg.

*Ode to Man* for chorus by Ned Rorem (82) to words of Sophocles (tr. Barnes) is performed for the first time, in Graham Chapel, Washington University, St. Louis.

**10 April 2006** The members of the European Union ban Belarusian President Aleksandr Lukashenko and 30 high officials from entering any of their countries. It is intended as punishment for the rigged elections last month and for the disappearances of four opposition leaders.

President Jacques Chirac of France announces he will scrap a new labor law which has caused widespread public discontent.

Over 100 people are killed when a motorboat sinks on Lake Volta in Ghana.

**11 April 2006** A bomb explodes at a Sunni gathering in Karachi. At least 57 people are killed and 80 injured. Sunnis rampage through the city in response, battling police. Over 100 people are injured.

Preliminary results of the Italian parliamentary elections held over the last two days show a narrow victory for the center-left Union Coalition of Romano Prodi over the conservative House of Freedoms led by Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi. Berlusconi refuses to concede defeat and demands a recount.

29 people are indicted by a Spanish High Court judge for the 2004 Madrid train bombings.

Italian police arrest Bernardo Provanzano near Corleone, Sicily. He is believed to be the head of the Sicilian Mafia.

Popular music entertainer Deshaun Holton (aka Proof) shoots and kills another man, Keith Bender, in a Detroit night club. Bender’s cousin, Mario Etheridge, thereupon shoots Holton to death.

*Minor Alterations* for electric guitar, violin, bassoon, and drums by Paul Lansky (61) is performed for the first time, at Princeton University.

**12 April 2006** 37 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

Governor Mitt Romney of Massachusetts signs a bill to provide health insurance to all citizens of the state.

**13 April 2006** 33 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

Rebels attack N’Djamena, Chad in an attempt to overthrow the government. Troops loyal to President Idriss Deby defeat them. About 350 people are killed.

A week of clashes between pro-democracy demonstrators and security forces in Nepal has so far resulted in four deaths.

**14 April 2006** Afghan, Canadian, and US forces battle the Taliban in Kandahar Province. 48 people are killed.

The Israeli cabinet declares Prime Minister Ariel Sharon permanently incapacitated and acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert becomes Prime Minister in his own right.

**17 April 2006** An Arab terrorist kills nine people and himself outside a restaurant in Tel Aviv. 60 people are injured.

**19 April 2006** Han Myung Sook replaces Han Duck Soo as Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea. She is the first woman to hold that post.

The Italian Court of Cassation confirms that Romano Prodi’s left of center coalition won the recent parliamentary elections.

*Raag Mala* for wind ensemble by Michael Colgrass (73) is performed for the first time.

**20 April 2006** 100,000 people take part in a banned protest in Katmandu against King Gyanendra. Security forces kill three people and injure several others at a protest in Chandragadi.

Amnesty International reports that the number of executions world wide was drastically reduced in 2005. Mexico and Liberia outlawed the death penalty. Only 22 countries carry out executions.

**21 April 2006** Three Studies from Couperinfor chamber orchestra by Thomas Adès (35), is performed for the first time, in Basel, directed by the composer.

**23 April 2006** Ten people are killed by bombs in Baghdad.

The center-left coalition of the Socialist Party and the Alliance of Free Democrats, led by Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcasany, wins reelection in Hungary. They increase their seat total by seven.

The central section of *The Golden Rule* for chorus and organ by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed for the first time, in St. George’s Chapel, Windsor to celebrate the 80th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. See 27 September 2006.

*Five Animated Shorts* for flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, and percussion by Steven Mackey (50) is performed for the first time, in the Kimmel Center, Philadelphia.

**24 April 2006** After weeks of protests, King Gyanendra of Nepal agrees to restore Parliament.

Seven bombs explode in Baghdad, killing ten people and injuring 70.

18 people are killed by bombs in the resort town of Dahab, Egypt.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran lifts a ban on women attending sporting events, however they must be seated in areas separate from men.

**25 April 2006** Nguyen Tan Dung replaces Phan Van Khai as Prime Minister of Vietnam.

16 people are killed in fighting and bombings in Iraq.

The UN Security Council votes travel and financial sanctions on four Sudanese individuals involved in war crimes in Sudan.

**26 April 2006** A European Parliament investigation finds that there have been over 1,000 secret CIA flights through Europe since 2001. The CIA transfers terrorism suspects to other countries for interrogation. The CIA is also guilty of kidnapping and illegal detentions in EU territory.

*Miss Lonelyhearts* op.93, an opera by Lowell Liebermann (45) to words of McClatchy after West, is performed for the first time, at the Juilliard Theatre, Lincoln Center, New York.

**27 April 2006** 34 people are killed in fighting and bombings in Iraq.

Conservative entertainer Rush Limbaugh is arrested in Palm Beach County, Florida and charged with prescription drug fraud.

*The Illusionist*, a film with music by Philip Glass (69), is shown for the first time, in Newport Beach, California.

**28 April 2006** Chung Mong Koo, chairman of Hyundai Motor Co., is arrested in Seoul on charges of embezzlement and bribery.

The UN World Food Program announces it is cutting rations it provides to millions in the Darfur region of Sudan due to lack of funds.

**29 April 2006** Canadian troops kill 15-20 Taliban in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

One *Sweet Morning* for chorus by John Corigliano (68) to words of Harburg is performed for the first time, in New York. On the same program is the premiere of *Going North* by Thea Musgrave (77) to words of Keats.

*Quamby* for orchestra and didjeridu ad lib by Peter Sculthorpe is performed for the first time, in Boulder, Colorado, on the composer’s 77th birthday.

**30 April 2006** US forces announce they have killed 20 insurgents south of Baghdad.

The parliament of Nepal announces elections for a constituent assembly which will draft a new constitution.

**1 May 2006** US forces announce that they have killed over 100 insurgents in Ramadi, Iraq over the last week.

President Evo Morales of Bolivia orders his military to seize the country’s natural gas fields.

**2 May 2006** Officials in the US state of Ohio take 90 minutes to kill Joseph Clark by lethal injection. They take 22 minutes to find a vein. After the poison begins flowing the vein collapses. They spend another 30 minutes searching for a new vein. At one point, Clark raises his head and tells his killers “It’s not working.”

**3 May 2006** A new cabinet in Nepal, appointed yesterday, announces a permanent cease fire with the country’s Maoist rebels.

An Armenian airliner crashes off the coast of Sochi, Russia. All 113 people aboard are killed.

*Intermittences* for piano by Elliott Carter (97) is performed for the first time, in Miller Auditorium, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**4 May 2006** The UN Committee Against Torture calls for the US to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In federal court in Alexandria, Virginia, Zacarias Moussaoui is sentenced to life in prison for complicity in the attacks of 11 September 2001.

*Copperwave* for brass quintet by Joan Tower (67) is performed for the first time, at the Juilliard School, New York.

**5 May 2006** An agreement is signed in Abuja, Nigeria between the government of Sudan and the largest faction of the Sudanese Liberation Army to end fighting in Darfur. Two other rebel groups refuse to sign the deal.

*Ladder to the Moon* for violin, wind octet, double bass, and percussion by Michael Daugherty (52) is performed for the first time, in Alice Tully Hall, New York.

**6 May 2006** *Julius Fucik* for two speakers and orchestra by Luigi Nono (†15) is performed for the first time, in Munich, 55 years after it was composed.

A new sound artwork by Max Neuhaus (66) called *Time Piece Beacon* is inaugurated at Dia:Beacon, Riggio Galleries in Beacon, New York.

*Veils* and *Vesper*, a sound and light exhibition by John Luther Adams (53) opens at the Diapason Gallery, New York. It will continue through 27 May.

*Chamber Dance* for “large chamber group without conductor” by Joan Tower (67) is performed for the first time, in New York.

**7 May 2006** 14 people are killed in several bombings in Baghdad and Karbala.

A week of fight between rival militias erupts in Mogadishu, Somalia. 150 people will be killed.

*Schnee* for nine instruments by Hans Abrahamsen (53) is performed for the first time, in Witten.

String Quartet no.5 by Brian Ferneyhough (63) is performed for the first time, in Witten.

**8 May 2006** Rival Arab factions engage in gun battles in Gaza and the West Bank.

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei of Iran overturns President Ahmadinejad’s ruling of 24 April allowing women to attend sporting events.

The government of Bolivian President Evo Morales Aima announces a plan to distribute at least 14,000,000 hectares of farmland to about 2,500,000 Bolivians over five years.

*Fault Line* for optional soprano and chamber orchestra by Shulamit Ran (56) is performed for the first time, in Symphony Center, Chicago.

**9 May 2006** 17 people are killed by a bomb in Tal Afar, Iraq.

The European Union, Russia, the US, and the UN reach agreement to resume humanitarian aid to Palestinian Arabs, but not the Palestinian Authority.

*Illusions* by Roger Reynolds (71) is performed for the first time, in Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles.

**10 May 2006** The Constitutional Court of Colombia strikes down the country’s total ban on abortion.

*Technocalyps*, a film by Frank Theys with music by Francisco López (42), is shown for the first time, at the Toneelhuis Theatre, Antwerp.

**11 May 2006** The Sri Lankan navy fights a sea battle with Tamil separatists off Kilinochchi. About 67 people are killed. International observers blame the rebels for breaking the truce.

*USA Today* reports that the US National Security Agency has collected telephone records of millions of Americans as part of its anti-terrorism campaign.

Attorney General Eliot Spitzer of New York announces that the Universal Music Group of Vivendi Universal SA has agreed to settle charges that it offered bribes to radio programmers to feature its music. The defendants agreed to pay $12,000,000.

“Was können wir tun” from the opera *König Hirsch* by Hans Werner Henze (79) is performed for the first time, in Munich.

*The Han Figurines* for violin, clarinet, tenor saxophone, double bass, piano, and percussion by Chen Yi (53) is performed for the first time, in Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**12 May 2006** Two Iraqi army units, one Kurdish, one Shia, battle each other north of Baghdad.

A gasoline pipeline explodes near a village 50 km east of Lagos, Nigeria. Up to 200 people are killed.

Seven days of violence between police and a drug gang begin today in São Paulo. An estimated 170 people will be killed.

Concerto for piano and orchestra no.3 op.95 by Lowell Liebermann (45) is performed for the first time, in Milwaukee.

**13 May 2006** *Remembering Harriet: A story of the American Underground Railroad* for narrator, vocal soloists, and orchestra by Thea Musgrave (77) to her own words is performed for the first time, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. It is a concert work based on her opera *Harriet: the Woman called Moses*.

*The Summer Day* for treble chorus and string quartet by Libby Larsen (55), to words of Oliver, is performed for the first time, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

**14 May 2006** 44 people are killed in US military operations south of Baghdad. 26 people are killed in bombings in the capital.

**15 May 2006** 16 people are killed in fighting between the Taliban and Afghan police in Kandahar Province.

Giorgio Napolitano replaces Carlo Azeglio Ciampi as President of Italy.

The US government announces that, after 26 years, it is restoring full diplomatic relations with Libya.

BellSouth Corp. and Verizon Communications Inc. deny handing over customer records to the US National Security Agency.

**16 May 2006** 34 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

The Senate of Nigeria rejects a constitutional amendment that would allow President Olusegun Obasanjo to run for a third term.

The UN Security Council resolves to replace the African Union peacekeeping force in Darfur with 20,000 UN troops.

**17 May 2006** A week of fighting between the multinational coalition and Taliban rebels begins in southern Afghanistan. At least 300 people will be killed.

Romano Prodi of the center-left L’Unione replaces Silvio Berlusconi of the conservative Forza Italia as Prime Minister of Italy.

A lawyer opens fire in the Council of State in Ankara, shooting five judges, one fatally. The man took the action after the Council, the highest administrative court in Turkey, last February upheld a ban on women civil servants wearing head scarves.

**19 May 2006** Three Fantasies for violin and piano by Bright Sheng (50) is performed for the first time, at the Library of Congress, Washington.

**20 May 2006** Construction is completed on the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River. It is the largest hydroelectric project to date. It is 2.3 km wide and cost $22,000,000.

Nuri Kamil al-Maliki replaces Ibrahim al-Shiqr al-Jaafari as Prime Minister of Iraq. The first full-term government since the invasion of the country is approved by Parliament.

27 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

**21 May 2006** 55.5% of voters in Montenegro favor independence from Serbia.

At least 21 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

*Akt* for soprano and string quartet by Wolfgang Rihm (54) is performed for the first time, in the Muziekgebouw, Amsterdam.

**23 May 2006** 21 Iraqis die in violence in Baghdad.

**25 May 2006** A federal jury in Houston convicts former Enron Corp. CEO Jeffrey Skilling on 19 counts of fraud, conspiracy, and insider trading. They also convict former CEO Kenneth Lay guilty on six counts of fraud and conspiracy. The judge also finds Lay guilty on four counts of bank fraud and making false statements.

*Journey Into Light* for soprano, two oboes, bassoon, two horns, and strings by Thea Musgrave (77) to words of Dunbar and an anonymous poet, is performed for the first time, in Southampton.

**26 May 2006** A court in Vladikavkaz, North Ossetia, Russia sentences Nur-Pashi Kulayev to life in prison for his part in the Beslan school attack in 2004.

**27 May 2006** An earthquake strikes south central Java killing over 6,000 people.

**29 May 2006** A US military vehicle goes out of control in Kabul, Afghanistan killing five people. A riot ensues by Afghans angered at the presence of foreign military. 20 people die in the violence.

50 Taliban fighters are killed in an air strike in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

29 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

**30 May 2006** A South Korean court convicts Kim Woo Choong, founder of the Daewoo Group conglomerate, of fraud and embezzlement. He is sentenced to ten years in prison.

The Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS reports that the spread of HIV throughout the world has slowed.

45 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

**31 May 2006** Police in Baghdad report discovery of 42 bodies of people who were killed execution style.

**1 June 2006** Zigmantas Balcytis replaces Algirdas Mykolas Brazauskas as acting Prime Minister of Lithuania.

German intelligence admits that it knew of a German citizen detained in Macedonia and then turned over to the CIA which took him to Afghanistan.

A state court in Rockville, Maryland sentences John Allen Muhammad to six consecutive life terms in prison for his part in the sniper killings around Washington, DC in 2002. Muhammad is already sentenced to die in Virginia.

A military court in Fort Meade, MD convicts Sgt. Santos Cardona of dereliction of duty and aggravated assault in Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. He will be sentenced to 90 days hard labor, reduction in rank, and $600 per month reduction in pay for one year.

**2 June 2006** The UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda sentences Joseph Serugendo to six years in prison. A former radio station director, Serugendo incited Hutus to kill Tutsis during the 1994 genocide.

**3 June 2006** The Republic of Montenegro is declared independent of Serbia under President Filip Vujanovic and Prime Minister Milo Dukanovic.

37 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

Voting in the Czech Republic leaves the parliament almost equally divided between leftist and rightist parties. The center-right Civic Democratic Party gains 23 seats and becomes the largest party, while its closest rival, the Czech Social Democratic Party gains four.

The RCMP arrests 17 people for plotting terrorist actions in Canada.

*Hymn to St. Ursula* for bassoon, A clarinet, bass clarinet, and contrabassoon by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed for the first time, at a wedding in Edinburgh.

Anthony Braxton’s compact disc *Composition No.19 (For 100 Tubas)* is recorded at the World Financial Center, New York, on the eve of his 61st birthday. It is *Comp.19.*

**4 June 2006** Terrorists kill 19 people on a bus north of Baghdad.

**5 June 2006** 30 people are killed in fighting in Afghanistan.

The independence of Montenegro is recognized by Serbia.

**7 June 2006** A US air strike kills Abu Masab al-Zarqawi near Baqubah. He is considered to be the leader of the terrorist insurgency in Iraq.

Italian Foreign Minister Massimo D’Alema announces his country will withdraw all of its 2,700 troops from Iraq by the end of the year.

*Freude* for two harps, the second hour of *Klang* by Karlheinz Stockhausen (77), is performed for the first time, in the Milan Cathedral.

**8 June 2006** 14 people are killed in fighting in Afghanistan.

14 people are killed in two bombings in Baghdad.

**10 June 2006** The Parliament of Nepal strips King Gyanendra of his last legislative powers.

21 people are killed in violence throughout Iraq.

Three detainees hang themselves in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

*The Io Passion: Aubades and Nocturnes* for clarinet and string quartet by Harrison Birtwistle (71) is performed for the first time, in University Concert Hall, Glasgow. See 11 June 2004.

**11 June 2006** 27 people are killed in violence throughout Iraq.

*The Lyre of Orpheus* for violin, percussion, and strings by Sofia Gubaidulina (74) is performed for the first time, in Basel.

**12 June 2006** 38 people are killed in fighting in Afghanistan.

39 people are killed in violence throughout Iraq.

Pursuant to a decision by the International Court of Justice, Nigeria turns over the Bakassi Peninsula to Cameroon.

György Sándor Ligeti dies in Vienna, aged 83 years and 15 days. His mortal remains will be laid to rest in the Zentralfriedhof, Vienna, Republic of Austria.

**13 June 2006** At least 25 people are killed by bombs in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Chief Prosecutor for the International Criminal Court Luis Moreno-Ocampo reports to the UN Security Council strong evidence of crimes against humanity, ethnic cleansing, mass rape, and murder carried out by government-backed Arab militias in Sudan.

*Himmels-Tür* for a percussionist and a small girl, the fourth hour of *Klang* by Karlheinz Stockhausen (77), is performed for the first time, in Teatro Rossini, Lugo.

**15 June 2006** A bus is blown up by a land mine in Kabithigollewa, Sri Lanka killing 63 people and injuring 70 others. The government blames Tamil separatists.

About 11,000 Afghan and coalition troops begin an offensive against the Taliban in four southern provinces.

Geir Hilmar Haarde of the Independence Party replaces Halldór Ásgrímsson of the Progressive Party as Prime Minister of Iceland.

The US Department of Defense reports that from February to May 2006, its personnel used banned interrogation techniques against detainees in Iraq.

US President George W. Bush creates the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument. The 363,000 sq. km. area from Nihoa Island to Kure Atoll is the largest marine sanctuary in the world.

**17 June 2006** Abdul Khalim Saidullayev, the leader of the rebel government of Chechnya, is killed in a gun battle with Russian security forces, in Argun, near Grozny.

Bombs and mortars kill 35 people in Baghdad.

The leftist Smer-Social Democracy party wins the most votes and 50 of 150 seats in parliamentary elections in Slovakia. Its leader, Robert Fico, will head a three-party coalition.

*Elegy* for viola and strings by Peter Sculthorpe (77) is performed for the first time, in Sydney.

*Of Music* for treble chorus and piano-four hands by Libby Larsen (55), to words of Dickinson, is performed for the first time, in Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church, Lafayette, California.

**18 June 2006** 74% of voters in Catalonia approve a charter granting greater autonomy from Spain.

The EU freezes all assets of President Aleksandr Lukashenko of Belarus and 35 senior officials. They are accused of rigging the presidential election last March.

**19 June 2006** The US freezes all assets of President Aleksandr Lukashenko of Belarus and nine senior officials. They are accused of rigging the presidential election last March.

**20 June 2006** Former President of Liberia Charles Taylor is flown from Sierra Leone to The Hague for trial.

18 people are killed by bombs in Baghdad.

*The Cartographer Song* for soprano, two clarinets, viola, cello, and double bass by Olga Neuwirth (37), to words of Fleischmann, is performed for the first time, in Jubilee Hall, Aldeburgh.

**21 June 2006** Seven US Marines and one Navy corpsman are charged with killing an Iraqi civilian, assault, larceny, and unlawfully entering a dwelling. They are currently at Camp Pendleton, California.

*Start Point* for string ensemble by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed completely for the first time, in Sanday, Orkney. See 21 June 2005.

**22 June 2006** Three parties in Ukraine agree to a coalition to rule the country.

**24 June 2006** President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo signs a bill abolishing the death penalty in the Philippines.

Radical Islamist Hassan Dahir Aweys takes over as leader of a militia which controls Mogadishu and most of southern Somalia.

**26 June 2006** Voters in Italy reject constitutional changes proposed by former Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi.

A federal judge in Kansas City orders the State of Missouri to temporarily halt executions because current procedures do not protect inmates from undue pain and suffering.

**27 June 2006** Nguyen Minh Triet replaces Tran Duc Luong as President of Vietnam. Nguyen Tan Dung replaces Phan Van Khai as prime minister.

The US Surgeon General issues a report showing that secondhand tobacco smoke constitutes a “serious health hazard.”

**28 June 2006** Israeli forces enter the Gaza Strip to rescue an Israeli soldier captured by Arab terrorists on 25 June.

Montenegro is admitted to the United Nations.

**29 June 2006** The ruling coalition in the Netherlands collapses when the D66 party pulls out over a citizenship dispute.

The US Supreme Court rules that the Bush administration practice of trying detainees at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba is illegal under US and international law.

The Supreme Court of Serbia rules that former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic ordered the murder of President Ivan Stambolic in 2000. They also rule that he ordered the murder of opposition leader Vuk Draskovic who is currently foreign minister.

*L’Antre de la Nymphe* for female voice and five players by Henri Pousseur (77) to words of Butor is performed for the first time, at Castello Caetani de Sermoneta.

**30 June 2006** 13 cyclists are excluded from the upcoming Tour de France as a result of a doping investigation in Spain.

The UN International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague convicts Bosnian Muslim militia leader Naser Oric of failing to prevent the murder and torture of Serbs by men he commanded in 1992-1993. He is sentenced to two years in prison, then released because he has already spent three years behind bars.

*Glosa a lo Divino* for seven live and seven recorded voices by Kevin Volans (56) is performed for the first time, in Scotland.

**1 July 2006** A new railway link is inaugurated between Beijing and Lhasa, Tibet.

A car bomb kills 62 people and injures over 100 in Sadr City in Baghdad.

**2 July 2006** Violence in Baghdad kills 14 people.

The African Union votes to send a peacekeeping force to try to stabilize the situation in Somalia.

Felipe Calderón Hinojosa of the conservative National Action Party narrowly defeats Andrés Manuel López Obrador of the leftist Democratic Revolutionary Party in the Mexican presidential election. National Action gains six Senate seats and 58 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, winning a plurality in both houses.

A 255-seat constituent assembly is elected in Bolivia to revise the country’s constitution.

*Ha’llel* for organ by Shulamit Ran (56) is performed for the first time, Orchestra Hall, Symphony Center, Chicago.

*Nine New Bagatelles* for piano by William Bolcom (68) is performed for the first time, in Los Angeles.

**4 July 2006** Popular music producer Dallas Austin is sentenced to four years in prison in Dubai for drug possession. He is then pardoned and allowed to leave the country.

Gediminas Kirkilas of the Social Democratic Party replaces Zigmantas Balcytis as Prime Minster of Lithuania.

Robert Fico of the left wing Smer-Social Democracy party replaces Mikulás Dzurinda of the center-right Slovak Democratic and Christian Union as Prime Minister of Slovakia.

**5 July 2006** Despite warnings from the US, Japan, and their allies, North Korea test-launches seven missiles.

17 people are killed in fighting between Israeli troops and Arab militants in the Gaza Strip.

Italian authorities in Milan arrest two military intelligence officials who are accused of participating in a kidnapping by the CIA.

A nationalist party, VMRO-DPMNE, takes the largest share, 45 of 120 seats, in parliamentary elections in Macedonia, defeating the ruling Social Democratic Alliance. Its leader, Nikola Gruevski, will head a five-party coalition.

Kenneth Lay, former CEO of Enron Corp., dies of a heart attack near Aspen, Colorado. He was convicted of fraud and conspiracy last May.

*Lumen Cognitionis* for flute, clarinet, and string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed for the first time, in Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham.

**6 July 2006** At least twelve people are killed by a bomb in Kufa, Iraq.

The Supreme Court of Florida throws out a $145,000,000,000 judgment in a class-action lawsuit against five tobacco companies.

*Chamber Concerto no.5* for chamber ensemble by Hans Werner Henze (80) is performed for the first time, in Munich.

*Other Presences* for trumpet and electronics by Jonathan Harvey (67) is performed for the first time, in Pittville Pump Room, Cheltenham.

*Montreal Sound Matter*, a collective field recording by Francisco López (42), opens at the Fonderie Darling Art Gallery in Montreal.

**7 July 2006** Iraqi and US forces battle insurgents in Sadr City in Baghdad. 30-40 people are killed.

**8 July 2006** Two Meditations for chorus and organ by William Bolcom (68) to words of Herbert are performed for the first time, in St. Mary’s, Ealing, London.

**9 July 2006** An S7 Airlines Airbus crashes while landing at Irkutsk. 127 of the 203 aboard are killed.

Three days of fighting begins between radical Islamists and two secular war lords in Somalia. About 70 people are killed.

Shia gunmen roam through a Sunni neighborhood in Baghdad killing at least 42 people. Later, a Shia mosque is bombed killing twelve.

Italy defeats France 1-1 (5-3) to win the 18th FIFA World Cup™ in Berlin, Germany.

Andrés Manuel López Obrador formally challenges the results of the 2 July presidential election in Mexico.

**10 July 2006** Chechen separatist leader Shamil Basayev is killed when a truck full of dynamite explodes near Ekazhevo, Ingushetia. Chechen guerrillas call the incident an accident. Russia claims it was an operation by their special forces.

Violence throughout Iraq kills at least 30 people.

*A Gift* for flute and clarinet by Joan Tower (67) is performed for the first time, in Portland, Oregon.

**11 July 2006** Kashmiri terrorists explode eight bombs within minutes on the commuter rail system for Mumbai, India. At least 207 people are killed, over 700 injured. The main separatist groups condemn the bombings.

Several attacks in Baghdad kill at least 50 people.

The Bush Administration confirms that it will begin granting basic human rights under the Geneva Convention to detainees in Guantanamo Bay.

The prison gang First Capital Command launches dozens of attacks throughout São Paulo state to protest conditions in Brazilian prisons.

**12 July 2006** Arab terrorists Hezbollah attack into northern Israel from Lebanon. They kill three soldiers and capture two others. Israel begins air and ground assaults into Lebanon. They also continue offensive actions in Gaza to free another captured soldier.

Gunmen kidnap 24 people in Muqdadiyah, Iraq. They release four and kill the rest.

Islamist extremists take control of the port of Mogadishu.

*Natürliche Dauern 1–15* for piano, the third hour of *Klang* by Karlheinz Stockhausen (77), is performed for the first time, in Kürten.

**13 July 2006** 32 people die in violence throughout Iraq.

A court in Belarus sentences opposition candidate Aleksandr Kozulin to five and a half years in prison for leading a confrontational march to protest the rigged elections.

Former CIA agent Valerie Plame and her husband Joseph Wilson file suit in federal court in Washington seeking damages from Vice President Dick Cheney, his former chief of staff Scooter Libby, presidential deputy chief of staff Karl Rove, and ten other high White House officials. The couple claims the defendants conspired to reveal her covert status as a punishment for Wilson’s criticism of the Bush administration’s use of bad intelligence in making the case for the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

Researchers at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island announce in *Nature* that they implanted a sensor into the brain of a paralyzed man which allows him to operate a computer.

Anthony Braxton’s (61) compact disc *6 Duos (Wesleyan) 2006* with John McDonough is recorded at Wesleyan University. It includes *Comp.168+(103).*

**14 July 2006** Tropical storm Bilis strikes the coast of China killing over 600 people.

Unknown hundreds of people are killed in floods and landslides in North Korea.

A bomb kills Shia leader Allama Hassan Turabi, his nephew and bodyguard, and the bomber in Karachi.

Hezbollah fires over 100 rockets from Lebanon into Israel. They also strike an Israeli warship in the Mediterranean. Two Israelis are killed, four missing. Israeli warplanes strike Hezbollah targets and the airport in Beirut, as well as the road from Damascus to Beirut.

Around 20 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

Malta refuses to allow a Spanish trawler carrying 51 African migrants to dock. Malta has already received over 1,000 migrants this year.

Jaroslaw Kaczynski replaces Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz as Prime Minister of Poland. He is the twin brother of President Lech Kaczynski.

*Living Harmonies*, a sound work by Bruce Odland (54) and Sam Auinger, opens at Siemensstraße 13, Stuttgart.

**15 July 2006** Israeli air strikes against Hezbollah targets in Lebanon continue.

The UN Security Council votes to condemn North Korea for its recent missile launches. They call on all members to prevent the transfer of missiles or their technology to North Korea.

*Magnificat and Nunc dimittis* for chorus and organ by Robin Holloway (62) is performed for the first time, in Winchester Cathedral.

The opera *La ville morte* by Nadia Boulanger (†25) and Raoul Pugno to words of d’Annunzio is performed for the first time, orchestrated by Bonifacio, at the Chigiana Festival, Italy, 92 years after it was composed.

**16 July 2006** Israeli air strikes in Lebanon continue. They hit the main power plant in Beirut. A Hezbollah rocket kills eight people in Haifa.

Violence throughout Iraq kills 40 people.

**17 July 2006** An earthquake and resulting tsunami kill over 530 people on Java.

Hezbollah fires at least 30 rockets into Israel.

Sunni gunmen enter Mahmudiya, Iraq and kill at least 40 people, mostly Shia.

**18 July 2006** Hezbollah fires about 100 rockets into Israel. One person is killed and 20 injured in Nahariya. Israeli warplanes strike a Lebanese army barracks east of Beirut killing eleven people.

The UN Assistance Mission for Iraq reports that 14,338 Iraqi civilians were killed by violence in the first six months of 2006. A car bomb kills 53 people and injures over 100 in Kufa.

**19 July 2006** Israeli airstrikes kill about 50 people in Lebanon. Hezbollah fires around 100 rockets into Israel. Two Arab children are killed. Israeli ground troops enter Lebanon and engage Hezbollah militants.

50 people are killed or found dead throughout Iraq.

US President Bush vetoes a bill to lift restrictions on funding stem cell research.

*A Little Birthday Music* for children’s chorus, brass, and orchestra by Peter Maxwell Davies (71) is performed for the first time, in Royal Albert Hall, London.

**21 July 2006** Israel continues attacks on terrorist targets in Lebanon. Hezbollah fires 35-50 rockets into Israel.

28 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

Venezuela formally joins the Mercosur customs union.

**22 July 2006** Israeli ground troops fight Hezbollah for control of four Lebanese border towns. Somewhere between 65 and 130 rockets are fired by Hezbollah into Israel.

24 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

**23 July 2006** Israeli forces secure three border towns in Lebanon. Their airstrikes continue. About 90-100 Hezbollah rockets fall on Israel.

Three bombs in Baghdad and Kirkuk kill at least 57 people.

Two parts of *Portulan* by Tristan Murail (59) are performed for the first time, at Festival Messiaen in La Grave, France: *Seven Lakes Drive* for flute, clarinet, horn, violin, cello, and piano, and *Les ruines circulaires* for clarinet and violin.

**24 July 2006** Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan replaces Sardar Sikandar Hayat Khan as Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Hezbollah fires about 80 rockets into Israel.

Jan Egeland, head of the UN Office for the Coordination of Hujanitarian Affairs, says in Beirut that $150,000,000 in food, medical supplies, and other needs must be sent to Lebanon immediately. He also criticized Hezbollah’s “cowardly” practice of shielding its fighters among the civilian population.

World Trade Organization talks in Doha, Qatar on reducing trade barriers collapse in failure.

**25 July 2006** Israeli forces capture Bint Jbail, Lebanon. Hezbollah fires about 90 rockets into Israel.

19 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

A performance of Igor Stravinsky’s (†25) *L’Histoire du Soldat* takes place at Tanglewood, Lenox, Massachusetts. The part of the soldier is taken by Elliott Carter (97), the devil is Milton Babbitt (90), and the narrator is read by John Harbison (67).

**26 July 2006** Representatives of the US, European Union, World Bank, UN, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Russia, Canada, and Turkey meet in Rome to work out a cease fire solution in the Israel-Hezbollah conflict. No resolution is reached.

**27 July 2006** Hezbollah fires 60 rockets into Israel.

A mortar and rocket attack into a Shia neighborhood in Baghdad kills 31 people.

Sharman Networks Ltd., owner of the file-sharing service Kazaa, settles a lawsuit brought by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, representing 1,400 recording companies. They agree to pay $115,000,000 in compensation.

*Fiesque*, a grand opéra by Edouard Lalo (†114) to words of Beauquier after Schiller, is staged completely for the first time, at the Festival de Radio France et Montpellier.

**28 July 2006** Hezbollah sends 100 rockets into Israel.

**29 July 2006** Hezbollah sends 90 rockets into Israel.

Terrorist leader Hani Awijan is killed in Nablus during the Israeli incursion into the Palestinian territories.

*LIFE: A Journey Through Time*, a multimedia piece for orchestra by Philip Glass (69), is performed for the first time, in Santa Cruz, California.

**30 July 2006** Government troops in Sri Lanka begin an offensive to regain water supply for 15,000 farmers in the east of the country, taken by Tamil rebels.

Israeli warplanes strike Qana in southern Lebanon sparking widespread criticism. Israel suspends air attacks for 48 hours. Hezbollah sends 150 rockets into Israel.

Gunmen kill 23 Shia pilgrims in Iraq.

Akbar Mohammadi, who led university student protests in 1999, dies in a Teheran prison after a nine-day hunger strike.

The first multiparty national elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in forty years take place. Turnout is about 80% of registered voters.

Hundreds of thousands gather in the central square of Mexico City to protest the reported outcome of the presidential election of 2 July.

*Santa Fe Project* for cello and piano by Magnus Lindberg (48) is performed for the first time, in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the composer at the piano.

**31 July 2006** Raúl Modesto Castro Ruz becomes acting President, Prime Minister, and First Secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba. He is acting for his brother, Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz who will undergo surgery tomorrow.

The UN Security Council votes 14-1 to require Iran to stop its uranium enrichment program or face sanctions.

*Bay of Pigs* for string quartet or quintet by Michael Daugherty (52) is performed for the first time, in Patras, Greece.

**1 August 2006** A court in Moscow declares the oil company OAO Yukos bankrupt and orders its liquidation.

7,000 Israeli troops enter southern Lebanon. Commandos land near Baalbek and battle Hezbollah fighters.

At least 44 people are killed in violence in Iraq.

**2 August 2006** The Center for Science and Environment reports that products made by Coca-Cola Co. and PepsiCo Inc. in India contain 24 times the amount of four pesticides that is allowed by the government. Several states will ban the products.

Hezbollah launches 200 rockets into Israel.

At least 18 people are killed by bombs in Iraq.

**3 August 2006** Hezbollah launches 210 rockets into Israel. Eight civilians are killed.

Elizabeth Schwarzkopf dies in Schruns, Austria at the age of 90.

**4 August 2006** 16 people are killed by violence in Iraq.

Viktor Fedorovych Yanukovych replaces Yurii Ivanovych Yekhanurov as Prime Minister of Ukraine.

*Azul* for cello, hyperaccordion, percussion, and orchestra by Osvaldo Golijov (45) is performed for the first time, at Tanglewood, Lenox, Massachusetts.

**5 August 2006** The Mexican Federal Elections Tribunal orders a partial recount in last month’s presidential election.

**6 August 2006** 15 Israelis are killed by Hezbollah rockets in northern Israel.

String Quartet no.4by Leon Kirchner (87) is performed for the first time, in La Jolla, California.

**7 August 2006** The criminal gang First Capital Command attacks 200 places in São Paulo in their ongoing battle with Brazilian authorities. Several federal buildings are firebombed. The battles continue until 12 August.

**8 August 2006** Israel announces that it plans to evacuate about 15,000 people living along the border with Lebanon. Over 3,500 rockets have been fired into the region.

24 people are killed in violence in Baghdad.

**9 August 2006** Hezbollah fires about 170 rockets into Israel.

James Van Allen dies in Iowa City, Iowa at the age of 91.

Lied for cello and piano by Harrison Birtwistle (72) is performed for the first time, in the Historische Stadthalle, Mendelssohn-Saal, Wuppertal.

*Nocturne no.9* op.97 for piano by Lowell Liebermann (45) is performed for the first time, in Husum, Germany.

**10 August 2006** Typhoon Saomai strikes the coast of Zhejian Province, China. About 300 people are killed with 100 missing.

24 people are arrested in London charged with planning a major terrorist plot against civilian aviation.

A bomb kills 35 people and injures 90 in Najaf, Iraq.

Scientists at the University of Texas report in *Science* that the ice sheet of Greenland is melting at the rate of 240 cu km per year, much faster than previously thought.

**11 August 2006** A tanker ship carrying 2,000,000 litres of oil sinks in rough seas off Guimaras Island in the Philippines. The oil goes on to foul 320 km of coastline on the island as well as Taklong Island National Marine Reserve.

The UN Security Council approves a cease fire resolution to end the fighting in Lebanon between Israel and the terrorist group Hezbollah. They also resolve to expand the 2,000 man UN force in Lebanon to 15,000.

**12 August 2006** About 50 people are killed in violence throughout Iraq.

**13 August 2006** Hezbollah fires 250 rockets into northern Israel.

Several bombs explode in a Shia neighborhood in Baghdad killing 63 people and injuring 140.

**14 August 2006** The UN mandated cease fire goes into effect in southern Lebanon. 842 people are known to have died as a result of the fighting.

Pursuant to a judgment by the International Court of Justice, Nigeria hands over the Bakassi Peninsula to Cameroon.

**15 August 2006** 21 people are killed by bombs and violence in Iraq.

*Grund-Riss* for contrabass clarinet, contrabass trombone, and contrabass saxophone by Wolfgang Rihm (54) is performed for the first time, in the Orangerie Darmstadt.

Concerto in One Movement for cello and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (54) is performed for the first time, in the Felsenreitschule, Salzburg.

**16 August 2006** 19 people are killed by bombs in Baghdad.

**17 August 2006** The Lebanese Army begins to deploy south of the Litani River as far south as the border with Israel.

Police forcibly evict 500 mostly African immigrant squatters from an abandoned dormitory in Cachan, south of Paris.

A federal judge in Detroit rules that the NSA program of monitoring conversations without warrant is unconstitutional.

A federal judge in Washington rules that eight tobacco companies conspired to mislead the public about the dangers of cigarettes. She orders new rules about cigarette marketing.

*Take* for soprano and piano by Libby Larsen (55), to words of Atwood, is performed for the first time, in Chautauqua, New York.

**19 August 2006** Taliban forces launch a two-day attack on NATO in Panjwai district.

German police arrest an Arab man in Kiel for a bungled attempt to bomb German trains. A second Arab man will be arrested on 22 August.

420 tons of toxic sludge is dumped by Compagnie Tommy into 14 open-air sites in residential areas of Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire.

**20 August 2006** Sunni insurgents attack Shia pilgrims in Baghdad killing 20 of them and injuring 300.

Results of the 30 July presidential election in the Democratic Republic of the Congo show that a runoff will be required between the top two finishers.

*…miramondo multiplo…* for trumpet and orchestra by Olga Neuwirth (38) is performed for the first time, in the Großes Festspielhaus, Salzburg, directed by Pierre Boulez (81).

**22 August 2006** Violin Concerto by Magnus Lindberg (48) is performed for the first time, in Avery Fisher Hall, New York.

**24 August 2006** James Carl Tenney dies in Valencia, California, aged 72 years and 14 days.

**30 August 2006** *Mixtur 2003*for orchestra by Karlheinz Stockhausen (78) is performed for the first time, in Salzburg.

**31 August 2006** A revised version of *…amaris et dulcibus aquis* for chorus and electronics by Tristan Murail (59) is performed for the first time, in Copenhagen. See 9 May 1997.

**2 September 2006** *Aria* for cello by Krzysztof Penderecki (72) is performed for the first time, in the Musée d'art américain, Giverny. It is a new movement added to his 1994 Divertimento for cello.

**3 September 2006** *Regrets Only* for violin, cello, and piano by Michael Daugherty (52) is performed for the first time, in Angel Fire, New Mexico.

**6 September 2006** Triple Concerto for double bass, banjo, tabla, and orchestra by Edgar Meyer (45) is performed for the first time, in Schermerhorn Symphony Center, Nashville, Tennessee, the composer as double bass soloist.

**7 September 2006** *Vigilia* for six voices and ensemble by Wolfgang Rihm (54) is performed for the first time, in the Philharmonie, Berlin.

*Comme une symphonie, envoi à Jules Verne II* for tape by Pierre Henry (78) is performed for the first time, in Stavanger Cathedral.

*A Night at the Chinese Opera* for violin and piano by Bright Sheng (50) is performed for the first time, in Indianapolis.

**8 September 2006** *The Wanton Brutality of a Tender Touch* for piano by Annie Gosfield (45) is performed for the first time, at the Tenri Cultural Institute, New York.

**11 September 2006** Chamber Concerto no.2 op.98 for violin and string quartet by Lowell Liebermann (45) is performed for the first time, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**13 September 2006** *For Marian* for tuba and piano by Ned Rorem (82) is performed for the first time, in Martin Theatre, Highland Park, Illinois.

**15 September 2006** *Canciones de Lorca* for tenor and orchestra by William Bolcom (68) is performed for the first time, in the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Costa Mesa, California.

**16 September 2006** *Passion of Ramakrishna* for orchestra by Philip Glass (69) is performed for the first time, at the Orange County Performing Arts Center, Costa Mesa California.

**19 September 2006** John Zorn (53) is named one of the 25 MacArthur Foundation Fellows for 2006. The honor brings $500,000 over the next five years.

**22 September 2006** *Blind City*, a sound project by Francisco López (42), is performed for the first time, at the Bibliothèque National de Québec, Montreal.

**24 September 2006** *Laki* for trumpet by Olga Neuwirth (38) is performed for the first time, in Cité de la musique et de la danse, Strasbourg.

**27 September 2006** *The Golden Rule* for chorus and orchestra by Peter Maxwell Davies (72) is performed completely for the first time, at St. George’s Chapel, Windsor. See 23 April 2006.

**28 September 2006** *Veni Creator* for chorus and organ by Arvo Pärt (71) is performed for the first time, in the Fulda Cathedral.

**29 September 2006** *Séraphin-Sphäre* for 14 players by Wolfgang Rihm (54) is performed for the first time, in the Philharmonie, Brussels.

**5 October 2006** *Aspiration* for violin and chamber orchestra by Roger Reynolds (72) is performed for the first time, at the Norwegian Academy of Music, Oslo.

**6 October 2006** *Turn the Key* for orchestra by Steven Mackey (50) is performed for the first time, in Knight Concert Hall of the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami.

*Elevated Harmonies*, a sound work by Bruce Odland (54) and Sam Auinger, opens at 55 Water Street, New York.

**7 October 2006** The Museum-International Centre Mikis Theodorakis (81) is inaugurated in Zatouna, where the composer was exiled in 1968-69.

*Murmures* for tape by Pierre Henry (78) is performed for the first time, in Paris.

**8 October 2006** *Daniel Variations* for voices and instruments by Steve Reich (70) is performed for the first time, in Barbican Hall, London.

**10 October 2006** *Tristram Redux* for baritone voice, percussion, and guitar by Richard Wernick (72) is performed for the first time, in Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, New York.

**12 October 2006** *Rhiannon’s Blackbirds* for piccolo/flute, clarinet/bass clarinet, violin/viola, cello, piano, and percussion by Joseph Schwantner (63) is performed for the first time, at the Modlin Center for the Arts of the University of Richmond, Virginia.

**15 October 2006** *In the Distances of Sleep*, a cycle for mezzo-soprano and chamber ensemble by Elliott Carter (97) to words of Stevens, is performed for the first time, in Zankel Hall, New York.

**18 October 2006** Steve Reich (70) is presented with the Praemium Imperiale for music in Meiji Hall, Tokyo.

*Naxos Quartet no.9*for string quartet by Peter Maxwell Davies (72) is performed for the first time, in Wigmore Hall, London.

**19 October 2006** *Kettletoft Inn* for Northumbrian bagpipes, english horn, and string quintet by Peter Maxwell Davies (72) is performed for the first time, at Sage Gateshead.

**20 October 2006** *Plötzlichkeit*, for solo voices and orchestra by Brian Ferneyhough (63) is performed for the first time, in Donaueschingen.

**21 October 2006** *Darwin Calypso* for flute, clarinet, string quartet, and piano by Peter Sculthorpe (77) is performed for the first time, in Clancy Auditorium, Sydney.

*Akt und Tag* for soprano and string quartet by Wolfgang Rihm (54) to words of Blake is performed for the first time, in the Christuskirche, Donaueschingen.

*String Poetic* for violin and piano by Jennifer Higdon (43) is performed for the first time, at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia.

**26 October 2006** *Baltimore Songlines* for clarinet, violin, and piano by Peter Sculthorpe (77) is performed for the first time, at the National Aquarium, Baltimore.

**27 October 2006** *Das Gehege* for soprano and orchestra by Wolfgang Rihm (54) to words of Strauss is performed for the first time, in the Bayerische Staatsoper, Munich.

**2 November 2006** *Da pacem Domine* for string orchestra by Arvo Pärt (71) is performed for the first time, in Tallinn Cathedral.

**5 November 2006** *Never Again the Same* for voice and tuba by Charles Wuorinen (68) to words of Tate is performed for the first time, in the Peter Lewis Auditorium of the Guggenheim Museum, New York.

*Refrains* for twelve tubas, twelve euphoniums, and percussion by Gunther Schuller (80) is performed for the first time, at Tennessee Technological University, Cokeville, Tennessee.

**6 November 2006** *Kaleidoscopes: A Tribute to Mozart* for percussion and string ensemble by John Tavener (62) is performed for the first time, in Queen Elizabeth Hall, London.

**7 November 2006** David Del Tredici’s (69) song *On Learning On the Clearest Night Only 6000 Stars Are Visible to the Naked Eye* is performed for the first time, at the National Arts Club, New York.

**9 November 2006** William Bolcom (68) is presented with the National Medal of Arts by US President George Bush in a ceremony in the Oval Office of the White House, Washington.

**10 November 2006** *Amoveo*, a ballet with music by Philip Glass (69) and choreography by Benjamin Millepied, is performed for the first time, in Paris. The music is from Glass’ *Einstein on the Beach* reorchestrated.

*Old Churches* for chorus by Michael Colgrass (74) is performed for the first time, in Louisville.

**11 November 2006** Piano Sonata no.3 “The Forbidden” by Leon Kirchner (87) is performed for the first time, at the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

*Every Man Jack*, a chamber opera by Libby Larsen (55) to words of Littell, is performed for the first time, at Person Theatre, Sonoma State University, California.

**14 November 2006** *A Flowering Tree*, an opera by John Adams (59) to words of Peter Sellars and the composer after an Indian folktale, is performed for the first time, in the Museums Quartier, Vienna directed by the composer.

**18 November 2006** *From the Rendition Series* for piano with internal electronics by Gordon Mumma (71) is performed for the first time, in Den Bosch, the Netherlands.

**19 November 2006** *Lullaby* for female chorus by Harrison Birtwistle (72) to words of James and Wedderburn is performed for the first time, in Southwark Cathedral, London.

**21 November 2006** *Légendes urbaines* for large ensemble by Tristan Murail (59) is performed for the first time, in Cité de la Musique, Paris.

**26 November 2006** *A Little Child Shall Lead Them* for chorus by John Tavener (62) is performed for the first time, at King’s College, Cambridge.

*Engelberg: Trio for Brass and Organ* for trumpet, horn, trombone, and organ by Libby Larsen (55) is performed for the first time, in Atlanta.

**11 December 2006** *Caténaires* for piano by Elliott Carter is performed for the first time, in Zankel Hall, New York, on the composer’s 98th birthday.

**15 December 2006** *Remember O Thou Man* for chorus by John Tavener (62) is performed for the first time, in the National Cathedral, Washington.

**21 December 2006** *The First Emperor*, an opera by Tan Dun (49) to words of Ha Jin and the composer, is performed for the first time, at the Metropolitan Opera, New York.

**23 December 2006** Two works are performed for the first time, in St. Thomas’ Church, New York: *Unto Us is Born a Son* for chorus by John Harbison (68) and *Unto us a son is born* for chorus and organ by John Tavener (62).

**25 December 2006** *Notes on a Scandal*, a film with music by Philip Glass (69), is released in the United States.

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