



Today in History

August 27, 1576

▲ Venetian Renaissance master Titian, whose handling of colour and mastery of new oil techniques made him one of the greatest painters of the period, died

1859: The world's first commercially productive oil well was drilled near Titusville, Pennsylvania

1883: Tidal waves resulting from the cataclysmic eruption of Krakatoa killed 36,000 in Java and Sumatra

1999: Russia's ageing Mir space station was vacated by its final crew

2003: Mars passed within 55,758,004km (34,646,418 miles) of Earth, the closest distance between the two planets in some 60,000 years