NAME – SURNAME: MIKIS THEODORAKIS

BIRTHYEAR:1925

DEATH YEAR: -

NATIONALITY:GREEK

CATEGORY: ART- MUSIC-POLITICS

SHORT LIFE STORY: **Michael** "**Mikis**" **Theodorakis** is a Greek songwriter and composer who has written over 1000 songs.

He scored the music for the films *Zorba the Greek* (1964), [*Z*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Z_(1969_film)) (1969), and *Serpico* (1973). He composed the "Mauthausen Trilogy" also known as "The Ballad of Mauthausen", which has been described as the "most beautiful musical work ever written about the Holocaust" and possibly his best work. He is viewed as Greece's best-known living composer. He was awarded the Lenin Peace Prize and many other prices about peace.

Politically, he is associated with the left because of his long-standing ties to the Communist Party of Greece. In 1990 he was elected to the parliament (as in 1964 and 1981), became a government minister and fought against drugs and terrorism and for culture, education and better relations between Greece and Turkey. He continued to speak out in favor of left-liberal causes, Greek–Turkish–Cypriot relations, and against the War in Iraq He has consistently opposed oppressive regimes and was a key voice against the 1967–74 Greek junta, which imprisoned him.

Now AT THE AGE OF 93 he lives in retirement, reading, writing, publishing arrangements of his scores, texts about culture and politics. *Even today he is opposed to any war and takes position.*



