

MIMIS PLESSAS

Known as the “Greek Gershwin”, Mimis Plessas is a prolific composer with a vast repertoire of classic hit songs, film scores, theater music, jazz, and symphonic pieces to his name and throughout his illustrious 50-plus year career. Born in Athens, Greece, this internationally renowned multi award-winning Greek composer is considered one of the most popular Greek composers of our time. Aside from being a great musician, Plessas is also a chemistry graduate. In the 50s, he did his doctoral dissertation at Cornell University in New York on the protein myelin, a protein believed to be important in the process of myelination of nerves in the central nervous system (CNS) whose reduction of which is directly associated with Muscular Dystrophy (MS). In 1951, as a young pianist in the U.S. he was bestowed the first music award at the University of Minnesota. The following year, he was recognized as the fifth best pianist in the U.S. Plessas began composing in 1952 and has since received distinctions and illustrious accolades in Greece and internationally (Paris, Barcelona, Belgium, Edinburgh, United States, Tokyo, Carlovi Vari, Czech Republic, Altomonte, Italy). He is credited for establishing many of Greece’s famous singers and actors namely Zoe Kourkouki, Nana Mouskouri, Tzeni Vanou, Giovanna, Marinella, Rena Koumioti, Yiannis Voyiatzis, Fotis Dimas, Yiannis Pouloupoulos, Tolis Voskopoulos, Stratos Dionisiou among others. His timeless compositions span a vast array of musical genres in over 200 films and theatrical performances, radio, television and operettas. He has directed the most renowned orchestras of the world, and has repeatedly earned Gold and Platinum records, i.e. popular Greek song “O Dromos” (The Road), lyrics by Lefteris Papadopoulos, is by far, the best-selling album in Greek discography. Plessas’ music transcends all generations, geographical borders and musical platforms. Recently, he presented a concert for the launch of World MS Day at the Thessaloniki Concert Hall in Greece. With maturity and wisdom, he continues composing, performing and inspiring musicians of all ages –throughout Europe and now in New York. Mimis Plessas is a gifted musician with a rare energy and zeal that is evident in all of his passionate artistic work and concert appearances.