

Tentative List of Noteworthy Greeks from Smyrna

Demetrios Capetanakis

Demetrios Capetanakis or Kapetanakis (Greek: Δημήτριος Καπετανάκης; Smyrna, 1912–London, 9 March 1944) was a Greek poet, essayist and critic. Resident in the United Kingdom from 1939, he wrote some poetry in English[1].

He came to Athens when his mother fled the Asia Minor Catastrophe and the invasion of Smyrna with her three children.[2]

He was a graduate of Athens University, where he was taught by Panagiotis Kanellopoulos, whom he would encounter again in the Greek government in exile in London, and held a doctorate from the University of Heidelberg. In 1939 with a scholarship from the British Council he came to the University of Cambridge, studying under Dadie Rylands.

He became a protégé of Edith Sitwell. In 1941 he met John Lehmann.[3], who published Capetanakis in New Writing and became a close friend. Through Lehmann he met William Plomer[4].

He was diagnosed with leukemia in 1942[5] In Birmingham he was supported by Dame Elizabeth Cadbury[6]. He died in Westminster Hospital and was buried at West Norwood Cemetery.

Chrysostomos of Smyrna

Chrysostomos Kalafatis (1867–1922) (Greek: Χρυσόστομος Καλαφάτης), known as Saint Chrysostomos of Smyrna, Chrysostomos of Smyrna and Metropolitan Chrysostom, was born in Triglia (Zeytinbaği) in 1867, was the Greek Orthodox bishop of Smyrna between 1910 and 1914, and again from 1919 to his death in 1922. He has been declared a martyr and a Saint of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Cybele (actress)

Cybele (Greek: Κυβέλη) was the stage name of the famous Greek actress Cybele Andrianou (Greek: Κυβέλη Ανδριανού).

She was born in 1887 to an unmarried couple in Smyrna and spend the first two years of her life in an Athens orphanage. At the age of two-and-a-half, she was adopted by Anastasis and Maria Andrianou. The family of a famous Athenian lawyer of the time, who had recently lost their only child, helped Cybele's adoptive parents financially. In 1901, at the age of 14, she received her first award for her stage performance.

Emanouil Dadaoglou

Emanouil Dadaoglou (Greek: Εμμανουήλ Δαδάογλου) (died 1870) was a notable Greek anarchist and a central figure in the early era of Greek Anarchism (1860s).

Born in Smyrna, Dadaoglou was a trader. He probably acquired his anarchist ideas from Italian political refugees. In Paris he met with fellow anarchists Amilcare Cipriani and Pavlos Argyriadis. There they organized a group of European volunteers, anarchist and socialist, who took part in the riot against King Otto in Athens in 1862. Then, together with Plotinos Rodokanatis, Dadaoglou tried to organize an anarchist group in Athens, but failed. During the years 1864-1867, Dadaoglou lived in Napoli where he took part in the activities of the International Working Men's Association (the First International). At this time he met Maria Pantazi, a prostitute. They lived together until Emanouil's death in 1870. They returned to Athens in an attempt to organize a new anarchist group without meeting any success.

Michel Eleftheriades

Michel Eleftheriades (Μιχαήλ Ελευθεριάδης in Greek) is a Greek-Lebanese politician, artist, producer and businessman born on June 22, 1970 in Beirut, Lebanon. He is notorious around the Arab world for his eclectic style and creations, as well as for his unorthodox beliefs and opinions, which are known to generate controversy and ignite passionate responses from his supporters and detractors alike.

Gregory of Sinai

Saint Gregory of Sinai (1260s–November 27, 1346) was instrumental in the emergence of "technical" (Athonite) Hesychasm on Athos in the early 14th century.

Born in Smyrna, he was captured by Seljuk Turks as a young man, he was eventually ransomed to Cyprus and became a monk at Saint Catherine's Monastery, Mount Sinai. Later, he moved to Crete, where he learned the practices of Hesychasm from a monk named Arsenios, and in 1310 to Athos, where he remained until 1335. Increasing Muslim raids on Athos pushed Gregory and some disciples into the Bulgarian Empire, where he would find protection under Bulgarian Emperor Ivan Alexander and where he founded a monastery near Paroria, Strandzha mountains in south east Bulgaria.

The Philokalia includes five works in Greek by Gregory,

- On Commandments and Doctrines, Warnings and Promises; on Thoughts, Passions and Virtues, and also on Stillness and Prayer: 137 Texts
- Further Texts
- On the Signs of Grace and Delusion, Written for the Confessor Longinos: Ten Texts
- On Stillness: Fifteen Texts
- On Prayer: Seven Texts

Alec Issigonis

Sir Alexander Arnold Constantine Issigonis, CBE, FRS (18 November 1906–2 October 1988) was a Greek-British designer of cars, now remembered chiefly for the groundbreaking and influential development of the Mini, launched by the British Motor Corporation (BMC) in 1959.

Manolis Kalomiris

Manolis Kalomiris (Greek: Μανώλης Καλομοίρης (1883–1962)), was a Greek classical composer. He was the founder of the Greek National School of Music.

Adamantios Korais

Adamantios Korais or Coraïs (Greek: Αδαμάντιος Κοραΐς) (27 April 1748 – 6 April 1833) was a humanist scholar credited with laying the foundations of Modern Greek literature and a major figure in the Greek Enlightenment. His activities paved the way for the Greek War of Independence and emergence of a purified form of the Greek language, known as Katharevousa. Encyclopaedia Britannica asserts that "his influence on the modern Greek language and culture has been compared to that of Dante on Italian and Martin Luther on German".^[1]

Korais' portrait was depicted on the reverse of the Greek 100 drachmas banknote of 1978-2001.

Nikos Loverdos

Nikos Loverdos (Greek: Λοβέρδος) was an Ottoman racing cyclist from the Greek community in Smyrna. He competed as a Greek at the 1896 Summer Olympics in Athens.

Loverdos competed in the 12 hours race, but did not finish.

Aristidis Moraitinis

Aristides Moraïtines (Greek: Αριστείδης Μοραΐτινης) (1806-1875) was born in Smyrna (now İzmir, Turkey). He was educated in France, but during the reign of King Otto, he was a staunch member of the Russian Party. He served as Prime Minister of Greece for a few days in February 1863 during the period between the coup d'etat against King Otto and the arrival of the new Danish-born Prince William who would be known in Greece as King George I. Moraïtines was made Prime Minister a second time for a little over a month in 1868. He died in 1875.

George E. Mylonas

George Emmanuel Mylonas (Γεώργιος Εμμανουήλ Μυλωνάς, December 9, 1898, in Smyrna (now Izmir, Turkey) – April 15, 1988, Greece) was a prominent Greek and Aegean archaeologist.

George Mylonas was a patriot with a deep attachment to his people, and while a student in Athens during the Greco–Turkish War of 1919–1922, he joined the Greek Army and was later taken prisoner. While a prisoner of war he lost enough weight that the permanent ID band that was welded onto his wrist was easily taken on and off and exchanged with other prisoners. His future wife fled Asia Minor with only her tennis racket and spent the war living with family friends in Greece.

Mylonas was in Smyrna when the city was destroyed by the Turks in late September, 1922. He remarked that the family silver was saved for him by a Turkish neighbor, though the rest of the family home, with the artwork, was confiscated by the government and never repatriated.

Following the War, he returned to his studies (he had been awarded his B.A. from the International College in Smyrna in 1918) and earned a doctorate from the University of Athens in 1927 with a dissertation entitled *The Neolithic Period in Greece*. About this time he also worked as Bursar at the American School for Classical Studies at Athens. In 1928, he emigrated to America to study at Johns Hopkins University and from that institution received a second Ph.D. the following year. At Johns Hopkins he was a student of David Moore Robinson. He was married to Lela, both of them having been born in Asia Minor.

Before being naturalized as a U.S. citizen in 1937, Mylonas began teaching at Washington University in St. Louis where he would remain from 1933 to 1968. There he was the founding chair of the Department of Art History and Archaeology. A former student who arrived at the school in 1961 recalled that Mylonas was a "marvelous teacher"; by then he had been awarded the title of "Distinguished Professor" in the Arts and Sciences. He also taught at the University of Illinois and the University of Chicago, and during the Second World War he worked for the Greek War Relief Organization. He renounced his American citizenship to avoid conflict issues as to allocation of archeological sites and status during the same time as the Vietnam conflict, which led to some of his American relatives being denied security clearances.

For many years Mylonas directed Washington University's excavations at Mycenae. After retiring from teaching in 1968, he returned to Greece where he served as Secretary General of the Archaeological Society and managed the dig at Mycenae until his death. In these later years he was very active in efforts to protect the Athenian Acropolis from environmental pollution.

In Old Phaleron/Acromycenae, where he lived, in addition to bringing tourists, he researched and restored the old spring that had served the area for thousands of years, bringing water to the local area. The valve for the spring was in his backyard and for a time his wife undertook the duty of making certain that the water flowed every night.

Mylonas is well known for his fieldwork at Olynthus as well as investigations at Mycenae, Nemea, Corinth and Eleusis. During 1951 and 1952, he led the important excavation of Grave Circle B at Mycenae (ca. 1650-1550 B.C.E., Middle Helladic III to Late Helladic I), and succeeded in establishing that it pre-dated Heinrich Schliemann's Grave Circle A.

He also briefly appeared in part one of Michael Wood's televised series, *In Search of the Trojan War* (1985). In a charming interview conducted at the citadel of Mycenae, Mylonas, with a chuckle and a twinkle in his eye, speaks of Agamemnon, with whom he converses "all the time." He once said that the task of the archaeologist was to "infer from withered flowers the hour of their bloom."

He was awarded the Archaeological Institute of America's Gold Medal for Distinguished Archaeological Achievement in 1970, and a scholarship for undergraduate humanities majors at Washington University is named in Mylonas' honor. His daughter, Ione Mylonas Shear (1936-2005), was also an archaeologist until her death from lung cancer.

Mylonas had a son, Alex, who obtained his PhD from Yale after serving in the U.S. Army and was teaching at Harvard until Alex died in an automobile accident, another daughter Nike (Eunice Hale) and Ione's twin sister Daphne who served four missions for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints after being disowned by

her family for joining the church. Nike's son is a well received artist, her daughter is a medical doctor. Ione's daughter followed her in archeology. Her husband was in charge of the Agora at Athens until his retirement and taught at Princeton University. T. Leslie Shear was featured in a cameo in Readers Digest about Greeks and Archeology.

Mylonas' works include: *The Balkan States; An Introduction to Their History* (1946) -- written in response to what he felt were inaccuracies being taught to his son in school; *Mycenae: The Capital City of Agamemnon* (1957); *Eleusis and the Eleusinian Mysteries* (1961); *Mycenae and the Mycenaean Age* (1966); *Grave Circle B of Mycenae* (1972); *Mycenae, A Guide to Its Ruins and Its History* (1981); and *Mycenae Rich in Gold* (1983).

Elena Nikolaidi

Elena Nikolaidi (June 15, 1909†–November 14, 2002) was a noted Greek-American opera singer and teacher. Nikolaidi sang leading mezzo-soprano roles with major opera companies worldwide and made numerous recordings.

† Her birth year is given as 1906 in some sources.

Konstantinos Nikolopoulos (composer)

Konstantinos Agathophron Níkolopoulos (Greek: Κωνσταντίνος Αγαθόφρων Νικολόπουλος; 1786–1841) was a Greek composer, archeologist, and philologist.

Marika Ninou

Marika Ninou (Greek: Μαρίκα Νίνου) (1922 – 23 February 1957), was an Armenian-Greek rembetiko singer, born Evangelia Atamian (Greek: Ευαγγελία Αταμιάν).

Aristotle Onassis

Aristotle Sokratis Onassis (Greek: Αριστοτέλης Ωνάσης, Aristotelis Onasis; 15 January 1904 – 15 March 1975), commonly called Ari or Aristo Onassis, was a very prominent Greek shipping magnate of the 20th century.[1][2] Some sources claim he was born in 1900 but that he later changed his date of birth so as to avoid deportation from Turkey.[3]

Leonidas Paraskevopoulos

Leonidas Paraskevopoulos (Greek: Λεωνίδας Παρασκευόπουλος) was a Greek military officer and politician.

Paraskevopoulos was born in 1860 on the island of Kythnos to a family that hailed from Smyrna, Asia Minor. He joined the Hellenic Army and took part in the Greco-Turkish War (1897), the Balkan Wars and World War I.

After World War I, Paraskevopoulos was made Commander in Chief of the Greek forces that occupied Smyrna in 1919 in accordance with the Treaty of Sevres. Under his command, the Hellenic Army successfully extended their occupation zone, from the greater Izmir (Smyrna) area, south to Aydın (Aidini) and west to Bursa near the ancient city of Cius. He was replaced however, after the November 1920 elections, with the royalist Anastasios Papoulas.

After the end of the Greco-Turkish War (1919-1922), Paraskevopoulos entered politics. He was elected in the Greek Senate election, 1929 with the Liberal Party under Eleftherios Venizelos and served as President of the Senate. He died in 1936 in Athens.

Giorgos Seferis

Giorgos or George Seferis (Γιώργος Σεφέρης) was the pen name of Geōrgios Seferiádēs (Γεώργιος Σεφεριάδης, 13 March [O.S. 29 February] 1900 - September 20, 1971). He was one of the most important Greek poets of the

20th century, and a Nobel laureate. He was also a career diplomat in the Greek Foreign Service, culminating in his appointment as Ambassador to the UK, a post which he held from 1957 to 1962.

Giorgos Sikeliotis

Giorgos Sikeliotis (1917-1984) is one of the most significant Greek painters and engravers of the 20th century.

Born in Smyrna in 1917, he graduated in 1939 from the Athens School of Fine Arts (ASKT), where he was taught by Parthenis and Vikatos. His first solo exhibition was in 1954 in the lobby of To Vima. From then until his death in Athens in 1984, he took part in many group exhibitions in Greece and abroad, including Ottawa, Rome, Toronto, Montreal, Alexandria, Helsinki and New York, where he had a solo exhibition in 1965 and was nominated for a Guggenheim award.

Works of Sikeliotis are to be seen in the National Gallery of Athens and the Municipal Art Gallery of Rhodes. Others are in New York, bought by the World House Gallery, and in many other private collections in Greece and abroad.

Tryfon Tzanetis

Tryfon Tzanetis (Greek: Τρύφων Τζαυετής) was a Greek football player and coach. Born in 1918 in Smyrna, he was a best known as a forward for AEK Athens FC during the 1930s and 1940s, partnering Kleanthis Maropoulos in AEK's front line. Late in his career he was converted into a centre back by his coach.

During his playing career Tzanetis was capped once by Greece.

After his playing days were over, Tzanetis took up coaching and was AEK's coach in: 1952, 1955, 1961, 1962 and 1966. In between his stints with AEK he was also coach of the Greek National Football Team (1960, 1961, 1963, 1964) with a record of 5 wins, 1 draw and 5 losses.