

OBJECT ID	2007.42.2.8.A
OBJECT NAME	Shoe, Tsarouxia
DATE CREATED	1950s
MATERIAL	Leather; Plastic; Wool
OBJECT ENTITIES	Vellos, Louis (owned by) O'Connell, Carolyn (is related to) Vellos, Louis (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	Pom-Poms Shoe Tsarouxia

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

RED & WHITE LEATHER SHOES WITH SEQUINS AND BLUE/RED/WHIT POM-POMS @ TOE

The shoe is made from leather. The sole of the shoe and about one third up the side is made with light brown leather and then increases to cover the tip of the shoe. A thick white piece of leather divides the top of the shoe from the brown sole of the shoe. Above the strip of white is red leather that covers the main body of the shoe. The rim of the top of the shoe is covered by a thick, white strip of leather. Additionally, the top of the shoe has a large strip of white leather. On the strip of white leather there are six sequins in pink and green. There is a white ball in the center of each sequin. The white strip has a point at both ends. There is a large Pom-Pon on the top of the shoe. The colors from closest to farest from the body of the shoe are blue, white, a little red, white, and blue.

The bottom of the shoe has a faint "6" underlined at the top of the shoe and five faded dots in the middle that were written in black marker.

The inside of the shoe has brown leather on the bottom that is peeling and textured. About a third from the bottom there is thick white string that has been sewed into the shoe. The leather seam goes from the top of the shoe to the tip. There is white string along the top of the shoe.

ORIGIN

The shoe was donated on behalf of Louis Vellos who brought the object from Greece in the early 1950s.

Tsarouxia (shoe) originate from the Byzantine times and were worn all over the Balkans. They were worn by rural and urban men, and even women. In the 19th century they were seen as backwards by urban people and only worn by rural men. Before WWI they were even used in combat. Originally, the pom-pon was added to make the shoe waterproof, but now is for decoration.

The shoe is part of a child's Foustanella. The Foustanella is the official uniform of the Evzones who are the Presidential Guards. The Foustanella is the official costum for men. The look includes a loose-fitting shirt, an embroidered vest, Fez hat, and fustanella which is a skirt-like garmet.

CITATION

Shoe, Tsarouxia, 1950s, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/10/26.