Despoina Papadopoulou, second wife of dictator Georgios Papadopoulos, is frequently remembered not only as a woman in extravagant hats, but also as a symbol of the aesthetic pathologies of contemporary Greece. How does a person come to embody kitsch? This paper considers how the analytics of kitsch shape contemporary understandings of dictatorial pasts, and what we can learn from ethnographic encounters with those made to live in the margins of history.

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