JIL SANDER

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S SPRING/SUMMER 2024 COLLECTION MILAN, SEPTEMBER 2023

With their flair for circumventing tradition, Lucie and Luke Meier continue to play with the archetypes of women's and men's wear, developing collections that exhort evolution and a desire for change.

Combining diverse references and elements, they consciously explore the possibilities that arise fusing tailoring and technical, feminine and masculine, daywear and glamour, the quotidian and the virtues of couture, in both form and material.

Traditional craft and industrial construction and technique complement each other, mirroring our eclectic, mobile, technical age. And a positive outlook on the future. A flawless new fusion with no sense of nostalgia.

Light, elegant, and disruptive, the collection overhauls classics - coats, dresses, frocks, habits, jackets, smocks, trenches, tunics, uniforms... into a polished, elevated language for today.

Pure, sculptural forms turn into shifted, substantial silhouettes.

Long evening empire gowns in solid colours are entirely and preciously knitted, with tight, canneté tops and flared, floating skirts. The expressive capabilities of knitwear are pushed to their highest levels of sophistication. The soft, purple brown popeline of a luscious, couture-cut long dress seamlessly floats. Tapered dresses are hand-made, with ingeniously sewn spiraled stripes of delicate cotton-silk joined by broderie anglaise. The effect is both optical and harmonious. Thin, rectangular paillettes swing and crackle on tapered tops and a long dress. The diversity and exceptional quality of the materials are always front and center: cottons, silks, English, Italian, and Japanese wools, viscose are all fluid and light. Movement, the body, are key. The service to the person, the comfort, is never compromised.

Further expanding the idea of a new suit, for both women and men, sharp, high-waisted short and long trousers are combined with large, boxy jackets cut in graphic shapes, that also draw a series of long, hieratic tunics.

The sense of reinventions is accentuated by the bonded cotton trenches with generous collars and sleeves, by the abbreviated capes that envelop tops and coats, by the papery eel skin used for a suit and a slicker, by the python prints all over long coats or on the plastrons of shirts.

The printed faces of a cat and a dog, and the exaggerated steel and zircon jewels, infuse lightness and a pop edge to the ensemble.

The new edition of the Jil Sander signature Cannolo bag, the Coin bag, and a new series of Vertigo bucket bags, constructed of spiraled strips of leather, accentuate the sharp elegance of the collection. Soft, squared Goji pillow bags add tactility. Men's shoes, woven and moccasin construction on sturdy leather outsoles, anchor the silhouette in a pragmatic manner, while the women's boots, with pointy or square toes accentuate the collection's glamorous side.

The colour scheme, mostly solid, highlights the references to the sartorial archetypes traversing the collection; the Meiers' uninterrupted intention to overturn and elevate the ordinary.

White, cream, purple brown, dark blue, and black complement traditional outerwear hues as sand, light olive green, grey-brown and grey, taupe, blue-grey, and a sand and stone wool mélange. While vibrant pink, charged green, and lemon and orange print the exclamation mark to the noun "present".