

NEWSLETTER

The T List

WEAR THIS

A Set of Statement-Making Cardigans



In collaboration with Super Yaya, Leorosa's cardigans feature a range of handmade flourishes. Oliver Hadlee Pearch

By Zoe Ruffner

When Julian Taffel and Paolina Leccese — the Berlin-based duo behind the nostalgic knitwear brand Leorosa — met Super Yaya's Rym Beydoun, known for her vibrant dresses inspired by her childhood in Ivory Coast, at a dinner party in 2019, the designers quickly discovered a shared sensibility. "We all love something that's just a little bit old-school ... Something that's maybe not fashionable until you put it in a different context," says Taffel. The trio began dreaming of a collaboration inspired, in part, by an image of Isabelle Adjani in a ruffled taffeta gown at the 1982 César awards. The resulting 16-piece collection, named Ensemble, transforms Leorosa's classic Milan-made silhouettes into whimsical — but nevertheless wearable — creations. "There's this element of fantasy," says Taffel, "but, at the same time, you can pair them with jeans and sneakers." A men's lamb's-wool gilet with a highly pigmented plaid print and contrasting piping took months of Zoom meetings to perfect, while solid-colored cardigans are accented with ruched collars, shimmering scrunchie-like cuffs or exaggerated bows. The embellishments on the sweaters were meticulously handcrafted by Beydoun in her Beirut studio from Abidjan-sourced textiles, so no two are the same. *From \$375, leorosa-world.com.*