

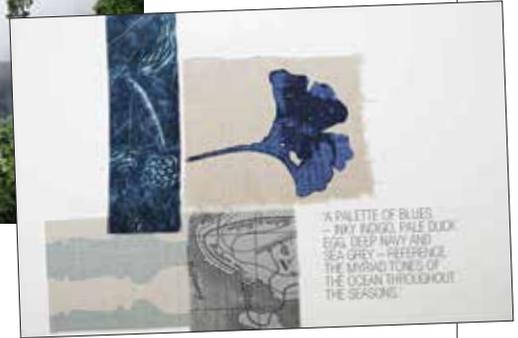
writers' CORNER

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE LATEST ART AND INTERIOR DESIGN TITLES.



HARE + KLEIN

By **DAVID CLARK** and **MERYL HARE** (Thames & Hudson, \$60). Hare + Klein interiors have a tactility about them, a sense of touch and of luxurious comfort; materiality is layered and inviting. In lieu of imposing, busy frills or garish colours are natural materials — timber, stone, raw linen used as wall coverings, pure wool rugs, earth tones and soft creams and contrasting blacks. It's all so beautiful and so completely tasteful. Former *Vogue Living* editor David Clark has penned this tome (designed by *VL*'s former art director Gemma Williams) with the Sydney practice's principal Meryl Hare — who, when it comes to balance, texture and all things considered, is a leader in decoration in this country. More than a coffee table book, this stylish collection of the company's projects is inspirational.

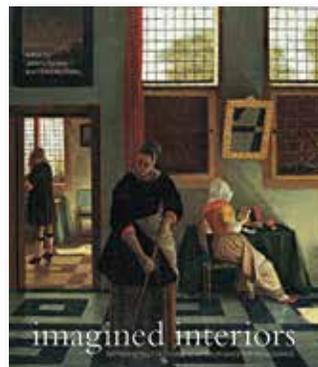


THE DUCHAMP DICTIONARY

By **THOMAS GIRST** (Thames & Hudson, \$35). The artist Marcel Duchamp has been called “the most intelligent man of the 20th century”, and his influence on artists has only amplified since his death in 1968. The man who invented conceptual art but rejected and transgressed the art world in favour of merely “breathing”, whose life was as much a part of his work as the work itself, is often unknown to audiences outside the arts. This book seeks to delineate some of the greater issues behind this mysterious figure, by outlining his oeuvre in an affably written, dictionary format. Playful, accessible and beautifully designed, it is an approach the artist himself would have championed.

IMAGINED INTERIORS

Edited by **JEREMY AYNSLEY** and **CHARLOTTE GRANT** (V&A, \$49.99). The history of the domestic interior has never been so thoroughly investigated as it is now, in this publication from London's revered Victoria & Albert Museum. The book manages to span the past 500 years of the home until the present day, offering a historical insight on interiors for both the academic and amateur among us. Referencing some of the world's greatest artworks, and with photography documenting the homes of the wealthy as well as those of the less privileged, reading through these informed pages is an education in how some interiors date while others never go out of style.



THE INSPIRED HOME

By **KIM FICARO** and **TODD NICKEY** (Rizzoli, \$89.95). In a beautifully crafted volume, Kim Ficaro and Todd Nickey immerse themselves in the private worlds of some public creative types to “reveal the true nature of what makes a home a home”. Included are the Copenhagen residence of stylist Christine Rudolph and the Danish country abode of the book's photographer, Ditte Isager (the talented pair who put together this issue's inspiring fabric story, see p23). Isager says of her renovated cottage: “We wanted this to be a place of peace where we can relax.” And this book does a very stylish job of capturing the sanctuaries she and her fellow creatives have made for themselves.

ART OF THE HOUSE

By **BOBBY McALPINE** and **SUSAN FERRIER** (Rizzoli, \$79.95). A natural palette and harmonious design are the hallmarks of architect Bobby McAlpine and interior designer partner Susan Ferrier's aesthetic. In this book, they share the principles that guide their work. In a profile on one of the homes, McAlpine muses that “when the big voice of architecture is quieted, other voices that don't always have a chance to speak can be more clearly heard” — poignant, considering that the fine antiques acquired over time needed an uncomplicated setting which would not compete for attention. A serene and thoughtful approach to design in an age of ostentation, this book epitomises understated elegance.



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