Stan the man

'Before you send an angry letter,' Kubrick once advised an associate, 'imagine how it would look if it got into the hands of *Time Out*.' Taschen's splendid new slab **'The Stanley Kubrick Archives'** provides us – indeed, anyone with £100 and a couple of square feet of storage space – with access to a lot more than irate correspondence. It opens with 260 pages of beautifully rendered stills that précis each Kubrick feature from 'Killer's Kiss' to 'Eyes Wide Shut', emphasising his meticulously calibrated compositions. But devotees will heave to the back half, with its wealth of interviews, critical essays and archival gems, from records of early photo-reportage and film experiments to production sketches and script annotations. Most tantalising are the images of abandoned ideas: the infamous pie-fight ending of 'Dr Strangelove', unused alien designs for '2001'. There are also appendices on almost-projects like 'AI' and 'Aryan Papers' (the former inherited by Spielberg, the latter scuppered by his 'Schindler's List'). *Ben Walters*