

At the outset of the Noughties, Dutch fashion writer Gert Jonkers and art director Jop Van Bennekorn launched a small but subsequently influential magazine publication named *BUTT*. "We didn't expect anything," remembers Van Bennekorn. "We had no idea where the magazine would bring us or where it would lead up to. We were starting a magazine that we were dying to read ourselves." The duo aimed to re-affirm the reputation of homosexuals as not only true innovators in the fields of fashion, music and art, but also that the seemingly mundane can actually be fascinating. Hence, over the past five years *BUTT* has garnered itself an appreciative international readership – gay and straight – and featured not only remarkably honest interviews with designers such as Marc Jacobs, Bernhard Willhelm or Viktor & Rolf, but also stars of pop, film and art such as Michael Stipe, John Waters and Wolfgang Tillmans. Dior Homme's Hedi Slimane has also freeanced as a guest photographer, such is its esteemed reputation in fashion circles. Add to this occasional interviews with, say, gay dustbin men, gay farmers, and even gay toilet cleaners – not to mention a tendency for many interviewees to happily pose naked upon the pages – and you can see why *BUTT*'s five years of notoriety warrants being collated, and further enhanced with additional essays, appraisals and new pictures, in the form of a book. *BUTT* has become a proper piece of social history and a chuffed Van Bennekorn concludes: "That's a nice description because the book feels like an anthology of homosexual anthropology." *James Anderson*

BUTT BOOK (Taschen; £16.99) is published on October 14

FIVE YEARS IN THE BIZ BY JONKERS
A COVETABLE BOOK

