

THE BOOK

BEST OF BUTT

Text RICHARD GRAY

I've never been averse to watching a bit of porn. Don't get me wrong, I don't collect the stuff, and neither do I frequent certain establishments on the seedier side of Soho, but if there's a 'Best Sex Scenes Ever' on Channel 5, I'll stay up. There's also a free 15 minutes you get at midnight on The Adult Channel, that I came across by mistake - I was originally looking for Delia's Christmas Essentials and up popped some tits and balls and everything. Scary! So you don't have to be Freud to lie me down on a well-worn couch and find me reading a copy of Butt. Now Butt, for the hairy-palmed consumers reading this, is the coolest book of porn ever to hit the top shelf in Magma.

When I say porn, it's not your usual bend me over backwards, man-does-it-to-a-woman-kind-of-porn. Butt is more bend me over backwards, man-bums-another-man kind-of-porn.....y'know....gay stuff. There are normally some lovely images of men in tube socks and handlebar moustaches looking like they've just come back from a night at Boombox, kicked off their Margiela trainers, and decided to knock one out. The mag itself has the look of

a fanzine, and truth be known you'd get more nudity in the aforementioned 15 minutes on cable, so the point isn't really the porn - it's more the cool quality of having it at home that counts. Come round our house and look at the coffee table - a copy of Self Service, the well thumbed rag: We Love Telly and the latest copy of Butt. Cool uh? But then Butt is cool. Behind Butt (tee) is the crack (hee) team of fashiony types Gert Jonkers and Jop van Bennekom, who describe themselves as uncut and blond. Both are probably better known for the work with the marvellous fashion mag Fantastic Man. If you like your porn pink and thick, then maybe their new book will interest you. Published by Taschen the dirty duo have teamed up with Wolfgang Tillmans to create a compilation of the first 17 issues of Butt and called it The Best of Butt. Plugged (pah) with photographs from Inez van Lamsweerde, Terry Richardson, Alasdair McLellan and other trendy types, plus interviews with all manner of top ranking fashion dudes like, Marc Jacobs, Hedi Slimane and Karl Lagerfeld. There ain't no Butt about it, porn is cool.

Best of Butt, Jop Van Bennekom & Gert Jonkers. www.taschen.com

