



at roughly A3-sized THE WORLD OF ORNAMENT [4] (by A. Racinet and M. Dupont-Auberville; Taschen, rrp £100, *Wol* price £90). Because in the 19th century much handwork became mechanised, surface decoration became affordable for the middle classes. This explains the vogue for pattern books of, er, patterns, of which Owen Jones's *The Grammar of Ornament* is the best-known British example. Canny publisher Taschen is adept at repackaging out-of-copyright material and has combined two similar French encyclopedias into one bumper volume. (An accompanying CD contains every image in high resolution, which can be freely used by purchasers.) With each non-Western culture presented as a timeless unity, the structure feels 'so last century'; but the sheer profusion, from Moorish arabesques to Neoclassical stripes, is inspiring.