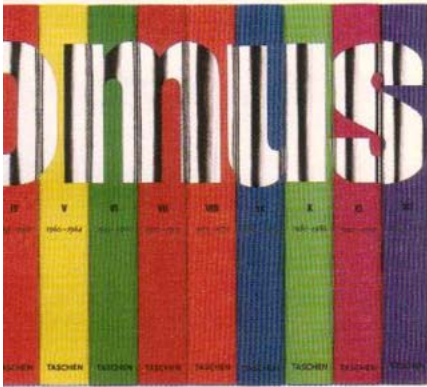


BOOKSMARTS

Color your winter months with books on topics from presidents and playwrights to sublime art and design. Compiled by Venessa Lau



You'd be hard-pressed to find a design and architecture professional, student or enthusiast who's not familiar with the name *Domus*. It's the much lauded and influential design journal founded more than seven decades ago by Milanese architect Gio Ponti. This season, the publishers at Taschen are offering a beautiful 12-volume *Best Of* set that spans the years 1928 to 1999. (To include all original material, you would need more than 65 feet of wall space.) Each volume, moreover, is accompanied by introductory essays that reflect upon and distill the era it covers. Contributors include many of the publication's eminent past editors: François Burkhardt, Cesare Maria Casati and Ettore Sottsass Jr., to name a few.