



*Living in China* by Daisann McLane, €24.40, Taschen. Sneaking a peek at an intriguing variety of modern and ancient homes in China, this fascinating book takes us on a magical mystery tour of the world's most ancient civilisation, one rich in cultural and ethnic diversity. We are taken to a Beijing house by contemporary architect Ai Weiwei and whisked to Shigeru Ban's minimalist bamboo Furniture House. Next stop is a 19th century Qing dynasty temple before we enter a Mongolian farmhouse, a 7th century mansion incorporating Confucian ideology and Feng Shui theory. *Living in China* is proof that this is a country with a remarkable creative history.