



COFFEE TABLE TOMES

MH picks three new art books to boost your cultural kudos

Art books are anomalous things – they are as much for other people's eyes as yours. These three new offerings are no exception. *Ralph Gibson Nudes* is over 300 pages of exquisite monochrome flesh to show you appreciate the finer contours of the female figure. With only 1,200 numbered and signed copies, its value will only appreciate. Meanwhile Richard Avedon will

keep female guests busy and suggests that you understand the existential complexities of the female wardrobe. And finally, the swerveball, Walton Ford's *Pancha Tantra*, a compendium of his paintings. Hidden in every picture is a suggestion of something sinister or carnal going on, a subtle way to suggest that inside you lurks a bit of a beast. Well, we're all animals after all. **MH**



(left to right) *Pancha Tantra* £40 **Walton Ford** (Taschen); *Nudes* £300 **Ralph Gibson** (Taschen); *Avedon Fashion 1944-2000* £60 **Richard Avedon** (Abrams)