



**Architecture Now! Houses**

Taschen  
£24.99 (Dh152)

## Propelling architecture forward

Making the point that houses, with fewer constraints than civic or commercial buildings, can break far more of the rules and thus help architecture to move forward, Philip Jodidio has gathered together 50 of the world's most arresting and interesting private houses to create an overview of the current state of the art. Located from Croatia to Chile, Norway to Japan and ranging from a two-storey cabin floating on a lake to a 3000-sq-m "modern stately home" in Kuala Lumpur, all were built in the past five years. Jodidio is not seeking to identify a dominant trend or style but simply

exploring the diversity of the avant-garde, and the issues that today's architects are exploring: changes in the way we live, work and relate to each other; the need for privacy in crowded cities and a means of escape from them; the desire to tread lightly on pristine environments; the growth of building in harsh environments – and, simply, the opportunities to question and reinvent basic design rules. An accessible, informative and ultimately enjoyable record of what's new, exciting – and possible – in residential architecture, this would make a great gift to any aficionado. – SL