



JET-SET TOMES

THE 'IT' BOOKS OF FALL

THE FALL SEASON MEANS THE social swirl is in full swing. When I host soirees, I make sure to showcase the latest "it" books, always piled up high on my coffee table.

So what are the must-display tomes of the month? The hipsters are salivating over *Dreaming in Print: A Decade of Visionaire*, a roundup of the fashion-forward journal created by **Stephen Gan, James Kalidaros** and **Cecilia Dean**. The laser-etched holographic cover, a photograph by **Inez van Lamsweerde** and **Vinoodh Matadin**, will impress any fashionista. Inside are contributions by **Nan Goldin, Mario Sorrenti, Wolfgang Tillmans, Nick Knight, Mariko Mori, Richard Phillips, Bruce Weber, Tom Ford** and **Rei Kawakubo**. "We have always wanted to offer a forum for artists to express themselves," Dean said. "Visionaire is a creative playground. It's all about the artists."

What other books look cool? Christian Dior menswear designer **Hedi Slimane's** art project/book *Intermission* offers a series of minimalist photographs of curtains snapped by the jet-setting Slimane in hotel rooms like the Mercer in New York, the Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles, the Lydmar in Stockholm and the Park Hyatt in Tokyo. In the middle of the book is a color pic of a teenage boy's naked back. Go figure. Slimane, who outfits **Brad Pitt, Madonna** and **Catherine Deneuve**, may not have penned a riveting page-turner, but *Intermission* makes for a pretty prop to have lying around.

For a rougher glimpse into a stylin' scene, snag a copy of *We're Desperate: The Punk Rock Photography of Jim Jocoy, SF/LA 1978-1980*. Jocoy (who was born in South Korea to an American father in the military and a Korean mother) started photographing punk personalities at hardcore shows on the West Coast in 1977. His raw, sometimes seedy images of punk idols like **Darby Crash, Iggy Pop, Lydia Lunch, Sid Vicious** and members of bands like Flipper, the Nuns and the Cramps first appeared in 'zines like *Punk Globe* and *Search and Destroy*. Last year, Sonic



"Lagos, Nigeria, makes New York look very, very normal and utterly sane," says African artist **Ike Ude** (above).

Youth's **Thurston Moore** saw Jocoy's massive archive and decided to get the work published. Moore, who owns a comprehensive collection of punk memorabilia, interviewed Jocoy for the book.

Also this month is the opening in New York of Nigerian-born artist **Ike Ude's** show *Other Rooms, Other Voices* at the Stefan Stux Gallery in Chelsea. Ude, a flamboyant peacock on the nightlife circuit, will be showing work from his series *Cover Girls, Beyond Decorum* and *Uli*. Ude's *Cover Girls* are self-portraits of Ude dressed as a woman posing on the cover of magazines like *Vogue* and *Sports Illustrated*. These photographs are not about drag queen culture, but borrow from Adanma, a tradition of Nigeria's native Igbo people in which men try on a feminine mask. *Uli* are black-and-white close-ups of bodies painted with patterns, a take on the Nigerian custom of decorating the skin. *Beyond Decorum* offers pictures of men's business suits that have personal ads where the designer label would be. Ude, who has collaborated with such celebrities as **Debbie Harry, Marianne Faithfull, Marisa Berenson, Jil Sander** and the late **Quentin Crisp**, sees himself as a quintessential New York artist. "Lagos, Nigeria, is a city of 15 million people," Ude told me. "It makes New York look very, very normal and utterly sane."

Populating my apartment alongside my new books are items from Todd Oldham's Dorm Room collection from Target. My faves are the wood-grain candles that are eco-friendly and wrapped in wax "wood"; the rugs in colorful, bold patterns like stars and polka dots; and the peg lamp that, like a Lite-Brite toy set, enables you to create personalized art to suit your changing moods. ★

THE GANG

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THE LOOK

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