

thinking inside the box



■ Krissy relaxes in her studio space



By Corine Hamilton

FINDING the right studio space to work from has always been Edinburgh-based artist Krissy Stewart's dream. Born in California, Krissy moved to Edinburgh in 1993, and apart from a stint living in Shanghai she has made the Scottish capital her home. Having a space to paint, read and get away from distractions was a key priority for her.

Having had an architect friend draw up initial plans for a studio in her back garden, Krissy quickly realised that working with a company specialising in this sort of build would be more efficient and she began to research companies online.

She explains: "I needed my studio built as soon as possible as I had nowhere else to work! I knew that hiring a builder could potentially be a nightmare – they usually aren't interested in smaller jobs.

Instead Krissy found JML Garden Rooms in Auchterarder and was really impressed.

"I loved the aesthetics," she explains. "So it was a no brainer really. My questions were answered, I felt I was in safe hands and then just thought – this is the way forward."

As a professional artist, Krissy's key priorities for her studio space were having ample natural light and as much wall space as possible. The garden room, a Lowlander 2, measuring 13sqm,

was bespoke designed to include additional skylights. The side window that comes as standard was removed to allow additional space for her to pin up sketches.

Internally, Krissy opted out of final finishes such as wooden floors and plasterboard: "I didn't want to have to be precious about walls and floors being splattered with paint.

"The floors, walls and ceiling were left as chipboard which I painted white and now they're all multi-coloured with various paint splashes."

Krissy adds: "Everything went without a hitch and before I knew it, the studio was complete!"

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