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Studio Weave completes zinc-clad artist's studio

4 August, 2015 | By [Laura Mark](#)

Studio Weave has completed this zinc-clad artist's studio on the Kintyre Peninsula, in western Scotland

Sitting above a Victorian midden - the former depository for dung from the nearby stables - the scheme cantilevers over a brook and is nestled into the rural landscape.

A glazed 'soffit light' allows the artist to peer down through the room's work surface to the flowing water below.

The building is clad in an embossed standing seam zinc system developed specially for the scheme, which draws inspiration from the Palazzo dei Diamanti, Ferrara and Chiesa del Gesu Nuova in Naples.

According to the practice, the studio is the 'lovechild of native granite and the local buildings'.



The architect's view

The artist has a long connection to the site and much of her practice is associated with peoples' relation to places, so we have enmeshed the studio with the landscape. The artist's work often includes themes of tracking changes, focusing on art which leaves marks at once permanent and delicate.

Recalling simultaneously the vernacular agricultural buildings nearby, the granite rocks that punctuate the landscape, and the flourish of the 'Scottish Baronial' style, the new studio intends to silently immerse itself in this ancient landscape, only revealing its surreal details on closer inspection: the cantilever which apparently floats over the burn, the uncanny twin gables and the echoed stone mouldings.

The granite rock surrounding the studio is echoed in the rusticated zinc, which reflects Eddie Blake's ongoing preoccupation with the transmutation of materials.

The studio sits next to Allt ant-Sionnaich, a fast flowing burn. A 'soffit light' allows the artist to peer down through the work surface at the flowing water beneath, and the building is filled with the sound of water all year round, from the Atlantic waves, the burn, the rain, and the drizzle.

The rusticated diamond cladding pattern derives from Palazzo dei Diamanti, Ferrara, or Chiesa del Gesu Nuova, Naples, but as at Crichton Castle in Midlothian, it is a dour version of its southern counterparts. Blake is interested in how buildings become vessels for cultural meaning and this pattern evokes the history of a continental influence on Scottish architecture.

Project data



Location Argyll and Bute, Scotland
Type of project studio
Architect Studio Weave
Project lead Eddie Blake
Structural engineer Webb Yates
Main contractor Neil Weir
Zinc contractor HL Metals
Zinc fabricator VM Zinc
Completion date July 2015

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