



Artist's Studio

A stone's throw from the coast, **Sarah Jane Brown** can be found working on both her 'clean' and 'messy' projects...



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Sarah Jane Brown lives on the coast of Pembrokeshire where her environment and early maritime career have instilled a deep affinity with the sea. She studied painting at the West Wales School of the Arts, and her artistic career has since gained momentum and recognition.

"My home and studio are in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park and I can walk to the coast path in 15 minutes," Sarah says. "The studio is a 3x5m log cabin at the top of my garden, which I built with my husband in 2008. Inside, it's gradually evolved to suit my way of working.

"One end is for 'clean work' with a desk, sofa and storage for art books, magazines and sketchbooks. The other end is the 'messy' end that has easels, palettes, brushes, paint and so on. There's lots of

shelving down the side wall where I hang my work-in-progress to dry. And a long 'runway' down the centre means I can stand back from the easel and evaluate my art from a distance.

"There's one window by my easel through which I can glimpse the sea (albeit between two buildings). Right outside another window is a bird box that has blue tits nesting in it during the spring months.

"There are windows and French doors into the garden on two sides. I also have three pendant lights with 150 watt daylight bulbs in each.

"I never sit down when I'm painting, but it's nice having the sofa at one end of the studio where I can occasionally sit and contemplate work-in-progress, refer to sketchbooks and plan the next stages. It gets used more by the dog than me though, really...

◆ **Stand Still and Listen**

Oil, 60x70cm

"The unspoilt and remote North Pembrokeshire coastline bathed in a glowing evening light."



◆ **I'm Blown Away**

Oil, 50x60cm

"This was inspired by my time working on adventure boat trips."



◆ **Clear and Bright**

Oil, 30x60cm

"Newgale Beach here in Pembrokeshire is a wide expanse of sand, where the clouds and bright blue sky is often reflected in the wet sand."

◆ **Messages**

Oil, 80 x80 cm

"This light-filled painting has inspiring spiritual overtones. You can see it in the summer show at The Russell Gallery in Putney, London."

◆ **Blowout**

Oil, 50x40cm

"Around the coast we often see these explosions of vapour resulting from air in rock crevices being compressed by an incoming wave."

