

14th January 2011

Creative architecture and art - at the launch of totnes observatory

We know that the South West harbours some amazingly creative people. And not just in the realm of the arts. Sometimes the two can complement each other, and that is what is happening in the already labelled 'funky' town of Totnes in the South Hams, Devon, where a stunning new building has metamorphosed from two dull originals...



The Observatory is located close to the centre of the town and involves **state of the art** architecture including a dramatic 'light waterfall'; a fully automated system that can run all aspects of the house from a Blackberry, PC or similar; and a striking, semi circular tower.

The intervention connected a grade II listed Bothy and a gabled studio, linking them by the dynamic stair tower. The quantity of glass ensures a light and airy feel throughout, and imaginative use of folding glazed walls and materials like corion, canvas, Oak and mirror sheets, give an elegant contemporary feel to this project, not often seen in a rural town. The result is a two bedroom stylish dwelling for the 21st century.

Architects Stan Bolt, based in Brixham with an impressive client base, describe this project as a "**rich opportunity of challenges**". Creative solutions, including one used by NASA, to the linking of the existing buildings were found including the 'king pin' of the

tower; the use of three levels and a courtyard; a hinge - less heavy French Oak door leading to one of two wet rooms, and many more.

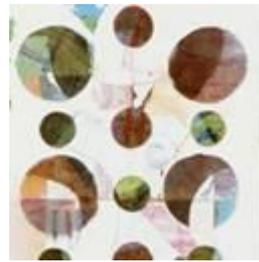
Clive Green, owner of the property - himself no stranger to creative design, he is the CEO of Quartzlock, a company that manufactures, develops and exports some of the world's most precise time and frequency instruments - decided to launch the new building, which is on the lettings market, by inviting four artists to exhibit their work. Visitors will be invited to view the building as well as some stunning contemporary art, over the period from 14th to 19th January 2011.



Susan Deakin



Teresa Wicksteed



Sara Lotto



Naomi Vincent

This is a rare opportunity to view an exciting collaboration between architect and client. There will be several viewing opportunities and **press are asked to make contact if they would like invitations and / or further information.**

Artists exhibiting during the viewing time are Naomi Vincent; Teresa Wicksteed; Susan Deakin and Sara Lotto. The building will prove a great setting for their work and this is an opportunity for art buyers and architect enthusiasts alike.

Venue: Up the A381 (Totnes to Kingsbridge Road.) at the traffic lights turn right onto Plymouth Road and immediately left into Windeatts Lane (unmarked but there will be a sign saying OBSERVATORY). Walk up the lane and round to the right. 30 yards up on the right is the Observatory. (Drivers are advised to park in town at one of the car parks)

For further information, please contact the award-winning Wood's, **team** office in Totnes (01803 866336) or Bubble PR (01869 248524).

Hosted by: Clive Green, CEO Quartzlock. In association with: **artspaces**