



Isabel Garcia Calvo, co-founder and fashion designer: T.H.E.M. At her home and studio in Buenos Aires, Argentina

My Place to Create

Siobhan Frost takes her readers inside the homes and creative spaces of artists around the world. **BY STEPHANIE BOOZER**

IN HER BLOG and magazine, *Slanted Mansion*, U.K.-based Siobhan Frost appeases her traveler's heart by photographing the homes and work spaces of artists she's drawn to, oftentimes in some far corner of the planet. Her subjects may take her from Tel Aviv to Australia to Iceland, all at different points in their careers and in widely varied disciplines.

"Slanted Mansion is named as it is to describe that idea of one person's trash being another person's treasure," she says. "Their [the artists'] home, which often doubles as their creative space, is a mansion in their eyes. It's also meant to explain the quirky and innovative characters whom I have met within these spaces." Curious to know more about her style and inspiration, we tracked Siobhan down between stories to ask a few questions.

Click: What inspired *Slanted Mansion*?

Siobhan: It wasn't until I was living in Argentina for a few months, when Frankie (an Australian women's magazine) asked me to shoot a few pictures for them, that I realized I could actually make a project out of it for myself. I had met some really interesting creatives in Buenos Aires, and their stories were so amazing and inspiring. They were still recovering from their

Right: Sigrídur Sigurónsdóttir, designer, professor and owner of shop Spark, at her home and shop in Reykjavík, Iceland. **Bottom left:** Bahareh Ardakani, stylist at her shared studio, Gothenburg, Sweden. **Bottom middle:** window in visual artist Hannah Smith's studio, Melbourne, Australia. **Bottom right:** Sigrídur Soffía Nielsdóttir, dancer, at her home in Reykjavík, Iceland.

“I’d catch up with a creative and see the place through THEIR EYES.”

economic crash of 2001 and many creatives couldn’t get the work they wanted, so they just went out on their own instead.

Photographing these people in their environments, hearing their stories — where they came from, thoughts on life, the local culture and their lifestyle within it — made my experience that much more interesting and worth remembering. For the next four years, every holiday I went



on, I arranged to meet creative types. I would be in a new place, but instead of visiting a landmark church or tourism hot spot, I’d catch up with a creative and see the place through their eyes. I loved it. I found the most interesting places were the ones not often talked about as ‘creative



hubs’ or the ‘traditional holiday hot spots.’

I knew that if I was interested in something, others would be also. I figured the best way to share these stories I was gathering, at a minimal cost, was an online publication. And Slanted Mansion was born.



Click: How do you find your subjects?

Siobhan: I like variety, and different cultures, so the more varied the better. I choose the country first, and then source the creatives. This could be from friends of friends, previous interviewees, or online research. Often I find one person from that country and they will introduce me to others they know. It’s best when it’s through a contact as they have better inside knowledge from the area. I try to make sure they all practice different mediums from the one country. It’s also really interesting for me to find out about the ins and outs of their industry as even though there are parallels, they are also so foreign. ©

Read Siobhan’s latest interviews at slantedmansion.com.