

## Artist in Residence

LOCATION: TASMAN, NEW ZEALAND

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The clients asked that with a limited budget and using their own resources of timber, labour and enthusiasm we help them recreate the living spaces to improve the physical, functional and spiritual feel of the house.

They wanted to create an atmosphere and space that is casual, relaxed and comfortable. They asked that the house look more solid and grounded, and remain modest and unembellished.

Settled down into the lea of the ridge the house, in its original state, presented a tall abrupt face with little connection to the western face of the site.

Our concept was to extend the living space to the west. A pisè wall constructed from on-site clay incorporates a new fireplace and hearth. This anchors the house to its site with the chimney providing a counter balance to the original two-storey structure. Materials have been carefully matched to make the addition seem seamless and at one with the original structure. The house now opens out and connects to a new western garden and lawn.

The main entry was cleared of clutter and framed by a substantial post and beam pergola. The downstairs bathroom has been altered to incorporate the laundry. An enlarged farmhouse kitchen is simply fitted out and encourages social interaction around the central table. Upstairs the main bedroom with a balcon at the northern end connects to the view. An ensuite bathroom has been installed to the east and a walk in wardrobe/storage room has been added to the roof space attic. The result is generous yet nurturing in its simplicity.