



Emily Hogarth's Scottish home is full of collected treasures with stories to tell

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After outgrowing their home in the south side of Edinburgh, illustrator Emily Hogarth, husband Conor, children Maggie (five) and Finn (three), and Mary the West Highland terrier moved to Musselburgh, just outside the city. In search of a property they could renovate, that offered a lot of space, they found their dream project in the shape of their now-home.

The family have lived in the house for a year, after spending 18 months renovating, and the



Creative gallery wall: a collection of Emily's artwork, displayed with her children's drawings and a piece by a friend.

Right: Emily's living room looks out onto her garden studio space



LIVING home tour



TWO BY TWO

The kids' wooden Noah's Ark is displayed below one of Emily's favourite paintings, by her dear friend Melanie Williamson. Emily painted the ark itself and the animals as something special for Maggie when she was little, that could be passed down. The kids and their friends love playing with it, so it's always out in the living room so it's easily accessible.



space has transformed tremendously in that time. "The property had a magic about it that allowed us to envision our family home – and it had a wonderful old Scots pine tree in the garden which we fell in love with," Emily tells us.

The house is painted white in every room, except for just one. "I've always liked clean white, bright walls... they remind me of art galleries," Emily says. "I'm quite indecisive so white works. It allows our furniture and possessions to be the colour and decoration." So, why the one dark room? "I thought it would be nice to have a space that felt like a big cosy hug," she explains. "Especially in the winter. Our house has huge, high ceilings so can take a strong colour – I chose Railing by Farrow and Ball. I just love it."

This passion for her surroundings extends beyond the paint and décor – it's clear from the get-go that home is really important to Emily.

She works as an illustrator from her studio, located at the bottom of the garden. "It works well for us being able to walk the kids to school or nursery, and then be back home and at my desk just after 9am. I love the space and enjoy pottering about, and just being at home."

Emily creates personal papercut commissions that tell individual stories, often representing meaningful celebrations and family, and this creative storytelling spills out into her space. "My home has lots of pieces of my work hanging on the walls, and also pieces that inspire me – I love being surrounded by things that not only have a use but make me smile."

Around the house there's an assortment of beautiful objects, none of which tie together necessarily, but somehow work in tandem to create a eclectic vibe. They're items Emily's collected over the years, dating back to when she was a student at Edinburgh College of Art, 9

● The Donna Wilson dog was a gift and the little ceramic pieces are by Myer Holliday and Jode Pankurst. ● Plants surround family photos, a tiger by Maggie and an illustration by Emily's friend Astrid Trugg.



The quilt in the living room was sewn for Emily by a very talented lady in America, in exchange for a papercut artwork.



doing a Masters in design. "All the items have a story. For example, the Noah's Ark is something I painted for my children. I bought the ark when Maggie was six months old and painted it and the animals bit by bit when I had spare time, finishing it for Finn's second birthday."

In fact, Emily's life dedicated to the arts shines through all over the house. "Most of our vessels are by ceramic artists I've known over the years, especially ones who've worked at Coburg House Art Studios in Edinburgh, where I've had a studio for over 10 years."

And each piece of artwork on the walls also tells a tale. For example, *The Whales*, by Gerry Turley, was the first thing they bought for their new home. *The Bear*, hanging in the family room, is one of Emily's degree show pieces, one that helped to hone her distinct illustration style.

Maggie and Finn's bedrooms are also white – for now. Emily encourages both children to

express themselves, and the white walls act as a blank canvas, allowing them to grow with the space and change the artwork to suit. "Maggie already has lots of opinions – she wanted the room with the alfresco painting in it."

While there's still more renovations planned – floor-to-ceiling book shelves and finishing off the pantry – Emily's current focus is on the area that made her fall for the house in the first place; the garden. "It has my heart," she smiles. 🍷

- 🍷 Maggie's room is decorated with leaves her and Emily made for a rainforest project.
- 🍷 Emily and Conor's room – above the bed is a collection of kids' art and photos.



Emily Hogarth

Illustrator Emily grew up in Scotland and studied at the Edinburgh College of Art. She's been freelancing ever since and now lives with husband Conor, their children Maggie and Finn and their dog, Mary. www.emilyhogarth.com