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STUDIO, PALMERSTON ROAD

BOYD CODY ARCHITECTS



The client, an artist, needed a studio, full of natural light, built at the end of her garden. Having recently completed a two-storey addition to the main house, the architects decided that the studio should continue the sculptural language of this form to complete the spatial arrangement of volumes in the garden.

Modest in size, the studio's massing is determined by the existing small outbuilding and the geometry of the garden. It is a tall space with a large central rooflight, under which the artist works. In order to animate the space further, a shaft of south light is directed into the studio through a deep recess over the entrance. A picture-window at ground level provides a view down the garden while also framing the activity in the studio.

Internally the studio is read as a neutral white space, allowing the furniture and the artist's work to take on a painterly quality. Externally, the studio is clad in corten steel. An economic and expressive material, its colour and slow patination reinforces the building's sculptural quality.

address – 34 Palmerston Road, Dublin 6

client – private

photography – Paul Tierney

design to completion – 2005-2008

area – 105m²

Site plan and exploded axonometric

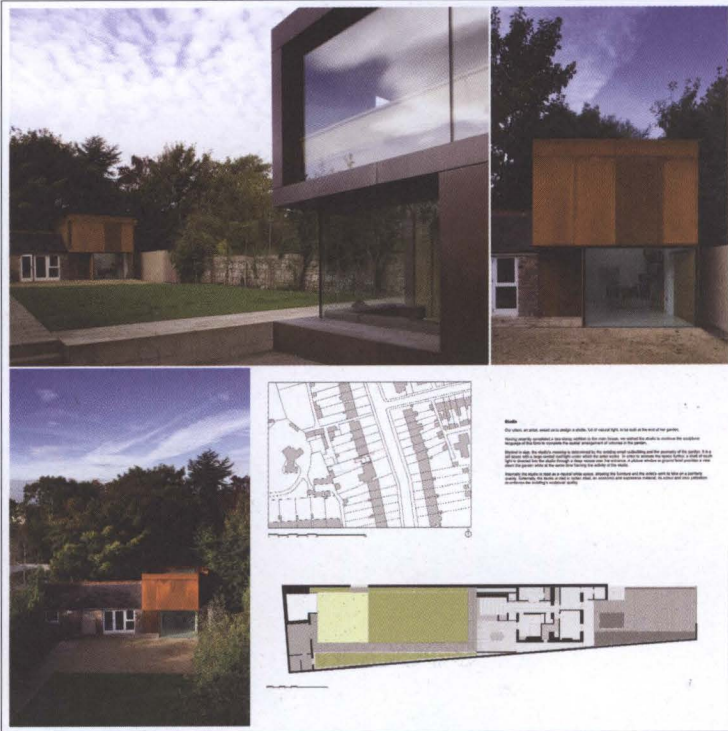
View of studio from house

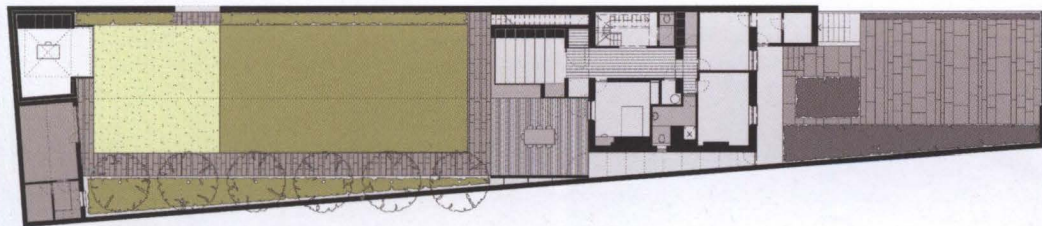
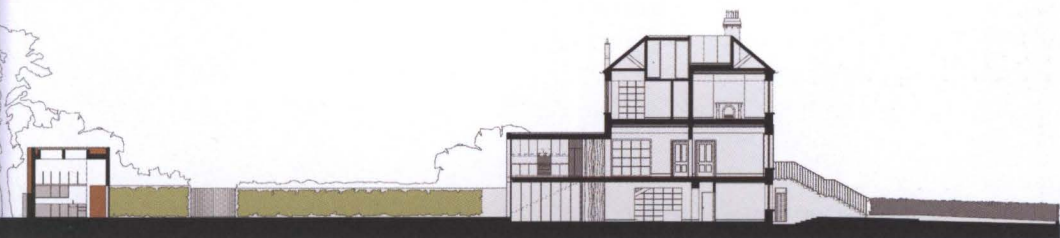


AAI Awards entry panels

opposite

View of studio from house
Section of house and studio
Plan of house and studio





ASSESSORS' COMMENTS

KOIVISTO – This I like.

PAPA – Yea, I like this too. Strong, powerful and simple. It prompts a conversation with the previous award-winning extension across the garden [see AAI Awards 2008]. I particularly like the way that the approach is visually closed down with a solid door and porch. It helps to strengthen the role of the picture window. Even the panel presentation reflects the plan.

KOIVISTO – It's a very elegant little artist's studio, beautifully attached to the older garden house and to the garden wall.

HASSETT – I do like it, and I think it should be included in the exhibition. But it could have been better handled proportionally. It's also a bit clunky in its junctions. I'm picking just at those junctions up there – that articulation is weak.

KOIVISTO – I must say, my only thing against this is I'm not so fond of the use of corten steel in this context.

WANG – I think it's good overall but that it is compromised by this difference in the detailing of the of corten steel. Here [on the ground floor] you have a splayed junction with the glass, and then [on the upper floor] you have a full wall thickness.

KOIVISTO – Yes, I agree with that.

HASSETT – Absolutely. I worry about that extra thickness of the steel wall that we don't know the function of [above], and then this tiny dimension here [below]. It's not as finely detailed as this [earlier extension] is, but that's not part of this project.

ROBINSON – It just looks uncomfortable to me. The top part – the corten steel part – looks so heavy sitting on that little glass base. And it seems like too much of it is projecting out to the left there, too near a visual tipping point.

HASSETT – Which I think was the intention.

KOIVISTO – I agree with you completely about the different edge conditions of the steel, but I still think it is commendable and should be in the exhibition.

opposite – View to garden and previous award-winning extension [AAI Awards 2008] / Studio interior

DERMOT BOYD and PETER CODY studied and graduated together from Dublin Institute of Technology in 1990. Peter Cody received a Masters degree from Columbia University in 1996. Both served as president of the AAI. Dermot Boyd teaches at DIT and Peter Cody at University College Dublin.

BOYD CODY ARCHITECTS was established in 2000. The practice won the Monaghan Civic Offices competition in 2002, and has received numerous awards, including the AAI Downes Medal in 2005. They have been shortlisted for the British Young Architects Award and received an honourable mention in the AR Awards for Emerging Architecture in 2006. Their projects have been widely published, and they featured in the Venice Architecture Biennale, 2006, and the Lisbon Architecture Triennale, 2007.

DESIGN TEAM – Sinéad Bourke, Dermot Boyd, Peter Cody, John Maguire, James Rossa O'Hare, Óran Ó Síocháin, Kevin Walsh

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