

Alex Monroe Studio by DSDHA

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Stephen Lawrence Prize shortlist: Alex Monroe Studio by DSDHA

DSDHA's studio for jeweller Alex Monroe is located on Snowsfields, within the shadow of the Shard and in the Bermondsey Conservation Area. The building consists of a carefully detailed 'casket', a three-storey addition sitting above a restored Edwardian shopfront.

The new building aims to re-establish craft within the city, providing a showcase for Alex's work, as well as the craftsmanship of the metalworkers, who hand-made the facade on site.

Designed to operate as a bespoke 'bookend' to the original terrace, the building creates a strong prow to the street frontage. The design maintains the continuity of the shop fronts, while the additional floors form a distinct, metal-clad volume above.

Constructed using a prefabricated, cross-laminated timber structure throughout, and clad in a pigmented zinc rain-screen, the building provides a range of functional, well-lit spaces.

Martin Pearson, associate director, DSDHA

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