

Welcome to the Maker's Q&A

We ask a farOpen member a dozen quick questions about their life as a maker.



Your name

Lisa Dear

Your craft

Painter

Describe your work in 3 words

Organic Spray-paint Artist

How long have you been a maker?

I have always been creative, through school onto art college, university for my degree in fine art, and carried through this creativeness into my retail career, as a Visual merchandiser and a Window Dresser.

What's the best part of your process?

I like this question because each day it will change for me, so I will give my top 3. It can be sitting on the riverbank, starting the base painting, whatever the weather. Or, when I blend the spray-paint whilst spraying and the colours react together in an organic way. Finally, I love the beginning of a collection, when I choose the subject, flowers or landscape and plan the wood panels and the excitement this gives me.

What's the worst part of your process?

Cleaning up the spray-paint off the patio!!

Do you have a favourite book about your craft?

A the moment - David Mankin, Remembering in Paint, a lovely friend lent it to me.

What are you reading?

A Secret Cornish Summer, lovely, happy escapist fiction at the moment.

What's your favourite film?

Lion King - The original one, not the new versions as I remember when I was at university, 5 of my best friends and I went to the cinema in the day and watched it. It felt such an extravagant thing to do and felt so fab, we went back another couple of times.

What do you listen to in your studio?

A mix of Music and Podcasts, something to make my mind wander and have a laugh. My Therapist Ghosted Me, is a favourite. Serious learning podcasts are very hard to keep track of, especially when I use the orbital sander!! I do miss bits, so a laugh is easier and just selecting a mix of my "Liked Songs" is good for a singalong. Luckily my studio is in the garden and my neighbours are very tolerant of my bad singing!

What one thing would improve your life as a maker?

An unlimited supply of wood panels in all sizes, available when I need them, would mean I never have to compromise.

What's the best piece of advice you have received?

Enjoy what you do.

What's the worst thing you can say to a maker?

You should do this...