

Thomas Robinson Architects



We've all seen examples on television programmes where a house owner loses the plot during the process of building his dream home. Or, to the viewer's cringing delight, the moment when that expansive Baroque staircase is revealed to be an ugly and expensive mistake.

'The trick,' says Tom Robinson of Thomas Robinson Architects, 'is knowing how to avoid those high dramas.' We think we can help avoid nasty mistakes. 'The process does of course require passion: from the client, from the architect, and also from the builder. Particularly through a cold wet build in Scotland, you require more than the mere fact that it's your job. But passion and folly need not go hand in hand.'

Thomas Robinson knows that, for anyone contemplating commissioning their own house, the first steps can be daunting. Knowing who to entrust with the design of what may be

the embodiment of your life's earnings is difficult. Fundamentally, you must like the architect's work but, beyond that, relationships are crucial. They need to be someone you can work with over a substantial period of time.

Thomas Robinson Architects specialises in this personal and somewhat intangible area of design. 'When images of what the building could look like are unveiled everyone gets excited,' says Tom. But his team knows that's the time when clear thinking and sometimes restraint are needed to keep things on track. 'Getting in tune with your client is the key,' he explains. 'The great architects, Lutyens and Lorimar, spent weekends with clients finding out how they lived before designing a new country home. We too spend time with our clients in their houses and visiting buildings before we begin to design. We've even visited their boats and pored over images of their dream ski-lodge to take in how they would like to live.'

And from this, the alchemy begins. The architect feels the heavy responsibility of a clients' trust only too well because when the building literally begins to come out of the ground, you have to have got it right. Faith is needed, and experience and judgement help you get it right for each client.



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Whatever project you are planning we would welcome the chance to talk to you.

www.thomasrobinsonarchitects.co.uk

The Red House, Croftamie GLASGOW G63 0EU

mail@thomasrobinsonarchitects.co.uk

Telephone : 01360 661144