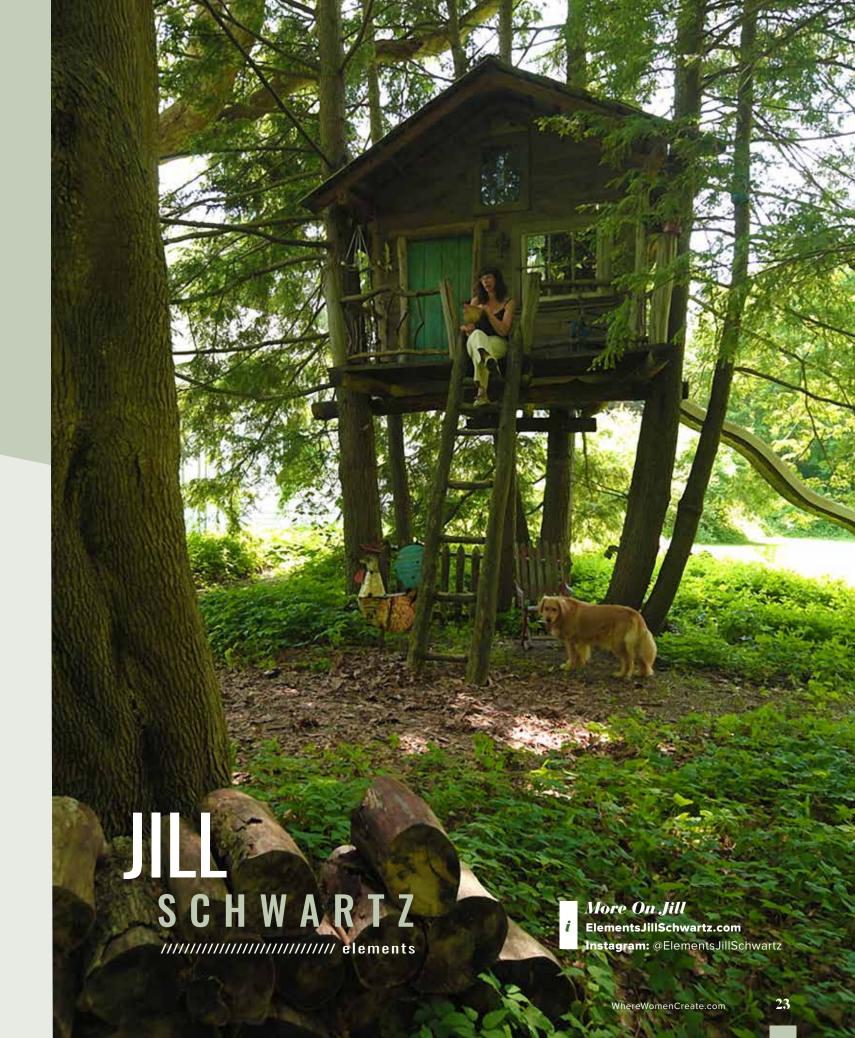
DISCOVERING — UNIQUE AND INSPIRING — STUDIO SPACES

n 2010, when I first began publishing books on women's studios, the studios, it seemed, were always pretty, very organized and fairly traditional. Most were an extra bedroom, a space in the basement or a larger room in the home designed specifically for a maker space. And, they were like that for a really long time...and then, women and their studios began to change. Women began to use their creativity to design "what" their space should be, define the other reasons as to the "why" for their space, as well as, the "where" they were inspired to build.

Jill Schwartz was the first maker that I knew personally to have a tree house—not as her main studio—but as a place to run away to and be quiet, inspired and creative.

Today's creatives have their spaces to "make or create" in any and every category they can imagine. It is no longer the traditional quilting studio or sewing room but rather "maker" spaces in vintage trailers they pull around the country, houseboats docked at the pier, old barns in their hay fields, greenhouses that were once only for plants or vegetables, old gas stations that have long outlived their use and some build co-ops in long since deserted buildings that were originally warehouses for manufacturing—all repurposed to become home for the making of an unlimited number of wonderful things.







ISSA

DIXON-HOLLOW

/////////////////////////////// HOLLOWandRIDG|





alyson DORR lives on a family farm nestled in the beautiful mountains of Montana. She finds joy in the simplicity and hard work of the farm and raising a family. Choosing an intentionally slow way of life has given her time to grow more of her own food as well modify collected recipes to fit her family's gluten-free diet. Although, for the most part, she ignores the recipe book altogether, and like her grandma taught her, relies instead on quick, simple meals from the bounty of her backyard.

ALYSON
DORR
//////// The Red Barn



Photography by Jeremiah and Rachel Photography





ONE OF THE **BLESSINGS OF** HOMESTEADING IS THE RHYTHM AND **CADENCE IT BRINGS** TO THE SEASONS OF LIFE – IT REQUIRES **INTENTION AND** REFLECTION.

the sun casts its first light over the mountains, creating a shadowy haze of blue light, the girls and I head out to the farmyard. Our boot-clad feet leave prints in the dewy grass as we make a trail to the chicken coop to gather eggs, letting the birds out to forage. Next, we water the plants in the greenhouse, popping a few ripe tomatoes into our mouths before gathering herbs for our breakfast. Then, we stroll slowly through the garden, picking a few weeds, harvesting a few veggies and stopping to smell the flowers -their fragrance filling the crisp air. The morning offers opportunity to praise God as the giver of life. We linger. Unhurried.

Together we water and weed. We collect. We learn. We practice patience, marking out days and weeks from germination to consumption. We know it is worth the wait. Our greenhouse was a whole family effort. I dreamed it up, sketched plans, coveted Pintrest photos, and then began hording piles of windows. It was not a priority project for our farm. But I held out hope - for years. I collected materials until it could come together. I salvaged lights from my dad's old rodeo arena and the brick floor from nearby house destroyed by fire. The large windows came from the parsonage at the Baptist church and the stained glass from an eastern Montana farmhouse. I had a pile of left-over siding stacked in the barn. That's how it works around here: I get a wild hair and then my sweet husband helps me bring it to life. He sure does know how to love me well. He puts us all to work cutting boards, drilling holes, painting and problem-solving. If asked, the girls are quick to share their contributions and proud to show off their handiwork. In the end, we've created something functional and beautiful from



More on Alyson

FarmKidCo.com

Instagram: @theredbarn_mt

Facebook: TheRedBarnAtGlacierCountry

29 28 WHERE WOMEN CREATE | ISSUE 10 WhereWomenCreate.com