

# The Sunday Telegraph

# Life

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L7

REAL HOMES



PROPERTY

LIFE

MY SPACE

**Memorabilia** This Fifties beer advert was bought from Rin Tin Tin collector's shop in Brighton by my partner Merry's father. I believe the white part was used for writing beer prices on, which is an amazing touch. I picked up the lollipop sign during a trip to pick up desks for an artwork in my current exhibition



**Lamp** I love this original Fifties dentist's lamp; I've used it for years and it's travelled everywhere with me. It's unbelievably useful due to its easily adjustable settings, and it gives out the perfect light for painting by. It's a timeless design that just can't be replicated. For me, the original is always better

STOP  
CHILDREN

**Helmet** This Imperial Stormtrooper helmet was the prototype for the helmets worn in the original Star Wars film, *A New Hope*, in 1975. It belongs to Merry's father, so I've borrowed it for quite a long time. It's the most valuable piece of memorabilia in the house – it must be worth a lot of money



**Table** This is a 1979 original Space Invaders cocktail table from Japan that I bought about five years ago. The computer game is built into the table and it still works perfectly. It's remarkable to take it apart and look at how much technology has progressed. I was really lucky to get it, it's one of the pieces I get most joy from

## PLAY ROOM BEN TURNBULL ARTIST

This was a living room when we moved into our home in Battersea, south London, in 2004; now it's my studio. I have a workshop nearby, but I spend half of my time working on my art here, such as the Darth Vader head which I've painted in the style of *Full Metal Jacket*.

The layout of the room changes weekly depending on the size of the piece I'm working on. It's organised chaos, really! I've been collecting comics and superhero memorabilia since a young age. It was comic book and album-cover artwork that inspired me to become an illustrator as a child.

Jack Kirby, the American illustrator who created Captain America, my favourite superhero, is a hero of mine. I'm a huge fan of American products, and collect through auctions, specialist shops and online. I don't buy to sell; it all informs my work. I collect in a compulsive way; once I've set my heart on something, I just have to track it down.

© *Superman: An Exhibition of Heroes*, celebrating the heroes of 9/11, opens this week at Eleven Gallery, London SW1W ([www.elevenfineart.com](http://www.elevenfineart.com))

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