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"Abstraction is second nature to me," says Denver artist Laura Krudener. *Opposite:* Krudener and her husband designed and built their LEED Platinum house, where *Drifting Alongside Chaos*, her 2011 acrylic, enamel, marker and charcoal work, hangs in the kitchen.



"Creating my own view of the world through painting mesmerized me from an early age," artist Laura Krudener says. "I was always interested in art, specifically the tactility of paint." Krudener—who works from her studio in Denver's RiNo Art District and is represented through the city's Plus Gallery—uses paint, color, texture, form and space to depict her own visual language of abstractness. "I'm very interested in the fluidity and movement of paint and how these build upon each layer," she explains. Initially painting with watercolors and brushes, Krudener changed her methods in 2006 to dramatic effect. "I ditched my paintbrushes and started using anything else I could find to make a mark," says the artist, who now pours 90-percent of her paint directly from jars. "Immediately, I discovered a wealth of creativity." Despite her game-changing method, she still relies on the unknown to help finalize her vision. "My paintings are vibrant events in time," she says. "I communicate with the language of each, staring at the mystery, waiting for them to unfold." [laurakrudener.com](http://laurakrudener.com); 303.296.0927

#### MYSTERIOUS WAYS

# LAURA KRUDENER



This printed silk-linen Karina top is by Tibi, which Krudener counts as a favorite fashion brand for its "funky and casual" clothing.

#### WHAT'S INSPIRING YOU NOW?

Fashion. The spring runway collections, especially J.Crew's fluorescent palette and Tibi's use of matte and shiny finishes, have my head spinning with ideas.

#### GREATEST INFLUENCES:

Artists Julie Mehretu, Morris Louis, Clyfford Still and Jackson Pollock.

#### DESCRIBE YOUR HOME.

My husband and I designed and built our LEED Platinum home in the Denver Highlands. It's modern with nods to traditionalism. It has a very clean Zen feel, yet it's cozy and full of art and books.

#### GEHRY OR WRIGHT?

Gehry. His vision with lines and his apparent break with architectural rules are inspiring.

#### MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW:

I've studied dance and performed for over 20 years. I think this movement has helped inspire my ways in the studio.

#### GREATEST INDULGENCE:

Skiing and sushi. Matsuhisa in Aspen is hands down my favorite place to go after a day on the slopes. Nothing beats fresh sashimi and sake.