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Javier Calleja

At Home in Malaga, Spain

"Nice to meet you!" We always say that first contact is not enough to get to know someone, and that is what we can "prejudice"—having an opinion at first sight. But, "emotional intelligence" shows us that "prejudiced" people are not that wrong after all and the first impression is often more accurate than any of the information we might learn later.

So what does this have to do with my studio?
Everything!

For 13 years, I was working in a small room and only for the last two years could I afford a decent workspace. The similarity between a meeting a new friend or a new studio is that there is always the first encounter—someone opens the door and introduces you to the one that could be your partner and friend for a long time. It is at this moment that you have to throw away your prejudice. You don't want to make a mistake cause you know a lot of things depend on your decision. You put aside all your "cool" attributes and become very strict. And by doing so you know that you're serious about this.

So when I decided that I wanted a serious studio took me more than a year to find one. I chose the most demanding side of myself to find the most suitable place. I discovered that our hearts is the most rigorous organ we have, because only the place that touched me at the first glance would be the ideal one, as the new friend would be. And that's how it was. —Javier Calleja

Stay tuned for an interview with Javier Calleja in the Spring 2019 issue of *lux2496*.