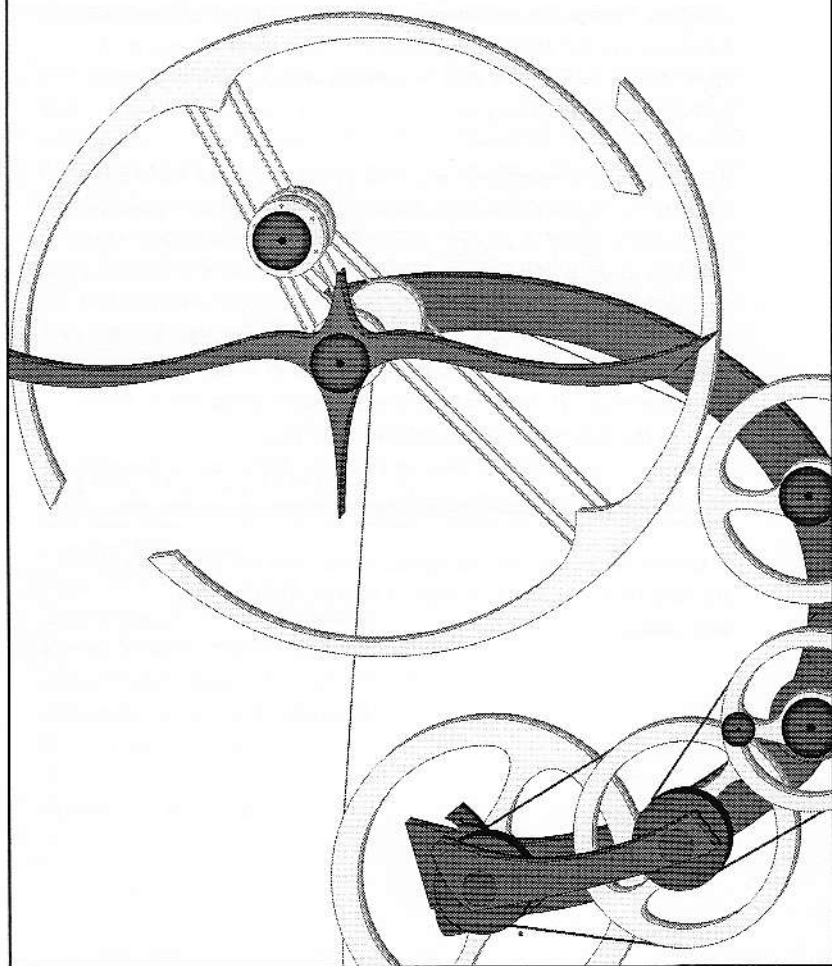


# Avian

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## Directions

Kinetic Sculpture by  
David C. Roy  
© 1989



## To the Owner:

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Hello,

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Avian is number \_\_\_\_\_ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of \_\_\_\_\_ in 1992. I build, test and pack each sculpture myself, doing 6-12 pieces of an edition per month. It takes several years for me to complete an edition and some are never finished as I move on to new designs. Designing and building kinetic sculptures like Avian has been my full time occupation for more than 14 years. I hope Avian brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Avian has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for at least 2 complete windings (several hours) before I pack it. I make every effort in design, construction and packing to make sure the piece will perform problem free for years to come. I use only the finest materials.

It leaves me happy and satisfied to find that my work has made it's way into new lives. I hope it brings you years of enjoyment.

David C. Roy

## About Avian:

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My "discovery" of a floating motion dates back to a piece called *Ricochet* which I built 1982. It's one of my favorite types of motion. I find the smooth random mix of straight line and circular motion fascinating. As I watch a piece like *Avian*, I find myself waiting for my preferred orientations to happen out of the random mix. I wait for the semi-circular wheel rims to form a perfect circle with the "bird" form in the center. If I'm very lucky, this form then breaks apart and the "bird" starts floating up and down and a straight vertical line. It doesn't happen often, but it does happen.

I've used elements of this motion in two different sculptures this year, *Tri-Avian* and *Avian*. *Avian* is the second generation of an earlier sculpture, *Voyager*, one of my personal favorites. In this new design I've used brass rods to connect the semi-circular, weighted wheel rims of the floating assembly in a simple but elegant arrangement. I've also incorporated an entirely new mechanism to drive the motion. It's a very simple melding of several of my earlier designs that is easy to wind and is the perfect driver for this type of motion. It's the type of simple solution that I should have "seen" years ago!

## Specifications:

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Limited Edition of 150

Size: 37"h x 32"w x 6"d

Ball drops 20" below sculpture

Power Source: negator spring

Approximate Run Time: 2-3 hours

Materials: hardwood plywood,  
brass, bearings, string

Avian © 1989

Patent No. 4637152

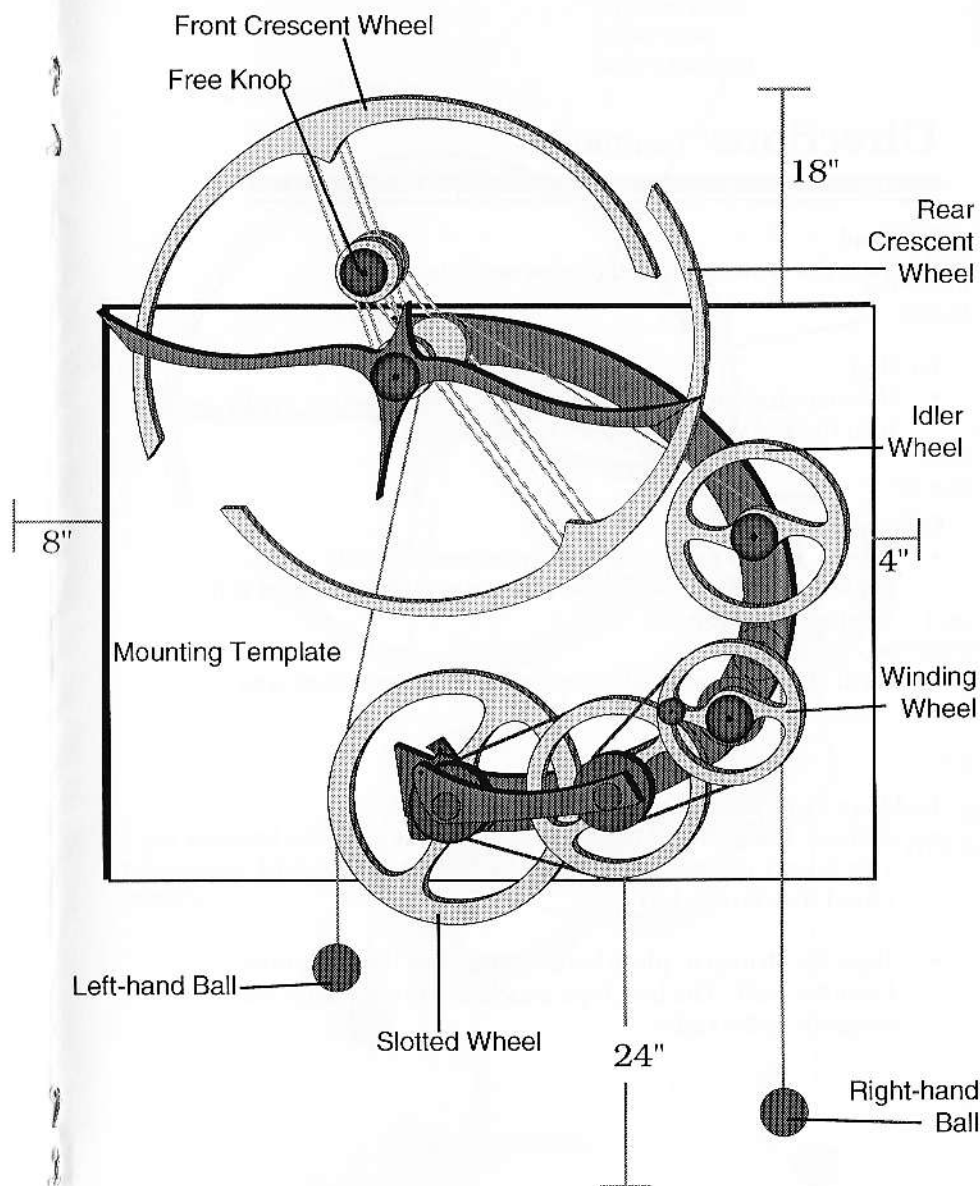
## Directions:

### To Mount on Wall:

- DO NOT remove the tape holding the strings in place.
- Hold the mounting template in the desired location against a wall. Level the bottom edge.
- Place a sharp instrument through the 3 screw holes, marking their positions on the wall.
- Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- Screw the lower part of the sculpture to the wall.
- Unscrew the free knob on the back upper motion wheel. (Only 1 knob is loose).
- Slide front upper motion assembly onto the shaft. Wiggle the pawl on the back piece to allow the front piece to slide all the way on to the shaft.
- Screw the knob back in place.
- Remove the cardboard covers on the wooden balls.
- Remove the tape holding the strings in place. DO NOT remove the colored tape on the drive spring.

### The Stringing:

- The sculpture is packed with all the strings taped in place. This description is used to verify that they are still in the correct locations.
- The left hand ball string is attached to the front slot of the slot wheel and hangs freely from there.
- The right hand ball string is attached to the rear slot of the slot wheel, goes up and over the pulley attached to the back crescent shaped wheel, behind the pulley of the idler wheel and then hangs freely.
- If the strings are not in the locations described, put them there.



## Directions: (continued)

### To Wind

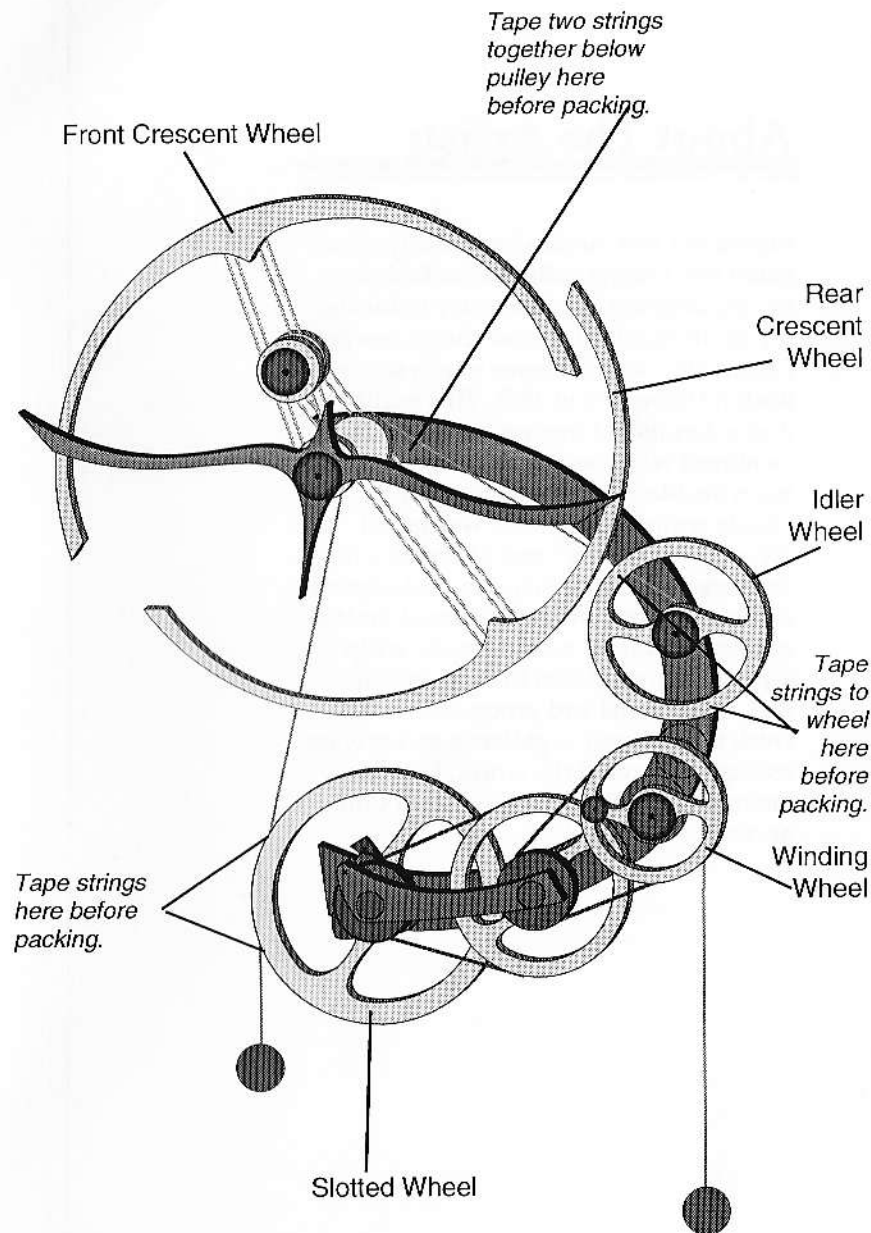
- Turn the winding wheel clockwise 20 turns.

### To Start

- If Avian does not start immediately after winding, gently turn the slot wheel counter-clockwise.

### To Move or Repack the Sculpture

- Remove the front crescent wheel by unscrewing the knob. This is only necessary if you are packing in a standard Wood that Works box.
- Tape the strings in place before removing the sculpture from the wall. The best tape locations are shown on the diagram to the right.



## About The Artist:

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Mechanics and motion have always fascinated me. During college I studied physics, engineering and chemistry to further my understanding of how things worked. I graduated with a degree in physics from Boston University in 1974. This intuitive understanding of motion and mechanics combined with the artistic influences of my wife, Marji, led me to the creation of kinetic sculptures. In 1975 we started "Wood That Works" and I became a full time sculptor. Since then I have designed and handcrafted over 60 different limited edition and one of a kind kinetic sculptures. I have exhibited in numerous juried, invitational and group events. My work is displayed in galleries and private collections around the world. I currently maintain a studio in rural eastern Connecticut.