About the Artist:

David C. Roy

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 80 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 northeastern Connecticut.
Hello,

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Harmony is number ______ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of ______________ in 2009. 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 Harmony has been my full time occupation for more than 25 years. I hope Harmony brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I’ve found in making it.

Harmony 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
Directions:

To Wind
- Turn the winding wheel in a counter-clockwise direction 24 turns.
- Pay close attention to the top of the light colored wood spool directly behind the winding wheel. Stop winding as soon as you see the red tape appear on the metal band. This is placed about 1 turn from the end.

Winding beyond this point may damage the sculpture.

To Start
- If the sculpture does not start after winding push the back arm of the upper assembly (the one with only one bird attached) counter clockwise about a half turn. This will engage the mechanism and start the motion.
- Try to avoid starting the “bird” forms swinging when starting the sculpture. It takes quite a while for them to settle down.

About Harmony:

I think of Harmony as a vertical mobile. It is a sculpture of balanced layers that interact with each other. The main carrier arm is pushed clockwise for a short interval by the drive mechanism. This action starts the entire upper assembly motion which continues rotating clockwise until it runs out of energy. The main carrier arm then falls back, triggering the mechanism and starting the action all over again. The motion appears random. It depends on the relative speeds of the two carrier arms when the drive impulse occurs.

I started working on Harmony in an attempt to make a smaller version of my larger sculpture Gemini. As I played with the drawings and animations it morphed from a 2 bird piece into the current form. The bird forms are the same but the action is quite different.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150
Size: 50”h x 44”w 8”d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 8 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Harmony ©2005
Directions:

To Mount on Wall:
- DO NOT remove the tape holding the belts in place
- Hold the backboard in the desired location against the wall. Level the bottom edge.
- Place a sharp instrument through the screw holes, marking their positions on the wall.
- Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- The top assembly must be installed in the correct orientation. There is an arrow on the back of the disk showing the UP side. When viewed from the front the single short brass pin mounted directly in the dark circular base should be at between 11 and 12 o’clock.
- Screw the sculpture to the wall.
- Install the connecting belt by looping it over the small pulley on the upper mechanism and the right hand pulley on the lower mechanism. Hook the ends of the belt together.
- Remove the tape holding the drive belt in place.

Before Moving Sculpture:
- Always tape the spring-belts in place before moving the sculpture. This will save a lot of aggravation when it is time to set the piece up again.
- See the diagram for the best tape locations.