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 Saturn is a one-of-a-kind sculpture created in 1994.

Designing and building kinetic sculptures like Saturn has been my full time occupation for more than 25 years. I hope Saturn brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Saturn has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for several days 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.

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Directions:

To Wind
• Turn the left hand winding wheel counter-clockwise 20 turns.
• Turn the right hand winding wheel clockwise 20 turns.

To Start
• Gently pull down on the left hand string that goes to the weight.

CAUTION:
NEVER START SATURN BY SPINNING THE PATTERNING WHEELS. THIS WILL CAUSE THE STRINGS TO BECOME TANGLED.

About Saturn:

Complex intertwining patterns evolve from the overlapping concentric circles that are the basis for Saturn's name. The wheels, which spin in opposing directions in a symmetrical dance, create fascinating shapes both in their positive and resulting negative spaces.

This is the first symmetrical wall piece since Blizzard was created in 1979. As I studied the visual effects of the wheels in the computer generated model it was clear that it worked best in symmetry. This design element was carried throughout the entire piece with the exception of the graceful lines of the tensioning weight.

Saturn has a double mechanism which keeps it running for approximately 4 hours on a complete winding. The motion is accompanied by occasional wooden clicks as the pawls slip into place.

Specifications:

One-of-a-kind
Size: 33"w x 48"h x 6"d
(includes weight drop)
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 4 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Saturn ©1994
Directions:

To Mount on Wall:
• DO NOT remove the tape holding the strings 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.
• Screw the sculpture to the wall.
• Remove the tape holding the strings in place.

Note:
Tape the strings in place before repacking or 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.