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 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 Tandem Nautilus is number _____ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of ____________ in 2004. 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 Tandem Nautilus has been my full time occupation for more than 20 years. I hope Tandem Nautilus brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I’ve found in making it.

Tandem Nautilus 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 counter-clockwise 24 turns.

To Start
• Gently push down on the left side slotted string wheel until it will go no further and release.

About Tandem Nautilus:

I’ve developed a variety of mechanisms to control and power my sculptures but one that I always return to is the center pin wheel and 2 “arms” assembly. It is a quiet, efficient and reliable source of oscillating motion. I moved to a new generation of that mechanism in this sculpture by “laying out” the “arms” next to each other rather than overlapping them. I like the slow sedate pattern this creates especially in counterpoint to the more rapid and random patterns generated by the top assembly. This new arrangement also allows for greater flexibility in the physical design of the “arms”. In Tandem the shapes selected are determined not so much by their function but by the overall design of the sculpture.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150
Size: 52”h x 36”w x 7”d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 4 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Tandem ©2000
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.

To Attach Patterning Wheel:
- One of the patterning wheels is not attached to the main body of the sculpture during shipping.
- To attach it, remove the knob and outside spacer from the patterning wheel shaft. Slide the patterning wheel onto the shaft, followed by the spacer. Replace the knob and tighten securely.
- Remove the tape holding the strings and belts in place.

Note:
Tape the strings and black belts 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.