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 Tangle is number ______ out of a possible 36 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 Tangle has been my full time occupation for more than 25 years. I hope Tangle brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I’ve found in making it.

Tangle has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for at least 10 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.

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Directions:

Before Moving Sculpture:
- Always tape the spring-belts and strings 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.
- Tape the strings to the upper wheel before disconnecting them from the hooks behind the arms.
- Tape all the springs on the lower assembly in place.

Correct Installation of the Spring-Belts:
- Tangle is has 4 separate drive belts. If a belt should become dislodged during shipping please refer to the drawing and pop it back onto the correct pulleys.

About Tangle

Tangle creates a sensuous series of intertwining patterns as the dark curves of the overlapping wheels rotate in the same direction at different speeds. The circular carrying wheel behind them pushes them forward when it rotates in a clockwise direction and then allows them to free rotate as it moves in the counterclockwise direction.

The entire upper mechanism is powered and controlled by the lower mechanism through a pair of woven nylon lines and a complex arrangement of pulleys, belts and springs.

Tangle is a piece I can be mesmerized by. It has a continually varying set of patterns and I find myself always waiting for the next one.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 36
Size: 52”h x 43”w x 10”d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 8 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Tangle ©2002
Directions:

To Mount on Wall:
- DO NOT remove the tape holding the spring-belts in place.
- Hold the template against the wall in the desired location.
- Level the bottom edge.
- Mark the screw holes.
- Install wall anchors if necessary.
- Screw the top part of the sculpture to the wall using the marked holes.
- Screw the bottom part of the sculpture to the wall using the marked holes.
- Attach the inner string hanging from the right-hand side of the sculpture to the arm closest to the wall. Place the string under the screw eye closest to the end of the arm and then loop the end of the string over the other screw eye.
- Attach the outer string to the outer arm in the same manner.
- Remove the tape holding the strings to the upper mechanism.
- Remove the tape holding the spring-belts in place.

To Wind:
- Turn the left hand winding wheel clockwise 24 turns. Turn the right hand winding wheel clockwise 24 turns.

To Start:
- If the sculpture does not start by itself after winding, gently push down on the arm that is in the uppermost position.