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 Tango is number ______ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of __________ in 1998. 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 Tango has been my full time occupation for more than 20 years. I hope Tango brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Tango 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.

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Directions:

To Wind
• Turn the large pulley wheel clockwise 20 turns.

To Start
• Gently push down on which ever arm is in the upper most position.

About Tango:

The idea for Tango came from a Tumult. About a year ago I designed a sculpture name Tumult. It has a nice random motion but is a bear to wind, it takes three hands to do it easily. Tango evolved as I worked to improve Tumult.

Tango uses overlapping crescents mounted on a moving base as in Tumult but the motion and operation of the sculpture are much improved. The two dark stained crescents turn in a clockwise direction at a nearly constant rate. The light stained wheel they are mounted on is powered by the lower “arm” mechanism and rotates several revolutions clockwise and then several counter-clockwise. The interaction of the constantly rotating crescents with the counter-rotating carrying wheel creates many fascinating, random patterns of motion. I see many of them as dance moves when viewed from above, hence the name.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150
Size: 35"h x 29"w x 6"d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 3 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, brass, bearings, string
Tango © 1996
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.