Wings

Directions

Kinetic Sculpture by
David C. Roy
© 1991
To the Owner:

Hello,

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Wings is number ______ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of _________ in 1996. 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 Wings has been my full time occupation for more than 15 years. I hope Wings brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Wings 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

About Wings:

When I first showed Wings to Marji, she watched it for a while and said, “I like the motion and patterning, but how are you going to add a power mechanism?” Just as I was about to give the classic “It's in there” response, the sculpture got a kick from the mechanism and picked up speed. A smile came to her face as she realized that this was the entire sculpture, mechanism and all.

The two wheels of Wings are separated by a small, spring-driven, centrifugal brake mechanism that I've designed and used in different ways in 3 of my new designs this year. This is the simplest version. It sits directly between the two motion wheels and waits for the motion of the wheels to slow down and reverse. At this point it releases a portion of the stored spring energy and sends the wheels spinning in opposite directions.

Although the appearance of the sculpture is quite simple, the motion can be quite complex and non-repetitive. It depends entirely on the relative motion and balance point of the two wheels when the mechanism is triggered. The longer you watch Wings, the more motion variations you will enjoy.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150
Size (still): 24"h x 24"w x 6"d
Size in Motion: 28"h x 28"w
Power Source: Negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 1 1/2 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Wings © 1991
**Directions:**

To Mount on Wall:

- Hold the sculpture up against the wall.
- Place a sharp instrument through the holes in the base piece to mark their location on the wall.
- Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- Screw the sculpture to the wall.
Directions:

To Wind
- Grasp the large winding knob located just behind a smaller one. (Shown as a lighter gray in the diagram.) Hold this firmly and move it in a cranking motion about the center of the back wheel. (See dark arrow in diagram.) Continue winding in this fashion for 20 turns of the back wheel.

To Start
- Gently push the front spoked wheel clockwise to start the motion.
About The Artist:

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 60 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 eastern Connecticut.