About the Artist:

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 work. I graduated with a degree in physics from Boston University in 1974. This intuitive understanding of motion and mechanics combined with the artistic influence of my wife, Marj, 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 hand-crafted over 100 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. Starscape is a one-of-a-kind sculpture designed by me in 2005. I build, test and pack each sculpture myself. Designing and building kinetic sculptures like Starscape has been my full time occupation for more than 30 years. I hope Starscape brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Starscape has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for many days before I packed 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. Of course, problems can still occur no matter how hard I try to prevent them. My answer to this is a lifetime warranty against defects in materials and workmanship. If the sculpture fails to work properly at some time in the future for some reason other than misuse or calamity, I will repair it free of charge. The sculpture needs to be returned to me post paid. After the first year there will be return shipping and packing charges.

It leaves me happy and satisfied to find that my work has made its way into new lives. I hope it brings you years of enjoyment.

David C. Roy
Directions:

Install the connecting belt:
(Continued)

- Stretch the spring and place it in the slot of the large pulley. Make sure it is still in the slot of the small upper pulley.
- Remove the tape holding the spring-belts in place on the lower mechanism.

To Wind:
- After the initial installation do a test winding. Turn the upper winding wheel counter-clockwise 1 turn. Turn the lower winding wheel counter-clockwise 1 turn. Start the sculpture by gently pushing all THREE upper patterning wheels clockwise. Let the sculpture run for a few minutes. Note that the back light colored wheel rotates clockwise for 1 or more turns, hesitates, and then rotates clockwise. This triggers the lower mechanism which then turns a little bit and provides more energy to the upper mechanism.
- For a full winding turn the upper winding wheel counter-clockwise 24 turns. Turn the lower winding wheel counter-clockwise 24 turns.

To Start:
- If the sculpture does not start by itself after winding, Start the sculpture by gently pushing all THREE upper patterning wheels clockwise.

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.

About Starscape:

Starscape is a new type of patterning sculpture. The two large patterning wheels always move in the same direction at slightly different speeds. There is a smaller wheel located behind these wheels that delivers a small random burst of energy to the back patterning wheel. This wheel then imparts some of its energy to the front patterning wheel leaving all the wheels rotating at different speeds. The varying speeds create the constantly evolving and changing patterns.

This is a long running sculpture with some very quiet clicking sounds.

I designed and built this piece a couple of years ago and thoroughly enjoy the relaxing and hypnotic motion.

Specifications:

One-of-a-kind
Size: 52"h x 49"w x 8"d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 22+ hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Starscape ©2007
Patent No. 4637152
Directions:

To Mount on Wall:

- DO NOT remove the tapes holding the spring-belts in place.
- Hold the template 1 against the wall in the desired location. The left-right visual center of the sculpture is marked on template #1, 6” in from the right edge.
- Level the bottom edge.
- Temporarily attach the template to the wall using the marked screw holes in the template. Partially screw in the screws.
- Hold the template 2 against the top edge of template 1. Align the arrow on the bottom template to the left edge of the top template.
- Mark the hole locations on the top template.
- Remove the top and then the bottom templates.
- Install wall anchors in the 6 marked holes if necessary.
- Screw the left hand side of the sculpture to the wall using the marked holes. Be careful not to dislodge the black belts from the pulleys.
- Screw the right hand side of the sculpture to the wall using the marked holes.

- Pass the connecting belt, from right to left, over the small pulley on the back of the upper patterning mechanism.

- Thread the belt behind the large pulley in the middle of the lower mechanism. Do not try and place it in the pulley slot at this time.

- Hook the two ends of the belt together.

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