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 130 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.
To the Owner...

Hello,

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Avalanche is number ______. There will be a limit of 150 White Water pieces sculpture made. This Avalanche uses #_____ and #_____. It was made by me during the month of ______ in 2011. 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 Avalanche has been my full time occupation for more than 30 years. I hope Avalanche brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I’ve found in making it.

Avalanche has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for at least 2 complete windings (several days) 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. Of course, problems can still occur no matter how hard I try to prevent them. My answer to this is a warranty to the original owner against defects in materials and workmanship for five years. See the guarantee section of this booklet for details.

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

[Diagram of the sculpture with labels for winding wheels, connecting belts, and patterning wheels. Instructions to push clockwise to start winding.]
Directions:

*These directions apply to both sides of the sculpture.*

**To Wind**
- Turn the winding wheel in a clockwise direction 23 turns.
- Pay close attention to the top of the light colored wood spool directly behind the winding wheel. Stop winding as soon as you see the red tape appear on the metal band. This is placed about 1 turn from the end. *Winding beyond this point may damage the sculpture.*

**To Start**
- If the sculpture does not start immediately after winding push the outside patterning wheel (see diagram) in a clockwise to start the sculpture.

**Guarantee:**
- My kinetic sculptures are guaranteed to the original owner for a period of five years. All warranties expire with transfer of ownership from the original owner. Damage of the sculpture from exposure to extremes of high or low humidity, or to adverse hot or cold temperatures, or damage caused by normal wear and tear, accidents, misuse, or modification will not be covered by the warranty. Shipping and insurance to and from Wood That Works is the responsibility of the purchaser.
- I will charge a reasonable repair fee if the sculpture was damaged by misuse or needs refurbishment from normal wear and tear.

About Avalanche:

*Avalanche* follows from the inspiration of my earlier design *Falling Water*. From that I created the single unit *White Water* which can be be expanded. In *Avalanche* I’ve nested two *White Water* modules in a diamond formation. This creates a very complex and somewhat chaotic meshing effect at the center of the sculpture. This design was a surprise that evolved as I explored possibilities with the individual units. It is a long running piece with constantly changing patterns that slowly create and destroy a tumbling "avalanche" effect.

I have improved on the original *Falling Water* design by simplifying the drive mechanism and slightly modifying the way I use precision ball bearings to make the sculpture long running and reliable. The result is a run time far beyond any single spring sculpture I have created at more than 24 hours on a full winding.

Specifications:

- **Limited Edition of 150 Modules**
- **See Edition Note**
- **Size:** 45"h x 67"w x 6"d
- **Power Source:** negator spring
- **Approximate Run Time:** 24+ hours
- **Materials:** hardwood plywood, bearings, string

*Avalanche ©2010*
Directions:

To Mount on Wall:
- Hold the center mounting template in the desired location against a wall. The diagram shows the relationship of the template to the sculpture to guide you in positioning the sculpture on the wall. Needed clearances are designated.
- Level the bottom edge of the template. Temporarily screw it in place using two screws. Mark the other hole locations with a sharp instrument.
- Line up the arrow on the left and right templates with the center template.
- Place a sharp instrument through all the screw holes, marking their positions on the wall. Remove all templates.
- Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- Screw the sculpture to the wall. The left and right sides are labeled on the back of the individual parts.
- Attach the drive spring belts. The belt goes from the smaller pulley wheel on the winding mechanism to the smallest pulley behind patterning wheel.
- Remove the tape holding the strings and springs in place.

Before Moving Sculpture:
- Always let the sculpture unwind and tape the spring-belts 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.
- Blue Painter's tape is recommended.