

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 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 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.

Wood 
that Works

North Star • Directions

Kinetic Sculpture by David C. Roy
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To the Owner...

Hello,

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This North Star is number _____ out of a possible 95 pieces. 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 North Star has been my full time occupation for more than 30 years. I hope North Star brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

North Star 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

Locations to tape before shipping: 



To wind the sculpture insert your pointer finger here and turn the front wheel 21 turns clockwise until you see the red tape on the spring.

Directions:

To Wind:

- Turn the winding wheel clockwise 21 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.*
- Occasionally the mechanism will fail to catch when you stop winding and you will hear some skips. You can prevent this by starting the large patterning wheels moving clockwise before you wind.

To Start:

- If the sculpture does not start by itself after winding, gently push both large wheels counter clockwise.

Before Moving Sculpture:

- Always tape the spring-belt 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.
- Use the template to correctly position the sculpture after relocating.

About North Star:

My first sculptures in 1975-76 ran for about 20-30 minutes, I considered them a success but I wasn't satisfied. I've spent the past 35 years exploring new designs, mechanisms and building techniques and one consideration is always run time. Runtime grew in leaps from less than half an hour to 1 hour then 3 hours then 10 hours. Last year I was pleased to introduce my first single spring sculpture that ran for 24 hours, White Water.

This year I'm introducing North star, my first sculpture that runs for 40 to 50 hours. A long runtime wasn't the goal of this sculpture but the result of the type of patterning I was trying to create. I'm using two similar but different wheels rotating in the same direction at different speeds. For the patterns to emerge properly the wheels have to rotate very slowly. The side effect to the constantly changing patterning is a very long runtime.

Specifications:

Size: 35"h x 28"w x 6"d

Power Source: negator spring

Approximate Run Time: 40+ hours

Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string

North Star ©2011

Directions:

To Mount on Wall:

- DO NOT remove the tape holding the spring-belts in place.
- Hold the mounting template in the desired location against a wall. Please note the minimum clearance dimensions are shown at the edges of the template.
- Level the bottom edge of the template.
- Place a sharp instrument through the screw holes, marking their positions on the wall. Remove and save the template.
- Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- Screw the sculpture to the wall using 2 lower screws.
- Slide the black background ring behind the base lining up the top notch in the ring and slot in the outer ring to the base.
- Screw the top screw in place.
- Remove the tape holding the spring-belts in place.

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.

