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.

## Quest • Directions

Kinetic Sculpture by David C. Roy


## To the Owner...


#### Abstract

Hello, Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Guest is number $\qquad$ ou ut of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of $\qquad$ in 2005 . 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 Quest has been my full time occupation for more than 25 years. I hope Quest brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Quest 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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Patterning wheels


Winding wheel
Pin wheel

Crescent pulley

## Directions:

## To Wind

- Make sure the drive strings are in their slots on the crescent pulleys.
- Turn the winding wheel counter-clockwise 24 turns.


## To Start

- Gently push down on the front crescent pulley to start the motion.


## Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150
Size: 39"h x 42"w x 7" d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 3-4 hours
Materials: hardwood plywood,
bearings, string
Quest ©2000

## About Quest:

Quest is a relatively long running, "floating" motion sculpture. The two overlapping split wheels are driven by the center pin wheel and some small levers called "pawls". This assembly is in turn driven by a winding wheel powered by a negator spring. The bird form moves rapidly through a variety of random but repeating visually mesmerizing straight-line and elliptical patterns. This is the 5th generation of this type of motion, started in 1987 with Voyager. In each new piece I've tried a different mechanism to control the motion. In many ways I find this one to be the most successful.

Back motion assembly

## 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.
- Unscrew the free knob on the back upper motion assembly. (Only one knob is loose.)
- Slide the front upper motion assembly onto the threaded shaft. If necessary wiggle the small lever or pawl on the back assembly so that front assembly can slide all the way onto the shaft.
- Screw the knob back in place.
- Remove the tape holding the strings in place.
- Make sure the drive strings are in their slots on the crescent pulleys.

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.


Mounting template

