

About the Artist:

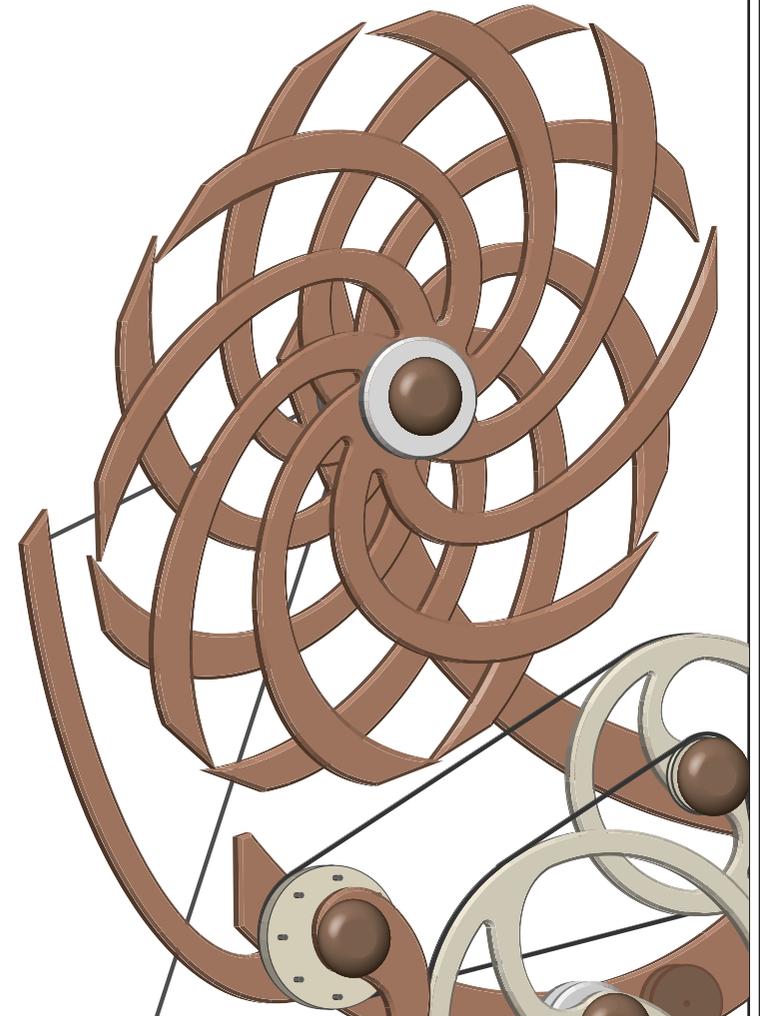
David C. Roy

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 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.

Wood 
that Works

Ellipse • Directions

Kinetic Sculpture by David C. Roy
©1998



To the Owner...

Hello,

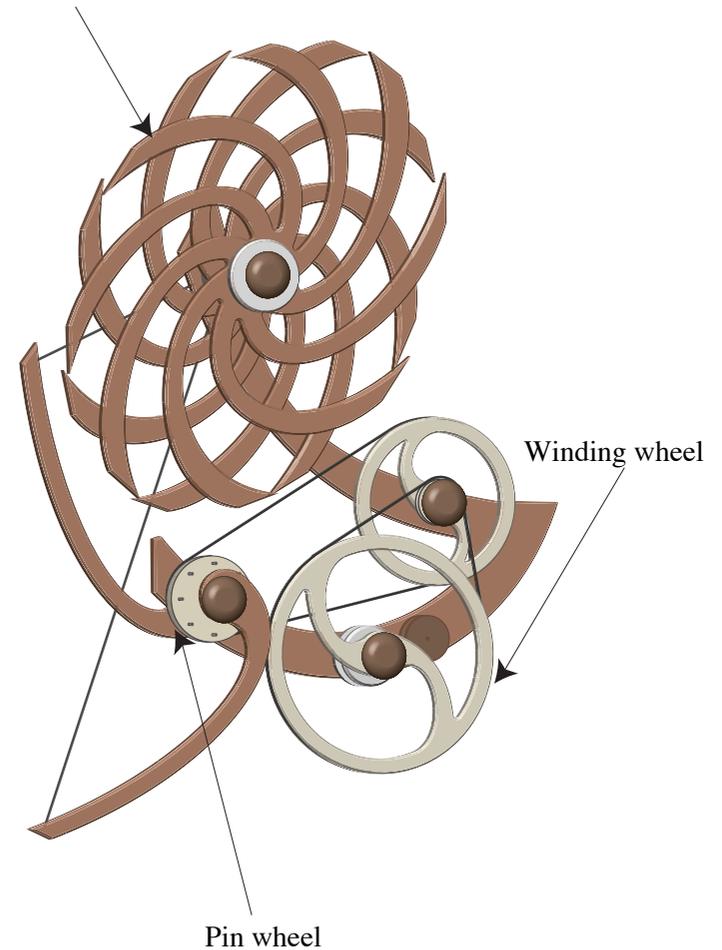
Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Ellipse is number _____ out of a possible 150 pieces. It was made by me during the month of _____ in 2003. I build, test and pack each sculpture myself, doing 6-12 pieces of an edition per month. It takes several years for me to complete an edition and some are never finished as I move on to new designs. Designing and building kinetic sculptures like Ellipse has been my full time occupation for more than 20 years. I hope Ellipse brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Ellipse 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

Patterning wheels



Directions:

To Wind

- Turn the large pulley wheel clockwise 20 turns.

To Start

- Gently push down on which ever arm is in the upper most position.

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 150

Size: 35"h x 30"w x 6"d

Power Source: negator spring

Approximate Run Time: 6 hours

Materials: hardwood plywood,
bearings, string

Ellipse © 1998

About Ellipse:

Ellipse is a long running patterning sculpture that I've had in the thinking stage for awhile. The patterning results from two overlapping "squished" wheels. These are wheels that I drew up as round wheels and then deformed on the computer. I animated the result, looking for interesting patterns. I repeated this process a number of times, trying new wheels and differing amounts of deforming until I found just the right combination. The lack of roundness in the wheels creates a new dimension in the visual effects.

The patterning wheels move in the same direction for part of their cycle as the rear wheel pushes the front one and then break apart as the front wheel spins on it's own while the rear wheel counter rotates. This creates a wide variety of interesting patterns. The sculpture makes quiet clicking sounds as the small wooden pawls are activated.

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.
- Remove the tape holding the strings in place.

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.

