

Directions for Fan Tail

Kinetic sculptures designed by:
David C. Roy

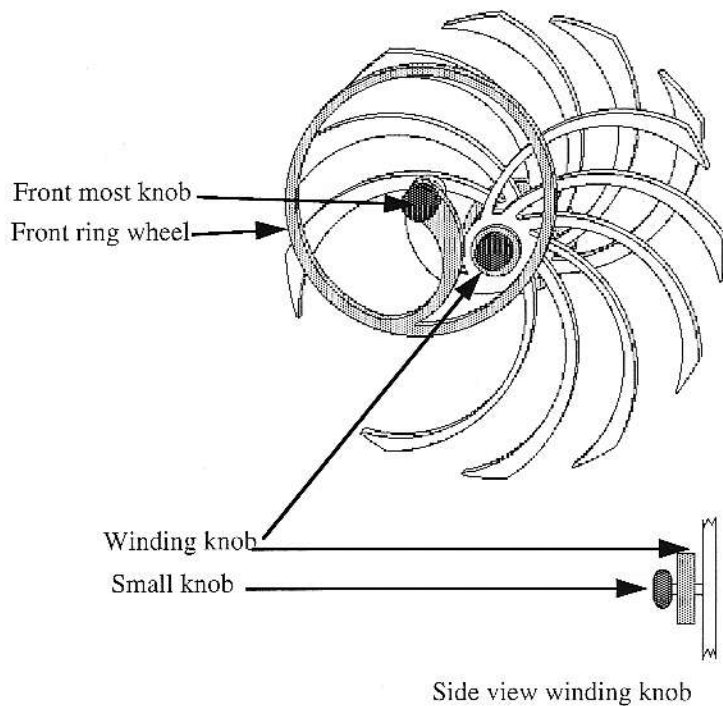
About the Artist:

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. An 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 50 different limited edition and one of a kind 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 eastern Connecticut.

About Fan Tail

Fantail was created out of a desire to have a sculpture that behaved in the random manner of Cat's Cradle or Nomad but also created moire patterns between matched wheels as in Kaleidoscope. The problem I faced was finding a way to build wheels that overlapped at their centers but also acted as counter weights to each other. The answer came when I realized that I could essentially split a wheel in half and achieve interesting patterns from the overlap of the wheel segments.

The sculpture is powered by a mechanism that is identical to the one in Cat's Cradle. The pace of the piece is quite a bit slower than earlier pieces because Fan Tail's wheels are larger and more massive.



©1987 David C. Roy

Technical Information:

Size: 32" W x 32" H x 6" D
 Power source: negator spring
 Run time: 90 minutes
 Materials: solid hardwood birch
 plywood, stainless steel ball
 bearings, steel shafts
 Edition of 75

Mount on Wall:

- 1) Hold the sculpture up against the wall.
- 2) Place a sharp instrument through the holes in the base piece to mark their location on the wall.
- 3) Drill pilot holes. If the wall is sheetrock or plaster use plastic anchors.
- 4) Screw the sculpture to the wall.

Attach Front Wheel:

- 1) Remove the front most knob by unscrewing it.
- 2) Slide the front ring wheel onto the shaft so the metal bearing faces out. (Towards the viewer)
- 3) Screw the knob back in place.

To Wind:

Reach through the front ring wheel and grasp the large winding knob located just behind a smaller one (shown as a lighter gray in the diagram.) Hold this firmly and turn the entire sculpture clockwise in a "cranking" motion for twenty turns.

To Start:

Gently push the front spoked wheel clockwise to start the motion.