

About the Artist:

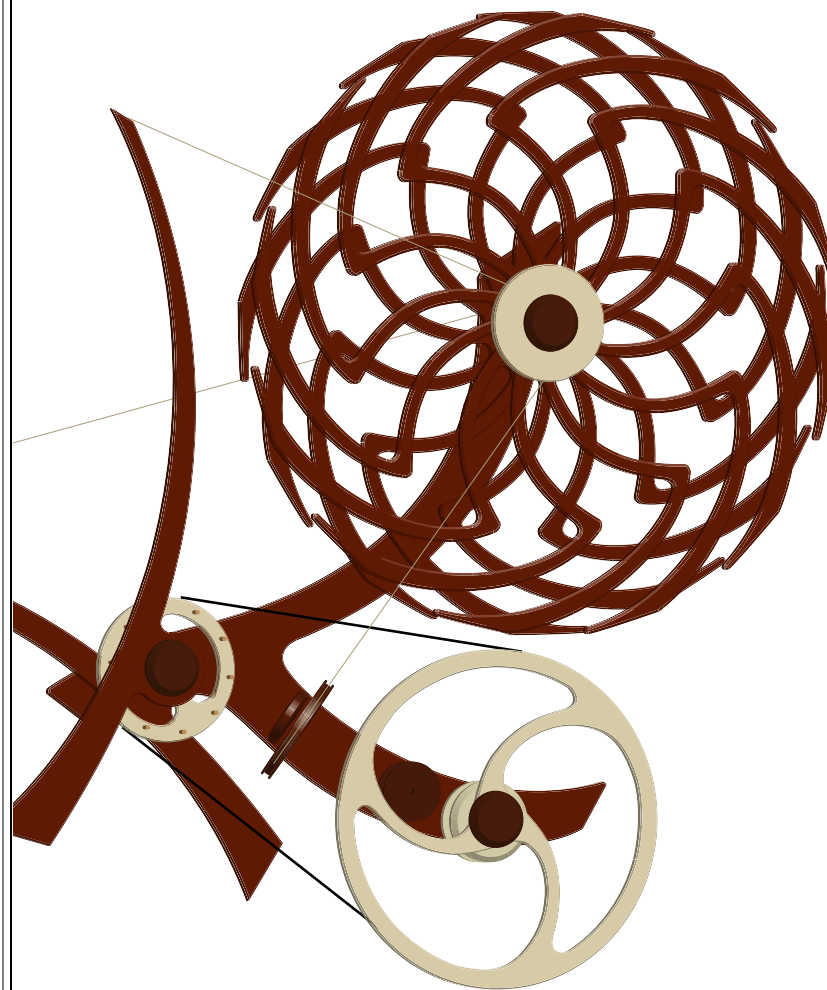
David C. Roy

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

Shimmer • Directions

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

Hello,

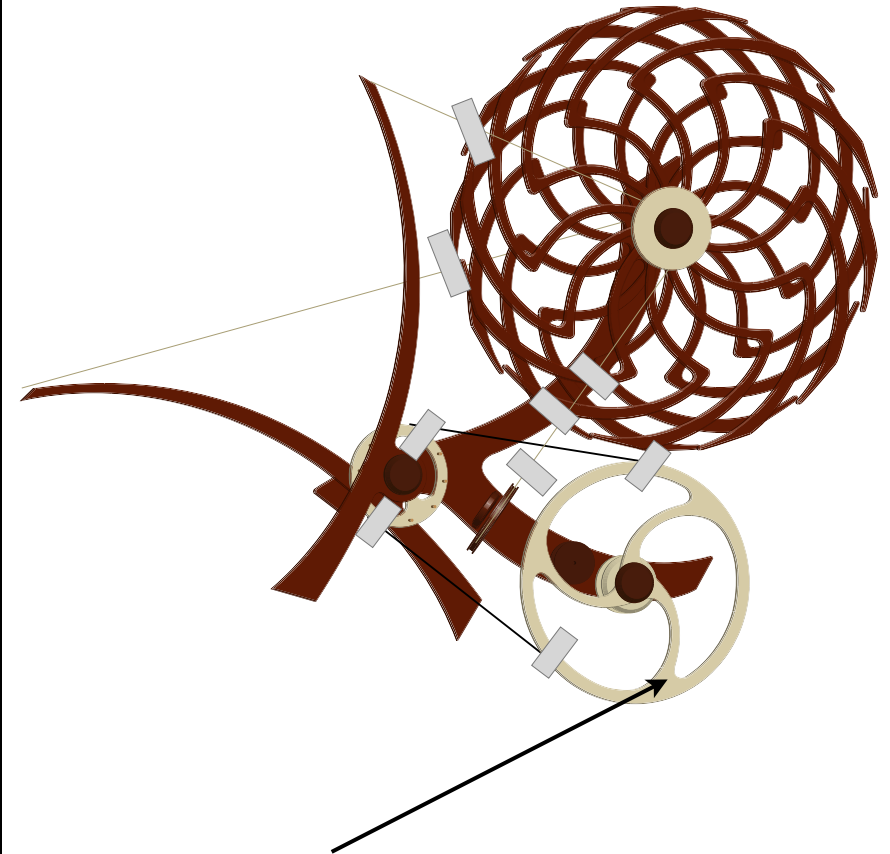
Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Shimmer is number _____ out of a possible 75 pieces. It was made by me during the month of _____ in 2010. I build, test and pack each sculpture myself, doing 6-12 pieces of an edition per month. It takes several years for me to complete an edition and some are never finished as I move on to new designs. Designing and building kinetic sculptures like Shimmer has been my full time occupation for more than 30 years. I hope Shimmer brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

Shimmer 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

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.

To Start:

- If the sculpture does not start by itself after winding, gently push left on the front arm. Do not push so far that the back arm interferes with the patterning wheels.

String placement:

- It is possible to dislodge the string from the slot on the center reversing pulley if the wheels are spun by hand or the arms are pushed in the wrong direction.
- The string is a single loop going from the back arm, over the back patterning wheel pulley, around the reversing wheel, up and over the front patterning wheel pulley and to the front arm. The correct path can be seen in the drawing on the front cover.
- If the string becomes tangled. Release the tension in the drive spring by popping the black drive belt off the winding wheels and slowly unwind the spring by letting the winding wheel slide through your fingers. Unhook the ends of the drive belt and remove it. Untangle the string and set it on the pulleys. Do not cut or untie the string. Reinstall the drive belt.

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 Shimmer:

Shimmer is the second sculpture I've created using this patterning wheel. The first was called Radiance. I created it in 2007. At the time I designed Radiance I was torn between two different ways to control the motion of the wheels. One mechanism allowed each wheel to move independently, creating random patterns as the wheels sped up and slowed down at their own pace. An alternative mechanism synchronized the motion of the wheels so they always move at the same pace but in opposite directions. Radiance was the result of the random design mechanism. When given a choice I like to take the random road! I finished the edition of Radiance last year. It was a very popular sculpture and I kept getting calls from people looking for one.

That got me thinking about the alternative design again. I decided to finish the design and make a test piece. The result is Shimmer. This is a virtually silent, long running sculpture. The motion starts very slowly, smoothly accelerates, reaches a peak, and then smoothly decelerates, comes to rest, reverses direction and repeats the cycle but with the wheels going in the opposite direction. This creates two distinct patterns, one with the center of the wheel appearing to grow and one with the center appearing to shrink. I still can't decide between the two sculptures. I like the relaxing feel, silence, and dramatic patterns of Shimmer but I'm still drawn to the energy and randomness of the Radiance. In the realm of problems this is the one to have!

Specifications:

Size: 36"h x 45"w x 6"d

Power Source: negator spring

Approximate Run Time: 12 hours

Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string

Shimmer ©2009

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 3 screws
- Remove the tape holding the spring-belts and strings in place.

