

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 150 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

Solo • Directions

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

Welcome to the world of Wood That Works. This Solo is number _____ out of a possible 95 pieces. It was made by me during the month of _____ in 2014. 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 Solo has been my full time occupation for more than 35 years. I hope Solo brings you and other viewers as much enjoyment as I've found in making it.

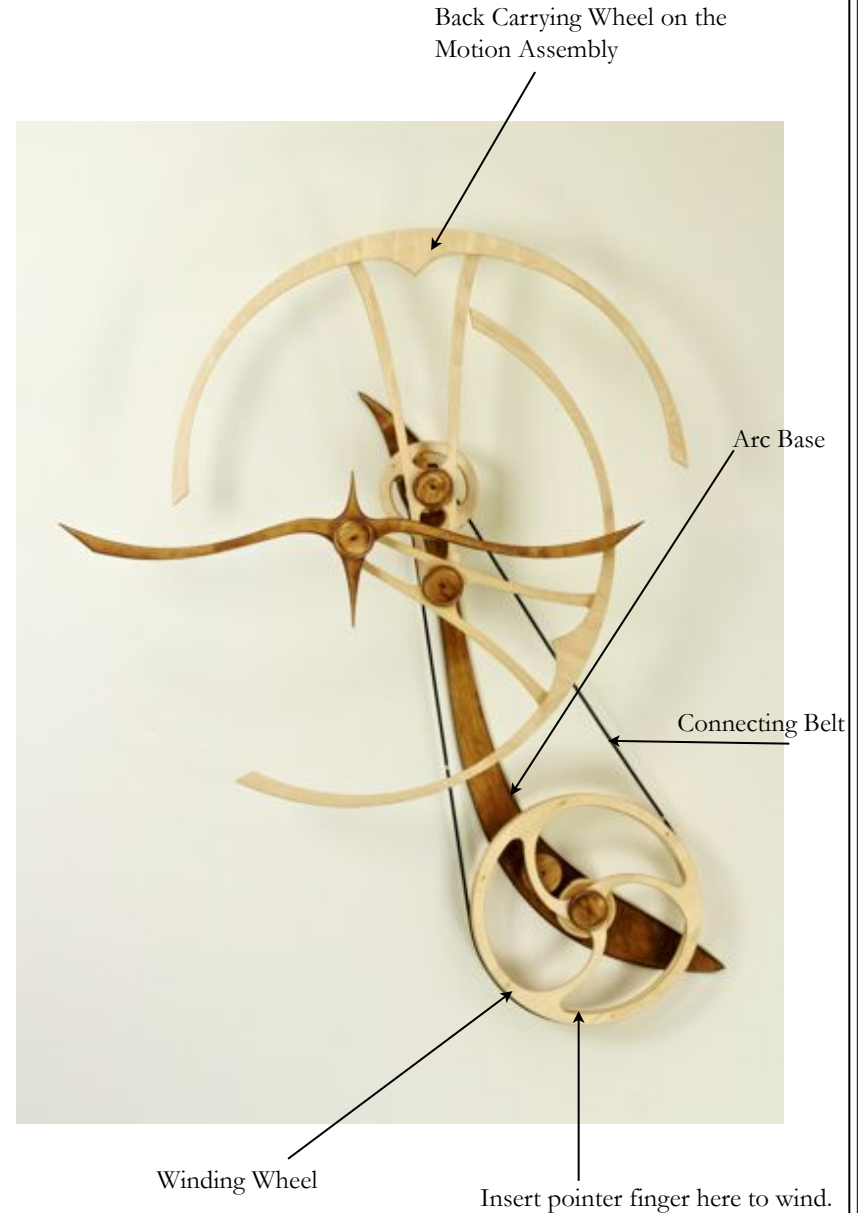
Solo has been mounted on a wall in my shop and running for at least 2 complete windings (many hours) before I pack it. I make every effort in design, construction and packing to make sure the piece will perform problem free for years to come. I use only the finest materials. Of course, problems can still 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

Specifications:

Limited Edition of 95
Size: 44"h x 51"w x 9"d
Power Source: negator spring
Approximate Run Time: 11+ hours
Materials: hardwood plywood, bearings, string
Solo ©2014



Directions:

To Wind

- Turn the winding wheel in a clockwise direction.
- 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.
- The sculpture can be wound while it is in motion or at rest.
- The motion of the entire sculpture can be stopped mid-winding by fully stopping the motion of the back carrying wheel and then started again with a simple push.

To Start

- If the sculpture does not start immediately after winding, push the light colored back carrying wheel one rotation counter-clockwise to start the sculpture

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.

About Solo:

One of joys of being an "old" kinetic sculptor is that I can revisit themes using new ideas and technologies. One of my favorite themes is "flight" or the movement of a horizontal form in space. Of the various patterns I've explored I think my favorite has been straight line motion. Until recently it was also the the most "costly" to produce in terms of complexity and energy. That began to change last year when I developed the mechanism that runs Swoop which in turn was an outgrowth of the work I did on Frolic and Monarch. This has pretty much been the story of my career. The requirements of a motion theme inspire a new mechanism and then the new mechanism inspires me to revisit old themes looking for new possibilities.

Solo features constantly shifting straight line "floating" motion. The pattern eventually loses energy and slows down and gets another push from the spring. This intermittent application of power turns out to be quite efficient leading to run times of 11 to 16 hours depending on the pace of the motion.

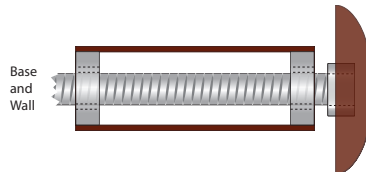
Solo quickly earned a top spot in my list of favorite pieces. She's relatively quiet with soft clicking sounds and constantly shifting patterns.

Solo runs for an extended period of time (11+ hours) per winding. The sculpture can be wound while it is in motion or at rest. The motion of the entire sculpture can be stopped mid-winding and then started again with a simple push.

Directions:

To Mount on Wall:

- DO NOT remove the tape holding the belt in place
- Hold the backboard in the desired location against the wall. Level the bottom edge. Required clearances are noted in the diagram to the right.
- Place a sharp instrument through the screw holes, marking their positions on the wall.
- If the wall is sheetrock or plaster, drill pilot holes (1/8") and use plastic anchors.
- Note the small lever near the center of the top motion assembly. Move this out of the way as you slide the motion assembly onto the shaft. This will allow you to fully seat the motion assembly on the shaft. There are both front and rear bearings in the sleeve (see diagram) that need to slide onto the shaft. Be careful to keep them aligned with the shaft as you install the assembly.
- Screw the front center knob on the shaft until you meet resistance and stop. Please note it does NOT go tight against the bearing assembly. There MUST be at least 1/16" of play front to back to allow for expansion.
- Remove the tape holding the drive belt in place.



Before Moving Sculpture:

- Make sure the power spring is unwound.
- Always tape the spring belt 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.

