



Tom Longtin

Dialing for Nichols

A free-standing sculpture with wheels cut from locally-sourced red oak, end grain blocks, LCD letters, 4' x 3' (at widest point.)

Opening bid: \$500.00

Artist statement: I find that computers are a powerful means for encouraging and facilitating artistic expression. Using the computer encourages trial-and-error and variations-on-a-theme approaches, the undo and redo capabilities of computers allow one to quickly visualize several alternatives - either converging towards a desired result or diverging in a direction not originally imagined. Also, hand-drawn sketches or other drawings can be scanned into the computer as a starting point.

In the case of 3D computer-aided sculpture, once the artist's creation has been modeled and visualized to satisfaction in the computer, accurate data can be output for cutting, forming and assembling materials. In "Dialing For Nichols," I created seven meshing gears to take advantage of the fact that the name of the person who created the Goddard clock, Nichols Goddard, and the place where the clock was created, Rutland, Vermont, are each composed of seven letters. I placed an LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) font letter in each gear's quadrant so that when they are rotationally aligned they alternatively spell out Nichols Goddard and Rutland, Vermont.