

# Return to Paradise

Celebrating Walter Byck and Marijke Byck-Hoenselaars' thirty year legacy of visionary leadership and community engagement through art and sculpture.

## MOTO OHTAKE

I met Dr. Byck 15 years ago, when my work associate, Mike Cooper at De Anza College introduced me to him. Dr. Byck was kind enough to include me in two separate exhibitions at the winery prior to the devastating fires which engulfed the area and Paradise Ridge.

### BIO

Moto Ohtake was born in Tokyo, Japan in 1952. He graduated from The San Francisco Art Institute, with an M.F.A. in Sculpture in 1982. Over the last 25 years, he has explored the art of kinetic construction both wind and hand-activated. His stainless steel work incorporates rotating linear elements that create a variety of unpredictable movements. As the outdoor wind driven pieces rotate, they manifest the force of nature. His work has been collected privately and publicly. His public art pieces can be seen in San Francisco at 4th and Brannan Street, as part of The Central Subway System and Fulton Playground, which is located in the Richmond District. His work is also on display at De Anza College Art Department in Cupertino, in Sandyford, Ireland, the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Georgia and numerous locations throughout Santa Cruz, California, including The Tannery Arts Center and Sierra Azul Nursery in Watsonville. His work is inspired by the elements of nature on both macro and microscopic level. His geometric forms, whether hand-activated or wind-driven create a variety of movements as they respond to nature or the interaction of the viewer.



Microcosmic  
180" x 96" x 96"  
Stainless steel  
2024

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### ARTIST STATEMENT

My art is inspired by the elements of nature and the geometric patterns found on a macro and microscopic level. My current series of both wind driven and hand-activated kinetic sculptures serve as a catalyst to augment these themes. The hand-activated kinetic sculptures are interactive and engage the viewer by providing a sense of play and evoking contemplation. The sculptures are meant to be touched and their movements explored. Each sculpture is a self-contained system that creates a variety of movements and patterns. The movements and patterns are a cause and effect created by the viewer. The kinetic series incorporates aspects of design, engineering and physics. The series explores opposing factors, including chaos and order, simplicity and complexity and gravity and balance, all of which serve to remind the viewer of our connection to the greater universe.

All of the moving components of the sculpture are housed within ball bearing rotating systems, which allows the different parts of the sculpture to pivot in circular and/or rotating gyroscopic motions. Depending on the wind, sculpture can become soothing and/or meditative or agitated.

Artworks are for sale. For inquiries, contact Jeff Nathanson [jhnathanson@comcast.net](mailto:jhnathanson@comcast.net) or 609-510-4236.  
Price for Microcosmic \$28,000

[motoohtake.com](http://motoohtake.com)