The little yellow chair

Arthur Ganson

A moment of stillness designed, cut and encoded into shapes of steel. Gears, cams, levers and pulleys achieve perfect harmonic deceleration and then acceleration – to reveal a moment of stillness.



Watch the mechanism at the wall. Do you realise what's going on? Mechanical arms sweep six wooden fragments towards each other: For one short moment a little yellow chair appears in the middle of the sculpture, only to break again into smithereens instantly.

This artwork is controlled fully mechanical. Little flywheels near the base of each arm store the kinetic energy of the arms as they come to the stop and deliver this energy back for rapid acceleration as the chair explodes again.