

The Winner's Anthem

Bill Viola says that accidents are facts that happen at the speed of thinking. It's impossible to avoid them, since there's no time for anticipation. Could luck be one of those uncontrollable facts that happen to meet our wishes?

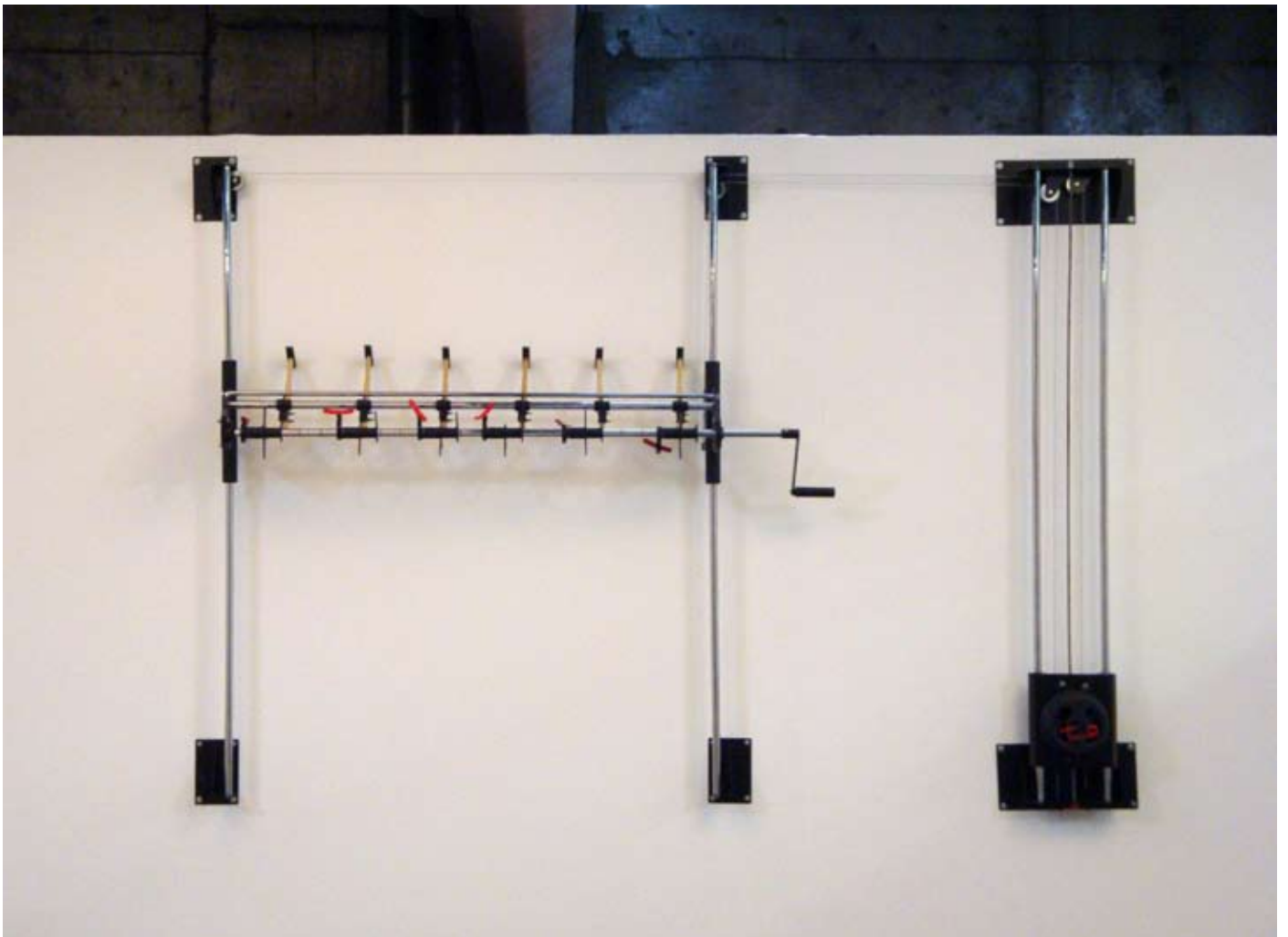
Last August Brazil's most popular lottery game, called Mega Sena, reached 1,000 games. Winning the lottery seems to be the best way to represent what people consider "luck" in Western culture. A happy coincidence (or could it be luck?) involving the size of the lottery ticket and the measurement of a musical box's revolving cylinder allowed us to approach this question.

If we punch lottery tickets according to six-number sequences of winning games and get them through the music box gears, then we have a music phrase. Each punch is equivalent to the exact position of a note. One ticket consists of three bets, turning out 18 numbers, or 18 notes. If we splice a lot of tickets forming one single row we have a song. The melody derived from the 6,000 numbers was named "The Winner's Anthem".



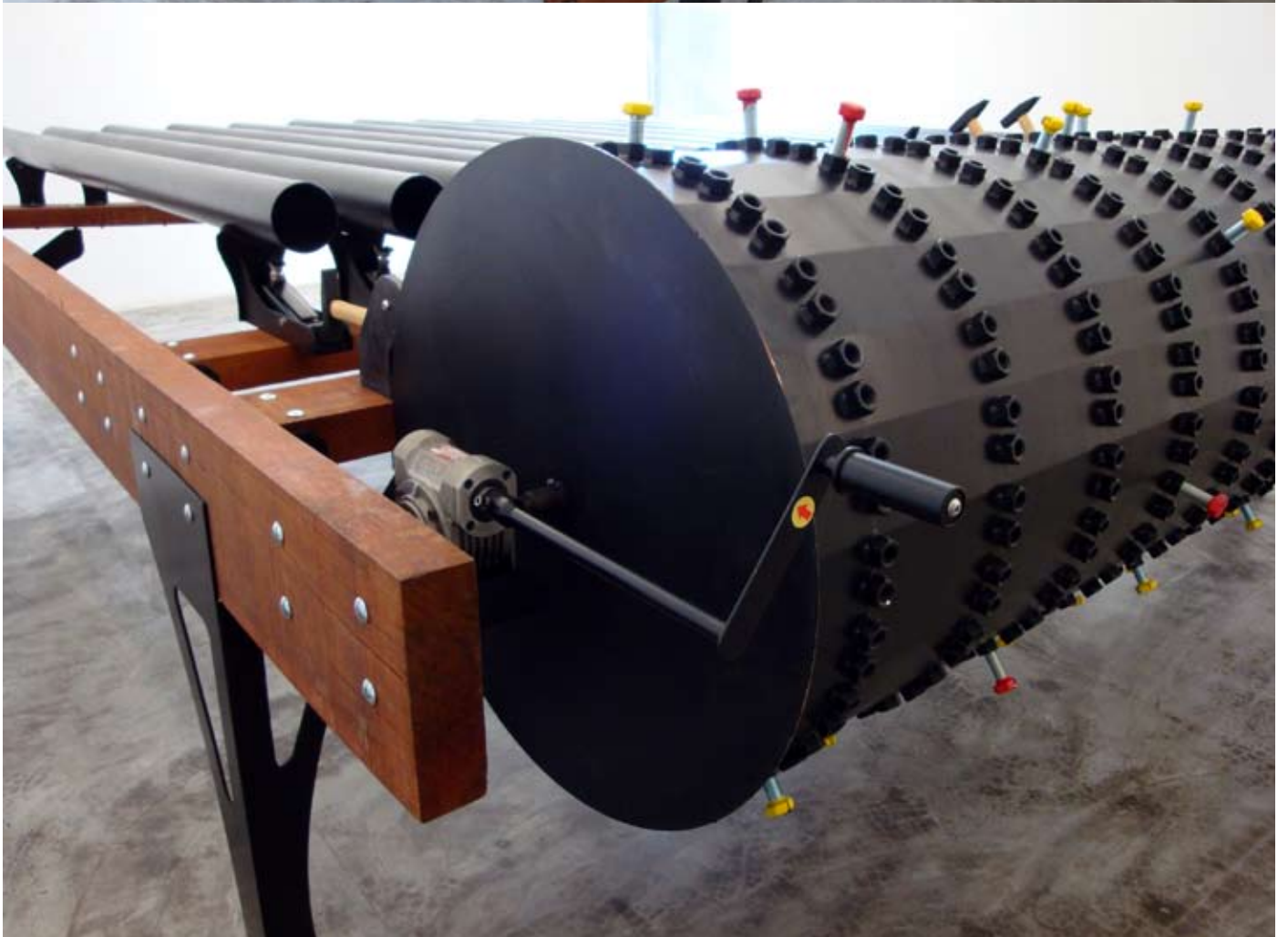


Morse, 2009













Flat Sounds

A stretch of a highway will be selected to receive a visually discreet, essentially sounding sculpture. A number of rumble strips will be laid out along this stretch of road in different patterns and to various extents. Those who drive past will be warned by a road sign that there's an ideal speed for driving through that particular area, since the raised pavement markers will be sensed by the vehicle passing over them and perceived by its occupants as a musical beat. The perception of this code may be modified by speeding up or slowing down the vehicle. This choice is up to the driver, who is the motive power of this "flattened musical box".

Depending on the place where the piece is settled, the musical beat might be replaced by a Morse-coded message or might even become more complex, with different kinds of rumble strips, resulting in more diversified sounds.

In October of 2009, this project was selected to participate in 7th Mercosul Biennale, in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

The next images belongs to the installation.



