



**Title:** Between Earth and Air - Solar Powered Interactive Tensegrity Sculpture

**Artists:** Wallace Lages, George Tatum, Claire Constantikes, and Hiromi Okumura

**Contact:**

- Wallace Lages: [wallacelages.com](http://wallacelages.com)
- George Tatum: [thefoolsforge@gmail.com](mailto:thefoolsforge@gmail.com)
- Claire Constantikes: [constantikes@yahoo.com](mailto:constantikes@yahoo.com)
- Hiromi Okumura: [ohiromi@vt.edu](mailto:ohiromi@vt.edu), 509-715-9882, [hiromiokumura.com](http://hiromiokumura.com)

**Brief Artist Biography:** The work was created by a unique combination of different skill sets. Wallace designed and implemented the interaction elements. George built the structure using 6 of 10 ft Two-inch EMT Conduit and 100ft of

aircraft cable with Hiromi. Claire is going to dance around the sculpture with Hiromi at Hahn Garden on September 11 2019. George and Claire are artists living in Blacksburg, VA. George Tatum is a local blacksmith, musician, and builder of various contraptions. Claire Constantikes is a local dance artist who performs and leads movement workshops in the New River Valley. Wallace and Hiromi are with the School of Visual Arts of Virginia Tech.

**Art Statement:** Our Interactive Sculpture is powered by sunlight with six suspended metal rods connected in balance by steel cables, and visitors are encouraged to touch and shake the piece to activate the movement of the leaves on the top. The artwork draws on the connection between body and imagination as it is mediated by our sensory and nervous system. Like a plant, the structure raises from the ground to the sky while drawing energy from the sun. The resulting movement is a reflection of the thin threads that keep us alive and fuel our wildest thoughts.